

Commissioners

MARISELA. HERNANDEZ, *Chair*
WILLIAM J. KRESSE, *Commissioner/Secretary*
JONATHAN T. SWAIN, *Commissioner*
CHARLES HOLIDAY, JR., *Executive Director*



**Board of Election Commissioners for the City of Chicago
Draft Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting
July 27, 2021, 10:00 a.m.**

**69 West Washington Street, 8th Floor Conference Room, Chicago, Illinois 60602
and via Webex video conference**

Board Members:

Marisel A. Hernandez, Chair
William J. Kresse, Commissioner/Secretary
Jonathan T. Swain, Commissioner [Absent]

Staff:

Charles Holiday, Executive Director
Sandra Aspera, Assistant Executive Director [absent]
Adam Lasker, General Counsel
Opal Walls, Purchasing Agent
Kimberly Carrillo-Walker, Finance Manager
Max Bever- Director of Public Information
Keith Carter-Warehouse Manager
Lance Gough, Consultant
Rick Thurman, IT
Trish Sheehy

Guests:

Helene Gabelnick, League of Women Voters of Chicago (LWV Chicago)
C. Betty Magness, Rainbow P.U.S.H.
Danielle Matzdorf, Arrow Messenger Service
Brian Whitely, ES&S
Don Olson

- I Call to Order: The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.
- II. Roll Call: The Chair and Commissioner Kresse were present in the Board's 8th floor conference room. Commissioner Swain was absent. Executive Director Charles Holiday was also present in the Board's conference room.
- III. Consideration of Agenda: The agenda was accepted as presented.
- IV. Approval of Minutes:
 - A Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of July 13, 2021: Chair Hernandez moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Board meeting of July 13, 2021. Commissioner Kresse seconded the motion. The motion passed and the Minutes were approved by 2:0 vote of the Board.

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V. Executive Director's Report:

Executive Director Charles Holiday reported:

Repairs have started at the warehouse but in an area that we are not occupying. We are looking at having the repairs diverted to the areas where we have major concerns.

Mr. Holiday participated in a virtual meeting of the AECOI (Association of Election Commission Officials of Illinois) on the new omnibus election bill, Senate Bill 0825, Public Act 102-0015. The AECOI discussed the impact of the legislation among association members.

Mr. Holiday participated in the monthly CIS MS-ISAC (Center for Internet Security Multi-State Information Sharing & Analysis Center) meeting discussion topics including cybersecurity education and awareness, and updates on various cybersecurity viruses.

The Board's 2022 budgets for the City and County have been prepared and both have been submitted. Mr. Holiday wished to thank the Board's Finance Manager, Kimberly Carrillo-Walker, for the job that she did with the budgets.

Mr. Holiday attended the i-GO (International Association of Government Officials) 4th Annual Conference held in New York City. Mr. Holiday attended various sessions including: "Best Election Practices for Election Officials," "Cybersecurity and Misinformation," "Vote-by-Mail Chain of Custody," "Trans-Atlantic Overview of Covid-19's Impact on Elections," "An Overview of Artificial Intelligence using Google Cloud," "Enabling Workplace Productivity in a Work-from-Home Environment," and classes on "Measuring the Non-financial Cost of Policies" and "Causation versus Correlation in the Election Process".

Mr. Holiday introduced the new Director of Public Information, Max Bever.

A. Assistant Executive Director's Report:

Assistant Executive Director Sandra Aspera reported:

We have successfully completed the warehouse projects, ahead of schedule. Ms. Aspera expressed a special thank you to Mr. Shaun Simpson of the Board's Pre-Election Voting and Logistics Department who did an excellent job as project manager of the warehouse projects.

Due to the extremely hot weather, downtown staff who had been working at the warehouse have begun to report to the Board offices at 69 West Washington this week.

Ms. Aspera will continue to assess the other projects at the warehouse and will keep everyone updated over the next couple of months.

B. Public Information Director's Report:

The Chair introduced Mr. Max Bever as the Public Information Director.

Mr. Bever stated that he did not have an official report other than to say that he appreciated the warm welcome, but that he is looking forward to working with the Commissioners and staff moving forward.

VI. Old Business

- A. Infrastructure Projects and Changes in Election Administration: Nothing to report.
- B. Electronic Poll Books: Mr. Holiday reported that the p^t phase of charging thee-pollbooks has been done. We will start the 2nd phase around October. Any repairs to thee-poll book stands will be done by then.
- C. Voting Equipment: Nothing to report.
- D. Legislation:

General Counsel Adam Lasker reported:

While things are quiet in Springfield at the moment, the Chicago City Council passed an ordinance that will affect the Board of Elections somewhat substantially. First, the ordinance creates a seven-member "Community Commission for Public Safety and Accountability." The ordinance also creates District Councils, one District Council in each of the 22 Chicago Police Department districts. The District Councils will each be comprised of three elected members. As such, that will create an increase of 66 new elected offices beginning with the February 2023 election.

Pursuant to the ordinance District Council candidates will file nominating petitions and statements of candidacy with the Board. They have a signature requirement of 0.5 of the registered voters within the district from which they are running or 25 signatures, whichever number is greater. They will serve a four-year term with a three-term or 12-year limit. The candidate qualifications are the same as referenced in the ordinance and the Illinois Municipal Code for City offices.

This will substantially impact our Electoral Board if District Council petitions are subject to objections. As such, we are preparing for increased numbers in that 2023 election. It's good that we recently recruited and trained a new team of Electoral Board Hearing Officers.

The Chair confirmed with Mr. Lasker that the election for these new District Council positions will coincide with our Municipal Elections, and that they will appear on the same ballot as the other city offices.

Commissioner Kresse stated that he assumes that the 22 police district lines will not coincide with ward boundaries and that he understands that district lines could be changed by the Police Superintendent up to a certain point before the election. Mr. Lasker stated that that is correct. The district lines are not the same boundaries as the wards, and there are 50 wards and only 22 districts. This will create split precincts, which we never had in our local elections before. While police district boundaries are created by the Police Department, and there is a provision in the ordinance that the boundaries cannot change from the start of the petition circulation period through the election, barring an emergency.

VII. New Business: none

VIII. Legal Report:

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General Counsel Lasker stated that he has nothing to report beyond that which has already been discussed.

IX. Financial Report

- A. Balance Sheet and Voucher Listings for the City of Chicago - 2021 Appropriation - 21-05 dated July 27, 2021 in the amount of \$841,060.03

Commissioner Kresse moved to approve the Balance Sheet and Voucher Listings for the City of Chicago - 2021 Appropriation - 21-05 dated July 27, 2021 in the amount of \$841,060.03. Chair Hernandez seconded the motion. The motion passed by 2:0 vote of the Board.

- B. Balance Sheet and Voucher Listings for the County of Cook- 2021 Appropriation - 21-05 dated July 27, 2021 in the amount of \$4,658.00

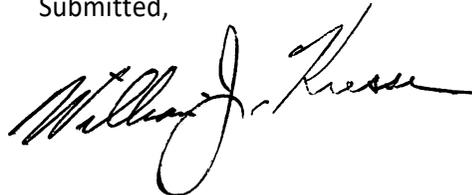
Chair Hernandez moved to approve Balance Sheet and Voucher Listings for the County of Cook- 2021 Appropriation - 21-05 dated July 27, 2021 in the amount of \$4,658.00. Commissioner Kresse seconded the motion. The motion passed by 2:0 vote of the Board.

X. Public Comment: There were no requests for public comment.

XI. Executive Session: none.

XII. Adjournment: Commissioner Kresse moved to adjourn until the next scheduled meeting of the Board. Commissioner Hernandez seconded the motion. The motion passed by 2:0 vote of the Board. The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William J. Kresse". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Commissioner William J. Kresse
Secretary