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ELECTION COMMISSION MEETING
Jan. 26, 2024
10:00 a.m.

<u>MINUTES</u>

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Township Clerk Paulette Skolarus called the Special Meeting of the Election Commission to order at 10:02 a.m. at the Genoa Charter Township Hall.   The following members were present constituting a quorum for the transaction of business. Paulette Skolarus, Diana Lowe and Jean Ledford.   Also present were Kelly VanMartar, Susan Nickels, Janine Iyre and Jennifer Smith.

Moved by Lowe and supported by Ledford to approve the Agenda with the Call to the Public first on the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

Call to the Public: Susan Nickels – I would like to be considered for the February election to work for the AVCB and am sorry for any miscommunication. Janine Ayre – I never meant to cause any problem and would like to work on Feb. 17th for early voting. Jennifer Smith – Please don't remove these three hard working volunteers from your voter files and recommend them being put on the voting list. If this doesn't get resolved, the Republican party will seek legal counsel.

Skolarus – I am the elected clerk and instead of coming to me with your concerns, the County Clerk, ACLU and the Township Board were approached with complaints. I am hiring voters to work the elections and want them to be non-political. I have been criticized by members of Stand-Up Livingston. One of the members tried to put through an absent ballot that belonged to another precinct. This request was made three times. Margaret Henne was called it to voice her concerns regarding the 2022 election and what happened in her precinct. Henne – A new person needed to be trained, and three times during the day she asked to have her absentee ballot run through the tabulator. She stated that she was concerned with people over-voting. I told her no and that she couldn't do that under the law. She was concerned about election fraud. All of us were frustrated because she made the request at least three times. No one on my board wanted to work with her and stated that they would quit if she was allowed back.

Smith – Your testimony will be a great learning experience and we will consider that with our board.

Tabitha – The one thing we do not need is people being critical of the procedure we put in place. The process should be followed in a non-political way.

Henne – I have people come in and say that the process is no good. A volunteer should not be pressured. Polly's position is that a poll worker should not be screaming at her. There was a person who was screaming through the phone.   Sue Nickels – I am that person. I apologize for being angry. Thank you for doing this meeting and listening to us.

Skolarus – I am going to reconsider you for August election since I have my poll workers in place and am asking this commission to approve the poll workers as presented. Smith - I wish you had stated your opinion right in the beginning instead of wasting all of our time. If you think standing your ground on this issue is important, it will not end here. I am speaking to you kindly and respectfully. Why are you shutting them down because of a personality conflict?

Lowe – I would give up my appointment on the 20th for early voting so that we can move someone over to the 17th. This would allow Janine Iyre to work. Daena Nichols will be removed from the Feb 17th early voting and add Susan Nickels on the 20th for working early voting on that date. We could add one more person to the AVCB and add Colleen Quinn as another Republican.

Krencicki – I agree with Diana. I believe everyone here is sincere. We should give them a chance. At the Livingston County Clerk's meeting all clerks were in sync when Joe Bridgeman said that if there were any problems at the precincts or polling places with inspectors they would be asked to leave. We just can't have conflict in a polling place.

Skolarus – Is that your motion. Lowe – Yes. Is there a second? Jean – Yes. The motion carried unanimously.

The special meeting of the Election Commission was adjourned at 10:55 p.m.

Paulette A. Skolarus, Clerk
Genoa Charter Township