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#### **ELECTIONS COMMISSION** *City and County of San Francisco*

Robin M. Stone, President Christopher Jerdonek, Vice President Lucy Bernholz Cynthia Dai Nancy Hayden Crowley Renita LiVolsi Michelle Parker



John Arntz, Director of Elections Marisa Davis, Commission Secretary

# REGULAR MEETING MINUTES (Approved July 19, 2023)

San Francisco Elections Commission Wednesday, June 28, 2023 6:00 p.m. City Hall, Room 416 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco, California 94102 & Remote meeting via WebEx

# Order of Business

# 1. Call to Order & Roll Call

President Stone called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

**Present:** President Robin Stone, Vice President Christopher Jerdonek, Commissioner Cynthia Dai, Commissioner Nancy Hayden Crowley, Commissioner Renita LiVolsi; Commissioner Lucy Bernholz (via Remote).

**Also Present:** Director of Elections John Arntz, Deputy City Attorney Ana Flores, Deputy City Attorney Jaime Huling Delay, Commission Secretary Marisa Davis.

Not Present: Commissioner Michelle Parker (excused absence).

Commissioner LiVolsi stated the Commission's acknowledgment of the Ramaytush Ohlone people.

#### 2. General Public Comment *Via WebEx*

There were no public commenters.

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### 3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Dai emailed a single word correction to President Stone and Commission Secretary Davis for the May 17, 2023 regular Elections Commission meeting minutes. President Stone reviewed and approved the correction. General consensus approved the May 17, 2023 meeting minutes.

#### 4. Director's Report

Director Arntz shared details and answered Commissioners questions pertaining to his monthly report, specifically regarding budget issues. Director Arntz reported the budget process is complete and indicated the Department is in "good shape" despite two reductions in grant funding (fiscal years 2024 and 2025) to community organizations.

Commissioner Jerdonek inquired about a new or amended policy regarding sole source (as per Director's Report, Item IV. B.) The Office of Contract Administration (OCA) is tasked with City mandates regarding contract policies and procedures.

Director Arntz also summarized a project to update the digital dashboard to manage all social media accounts simultaneously.

### **Public Comment**

Via WebEx

One public commenter reported technical difficulties with the meeting's WebEx functionality.

The Commission temporarily recessed at 6:31PM to address technical difficulties; recess ended at 6:44PM.

#### 5. Commissioners Reports

Vice President Jerdonek reported on his recent attendance at the International Visitor Leadership Programs (IVLP), via a request from the International Programs Manager, Global Ties San Francisco.

VP Jerdonek briefly highlighted glitches on the Commission website and shared that SFGOV Digital Services is working on resolving this issue. VP Jerdonek also resurfaced Professor Halderman from the University of Michigan's security questions regarding Dominion's voting system. Additionally, VP Jerdonek raised concerns about the Department of Election's stance on AB 1416, legislation regarding proponents and opponents ballot labels for local measures, which is before the Board of Supervisors.

Commissioner Dai gave a brief update on her recent training for government officials at Harvard.

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Commissioner Hayden Crowley commented on the Commission's decision to move the regular June meeting to accommodate a scheduling conflict and emphasized the need to adhere to the established schedule for the betterment of the Commission and public.

President Stone shared administrative updates including the review and potential digitization of historical Commission files. President Stone reported the August meeting would be cancelled. Instead, the Commission will have a special offsite meeting with details to follow. President Stone also indicated the December regular Commission meeting will be moved from Wednesday, December 20 to Wednesday, December 13 to accommodate end-of-year calendar concerns.

There were no public commenters.

(Due to the earlier technical difficulties, President Stone indicated she would accept public comments on Agenda Item 2.)

#### 6. Fair, Independent, and Effective Redistricting for Community Engagement Committee Updates

Commissioner Dai provided an extensive overview of the range of public feedback received, both at the meetings and via email, including expressed issues of concern regarding AB 1248 and AB 764, questions regarding general communication and outreach to former taskforce members, and requests for more public review. Commissioner LiVolsi shared additional concerns. The Commissioners agreed to updating the project plan with historical redistricting materials.

Commissioner Dai also briefly summarized the May 31 and June 26 technical difficulties.

#### **Public Comment**

In Person

Speaker One discussed political processes, political and non-political appointees, and opposition to the Commission's work on redistricting reform.

Speaker Two expressed dissatisfaction regarding communications with Commissioner Dai relating to FIERCE and redistricting details.

#### Via Telephone

Jen Tse from the League of Women Voters expressed support for the Commission's efforts to strengthen San Francisco's redistricting process and referenced AB 849.

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# 7. Possible Closed Session Concerning Director of Elections 2022 Performance Evaluation (Continued from May 17 meeting)

There were no public commenters.

## VOTE TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION

President Stone	YAY
Vice President Jerdonek	YAY
Commissioner Bernholz	YAY
Commissioner Dai	YAY
Commissioner Hayden Crowley	YAY
Commissioner LiVolsi	YAY
Commissioner Parker	ABSENT

6 Yays 0 Nays 1 Absent Vote passes unanimously.

The Commission convened in closed session at 8:30 p.m.

The Commission reconvened in open session at 9:45 p.m.

Vice President Jerdonek moved to disclose no portion of the closed session discussion. Commissioner Dai seconded.

# MOTION TO NOT DISCLOSE ANY PORTION OF THE COMMISSION'S CLOSED SESSION

YAY
YAY
ABSENT

6 Yays 0 Nays 1 Absent Motion passes unanimously.

#### 7. Agenda Items for Future Meetings

President Stone will seek Commissioners' requests for July 19 meeting agenda topics and provide information regarding the August offsite meeting.

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(Due to the earlier technical difficulties, President Stone indicated she would accept public comments on Agenda Item 2 as well as Agenda Item 7.)

There were no public commenters.

# 8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:51 p.m.