

Elections Commission

City & County of San Francisco

Lucy Bernholz, President

Becca Chappell, Vice President

Cynthia Dai, Commissioner

Christopher Jerdonek, Commissioner

Charles Jung, Commissioner

Robin Shapiro, Commissioner



John Arntz, Director of Elections

Martha Delgadillo, Commission Secretary

**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
(Approved on June 15, 2022)**

**San Francisco Elections Commission
Monday, February 14, 2022 4:00 p.m.
Remote meeting via WebEx**

Order of Business

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

Meeting Called to Order at 3:04pm

Present: Vice President Becca Chappell, Commissioner Cynthia Dai, Commissioner Chris Jerdonek, and Commissioner Viva Mogi

Absent: President Lucy Bernholz, and Commissioner Jungvot

Also present: Director of Elections John Arntz, Deputy City Attorney Ana Flores, and Secretary Martha Delgadillo

2. General Public Comment

David Pilpel welcomed Commissioner Dai and asked her to introduce herself with a brief description on her background.

David Jefferson asked if he could comment on the Halderman Report. He was informed it would be included on Item #7.

Commissioner Cynthia Dai gave a summary of her background.

3. Discussion and Possible Action on Resolution on Continuation of Remote Elections Commission Meetings

Commissioner Jerdonek moved to adopt the motion. Seconded by Commissioner Mogi.

David Pilpel commented on meetings returning to City Hall. Mentioned meetings will be hybrid to allow online participants.

MOTION

| | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Vice President Chappell | Yes |
| Commissioner Dai | Yes |
| Commissioner Jerdonek | Yes |
| Commissioner Mogi | Yes |

4 Yays 0 Nay 0 Abstain
Motion passes

4. Department of Elections' Budget Proposals: Fiscal Years 2022-23 and 2023-24

Budget and Oversight of Public Elections Committee (BOPEC) met on January 28, 2022, to discuss budget documents submitted by Director Arntz. Commissioner Jerdonek gave a summary of items discussed during the BOPEC meeting. Possible increase in poll worker stipends and possible changes to the Dominion contract. Commissioner Jerdonek asked Director Arntz if changes were discussed during the meeting, including the Dominion contract. Director Arntz identified possible increases in necessary resources to conduct the elections in November 2022. Commissioner Jerdonek asked if this budget includes a one-year or two-year contract. Director Arntz stated the budget does include funding for a two-year contract with Dominion.

Commissioner Mogi asked if any action was taken on the topics discussed at the BOPEC meeting. VP Chappell stated action was not taken.

Commissioner Dai asked Director Arntz if the number of poll workers have been reduced at any of the polling places, or overall, given the success of vote-by-mail ballots. Director Arntz responded that we have gone from an average of 5 workers per polling location to less than 4.

Commissioner Mogi moved to approve the Department of Elections fiscal years 2022-23 and 2023-24 budget proposal. Seconded by Commissioner Dai.

Public Comment

David Pilpel supported the motion.

Brent Turner asked if Dominion will receive a one-year contract for now. He stated Steven Bennett, Dominion has not responded to the letter sent to him regarding his comments to the San Francisco Examiner.

Vice President Chappell asked if the Commission should hold off on discussing the Dominion contract due to not having this item included in this agenda. DCA Flores suggested holding off on commenting on the resolution proposal and plan to address this item at a future meeting.

Gregg Pennington, a San Francisco resident, stated it is critical to give Open Source Voting (OSV) a priority, and to give Dominion a one-year contract.

Jim Soper, National Voting Rights Taskforce, urged the Commission to use the OSV Pilot Program at the November 2022.

Trent Lange, President Clean Money Campaign, reported submitting over 2,000 signatures from San Francisco residents in support of OSV, which were submitted to Mayor Breed.

Alec Bash, previous City & County of San Francisco employee, also spoke against giving Dominion a two-year contract. They should only get one year for now, and give the OSV Pilot program a chance.

MOTION

| | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Vice President Chappell | Yes |
| Commissioner Dai | Yes |
| Commissioner Jerdonek | Yes |
| Commissioner Mogi | Yes |

4 Yays 0 Nay 0 Abstain
Motion passes

5. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings

Commissioner Mogi moved to approve the draft minutes of January 19, 2022, and November 20, 2019, regular meeting minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Jerdonek. Votes were not taken due to comments made by member of the public David Pilpel stating information could use more fine tuning.

Commissioner Dai suggested clarifying items on the November 20, 2019 meeting minutes regarding OSV.

Public Comment

David Pilpel commented that the January 19, 2022 meeting minutes have a few typos.

Commissioner Mogi moved to withdraw the previous motion to approve the meeting minutes for January, 19, 2022, and November 20, 2019, to allow for changes and resubmission of the November 20, 2019, at the next meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Jerdonek.

Public Comment

David Pilpel suggested the November 20, 2019 meeting minutes should be put off until next month also.

MOTION TO WITHDRAW PREVIOUS MOTION

| | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Vice President Chappell | Yes |
| Commissioner Dai | Yes |
| Commissioner Jerdonek | Yes |
| Commissioner Mogi | Yes |

4 Yays 0 Nay 0 Abstain
Motion passes

6. Open Source Voting

Director Arntz reported that on Monday, February 7, 2022, a plan was submitted to the Secretary of State's (SOS) Office applying for a pilot program for the use of ballot marking devices from VotingWorks. SOS confirmed receipt, will review and respond with any questions.

Commissioner Jerdonek asked if there was any difference between the draft submitted as an attachment during the last meeting on January 19, 2022, and the current pilot program submission. Director Arntz replied he included an added section to make suggestions. VotingWorks had to complete a form (Attachment 9) sent by SOS on its system.

VP Chappell asked what success would look like with respect to the pilot program. Director Arntz stated that the program operates and scans the ballots and records the results appropriately. Voter feedback will be considered.

Public Comment

Brent Turner commented that OSV initially started in 2000, and politics have stood in the way.

7. Commissioners' Reports

Commissioner Mogi reported the District Attorney's Office is working on finding a replacement for her because she is leaving.

Commissioner Jerdonek commented on the document submitted on the Halderman Report.

Public Comment

David Jefferson, Brent Turner, and Jim Soper commented on Professor Alex Halderman's report regarding Dominion Systems voting machines. They would like to be notified by the Elections Commission if the SOS responds to the report. Due to lawsuits, the report may not be accessible.

8. Director's Report

Director Arntz requested that the Commission complete Section A7 of the Racial Equity Progress Report. The potential April Election Plan will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Commissioner Jerdonek asked if the Elections Commission had to complete the Racial Equity Report today. Director Arntz stated that it needs to be done by March 1, 2022. The Commission is recommending that President Bernholz complete the report. DCA Flores stated more research would need to be done for processes. Director Arntz will send the report when created.

Public Comment

None

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9. Discussion and possible action regarding items for future agendas

- a) Dominion Contract Renewal
- b) Revisiting Meeting Minutes for January 20, 2022, and November 20, 2019
- c) April Election Plan
- d) Racial Equity Progress Report

Public Comment

None

10. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned 5:41 PM