

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

Robin M. Stone, President  
Michelle Parker, Vice President  
Lucy Bernholz  
Cynthia Dai  
Renita LiVolsi  
Kelly Wong



John Arntz, Director of Elections  
Marisa Davis, Commission Secretary

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT**

**San Francisco Elections Commission**  
**Tuesday, September 24, 2024**  
**6:00 p.m.**  
**City Hall, Room 416**  
**1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place**  
**San Francisco, California 94102**  
**& Remote via WebEx**

**Order of Business**

**1. Call to Order & Roll Call**

President Stone called the meeting to order at 5:33 PM.

Present: President Robin Stone, Vice President Michelle Parker (arrived at 5:40), Commissioner Cynthia Dai, Commissioner Renita Livolsi, Commissioner Kelly Wong, Commissioner Lucy Bernholz (via remote).

Also Present: Director of Elections John Arntz, Deputy City Attorney Ana Flores, and Commission Secretary Marisa Davis.

President Stone stated the Commission's acknowledgement of the Ramaytush Ohlone people.

**2. General Public Comment**

*Via remote*

Karen Butter of Alameda County Election Commissioner spoke about SB 1328 and the statement from Senator Bradford's legislative director stating there is nothing in the bill to prevent the release of cast vote records. The bill is now on the

governor's desk. Anticipating potential consideration of changes to the cast vote record from the California Secretary of State's Office, Ms. Butter hopes to have San Francisco advocate against any policy changes.

### **3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

Commissioner Dai forwarded her comments, revisions, edits (which were incorporated). No other comments were presented. There was general consensus that the revised minutes were approved.

#### **General Public Comment**

No public comments.

### **4. Director's Report**

Director Arntz presented his September report and provided information to the Commissioner's regarding the details regarding current and upcoming department plans/activities and new items for voters on the Department's website; he reiterated polling place details and answered ongoing questions about overseas, mail in ballots details, as well as the timeline of ongoing activities leading up to the November election. He discussed general security issues/questions from the Commissioners, including Commissioner Wong's appreciation for the current outreach activities regarding non-citizen and non-English speaking voters.

The Director also answered Commissioners' inquiries about ongoing outreach efforts and the request get anecdotal feedback from student and poll workers about their experience after the election.

#### **General Public Comment**

No public comments

### **5. Commissioners' Report**

Commissioner Dai addressed public commenter Karen Butter's statement regarding cast vote records and shared an update regarding the passage of SB 1328. She further requested the Commission take up SB 1328 as a specific agenda item to have a more thorough discussion which would include details from Senator Bradford's legislative director about the Secretary of State's consideration of policy changes pertaining to cast vote records. Information will be provided as attachments for the next meeting agenda (October 16, 2024).

**General Public Comment**

No public comments

**6. Consolidated Election Plan**

Commissioners indicated their support and expressed thanks to Director Arntz and his department for the specificity of the Election Plan, including that it is the “gold standard” and demonstrates for the public just what the Department does to ensure a free, fair and functional election. Commissioners also expressed appreciation for the Director’s attentiveness to Commissioner feedback and priorities, including to ranked choice voting education materials, results reporting, and voter outreach. Commissioner Bernholz was pleased regarding an emergency plan of action regarding any threat scenarios.

Director Arntz provided details regarding ballot curing and the services offered to voters needing to cure their ballot. He further added clarification regarding public education regarding results reporting specifically when the ballots are counted when received on or after Election Day. One of the most important messages is the fact there will be no results report on Wednesday following Election Day; the Director will be speaking a lot to the media, issuing press releases, and routinely posting communications on the Department of Elections website.

President Stone asked Director Arntz to provide an oral explanation of how the Department of Elections manages separate voter rolls for non-citizen and citizen voting to ensure election integrity.

Commissioner Wong specifically called out the launch of outreach materials particularly the YouTube RCV and pleased the department has developed a solid strategy to monitor and respond to disinformation, much of which is directed at non-English speakers. She indicated there is report regarding disinformation she will forward to the commissioners and Director Arntz.

**General Public Comment**

No public Comments

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2024 CONSOLIDATED GENERAL ELECTION PLAN for the November 5, 2024** was made by Vice President Parker and seconded by Commissioner Dai.

President Stone	YES
Vice President Parker	YES

Commissioner Bernholz	YES
Commissioner Dai	YES
Commissioner LiVolsi	YES
Commissioner Wong	YES

6 Yays 0 Nays  
Motion passes.

#### 7. **Alternate Security Plan**

Director Arntz outlined the need for an Alternative Security Plan for the November Election. The San Francisco Charter requires the Elections Commission to approve an alternative security plan when the sheriff appears in the ballot (as he does for this election).

#### **General Public Comment**

No public Comments

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE DIRECTOR'S ALTERNATE SECURITY PLAN** regarding the November 5, 2024 Consolidate Election was made by President Stone and was seconded by Commissioner LiVolsi.

President Stone	YES
Vice President Parker	YES
Commissioner Bernholz	YES
Commissioner Dai	YES
Commissioner LiVolsi	YES
Commissioner Wong	YES

6 Yays 0 Nays  
Motion passes.

#### 8. **Employee Waiver Approval**

Director Arntz reviewed the waiver allowing city employees to assist the Department of Elections. He requested the Elections Commission approve the Waiver to allow City employees to assist the department if necessary.

#### **General Public Comment**

*In person:*

George Gaboury from the nonpartisan organization *San Francisco Election Integrity Team* stated while there might not be a need for ‘last minute’ election workers, it is essential that everyone receives the proper training and is thoroughly prepared to perform their duties to properly uphold election standards.

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE DIRECTOR’S WAIVER FOR CITY EMPLOYEES TO ASSIST THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTIONS** was made by Commissioner Dai and was seconded by President Stone

President Stone	YES
Vice President Parker	YES
Commissioner Bernholz	YES
Commissioner Dai	YES
Commissioner LiVolsi	YES
Commissioner Wong	YES

6 Yays 0 Nays  
Motion passes.

**9. Agenda Items for Future Meetings**

Commissioner Dai reiterated her desire to agendize discussion of SB 1328 and cast vote records. President Stone said she would look into timing and plans for evaluating Secretary Davis’ performance.

**General Public Comment**

No public Comments

**10. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 PM.