

ROVAC – LITCHFIELD COUNTY CHAPTER
Meeting Minutes
Woodbury Firehouse, Woodbury, CT
Tuesday, September 10, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sign in sheet attached

Call to order: Chairman Amatruda called the meeting to order at 6:01pm. Welcome. Agenda out of order to accommodate scheduling and speakers. Supper arrived and members dined while the Speaker, Police Officer Marsh, talked about and demonstrated how to deal with active Aggressors/Shooters in different settings.

Minutes: Chairman Amatruda asked if the February 26, 2024, minutes could be accepted “as drafted” or if there were any corrections. Motion by Joyce Pichette of Thomaston to accept, 2nd by James Duncan of Litchfield. One correction: Melissa Russell in attendance represents Torrington, not Bethlehem. Correction accepted. Unanimous vote to accept as corrected.

Guest Speaker, Jacqueline Kozin-Deputy SOTS was unavailable to attend this evening.

Recognition ceremony for Frank Molinaro – 60yrs in election services! Congratulations Frank, and thank you for your time & service.

LC ROVAC Elections:

- a. Chair: Lisa Amatruda nominated by Sherri Gray of Colebrook; 2nd by Nanci Howard, Goshen. Vote carried – unanimous.
- b. Vice Chair: Nanci Howard nominated by Karen Martin, Barkhamsted; 2nd by James Duncan, Litchfield. Vote carried – unanimous.
- c. Treasurer: James Duncan volunteered (nominated himself); 2nd by Nanci Howard, Goshen. Vote carried – unanimous.
- d. Secretary: Dawn Wilkes, nominated by Nanci Haward, Goshen; 2nd by Rose Manzi-Platt, Woodbury. Vote carried – unanimous.

Old Business:

- a. Members please consider joining committees (vacancies remain)
- b. EV Poster link attached to minutes

Committee Reports:

- a. Conference: Barbara Galvin, Plymouth, not present; would continue in position
- b. Credentials: Debra Brown, Plymouth, not present, no report.
- c. Education: Therese Duncan, Kent, will continue in position. Reference to emailed questions in preparation of ROVAC conference next week. (att)

- d. Handbook: Kathy Doyle, Woodbury, latest release in July; committee is looking for updates and revisions
- e. Legislative: Lisa Amatruda, Woodbury & Jacques Williams, Torrington – legislative body is in need of expense reports and statistics to reconsider early voting procedures. Ask Town leaders to stay engaged & participate in the next session.
- f. Nominating: VACANT – Essential for Spring 2025
- g. Technology: Dan Lonagan, Woodbury & Rose Manzi-Platt, Woodbury (ret)–
 - 1. SOTS Thomas to announce new Tabulator vendor on 9/12/2024. Vendor will attend ROVAC conference next week. Training to be scheduled.
 - 2. New CVRS to be ready First Qtr 2025.
 - 3. CVRS update: Same Day Registration (SDR) added to drop-down for EV, label-making.
 - 4. October 18, 2024 Stress test for CVRS planned; information pending.
 - 5. EMS advises look over tally sheets. Reminder, EV sites are not “Polling Places”.
 - 6. System training for poll workers expected for late September 2024.
- h. Ways & Means: Christine Reisel, Bethlehem, no report.

New Business:

- a. August Primary – Early voting discussions/share ideas
Woodbury attributes increased voter turnout (August over March) to “Vote Today” signage purchased from local vendor – recommends signage efforts.
- b. Reminder to bring total monies spent on EV at PPP and August Primary for ROVAC survey next week.
- c. Issues of Concern for November election: Discussion & Questions ensued.
 - 1. New registration comes back to vote later, is this ED or SDR? Confirm wSOTS.
 - 2. Inactive voters fill out new registration, allowed to vote at EV, add to supplemental list. **SDR is only for new registrations**
 - 3. October 18, 2024 is deadline for all (most) CVRS activity. See FAQs.
 - 4. RoVs on ballot may conduct regular business. Act as Moderator? TBD.

Next Meeting: January 2025 target date, Barkhamsted offered to host.
Consider meeting with Legislative leaders in advance of session.

Meeting adjourned 7:51 pm.

Respectfully submitted to the membership for approval,

Dawn Wilkes
Secretary, ROVAC-LC
Town of Goshen Registrar of Voters

ROVAC-LC 10 Sept 2024 Minutes

We need your ideas and Best Practices for a roundtable discussion on:

PREPARING FOR THE 2024 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

The ROVAC Education Committee wants to thank the many registrars who helped us design this roundtable discussion. The goal is for you to come away with some Best Practices or practical tips that you can immediately use to help your 2024 Presidential Election planning.

Here is how the Roundtable Discussion – the first event on the conference’s first day – will work:

1. The two Moderators will lead the entire ROVAC audience through three different Topics, in hopes of generating ideas that you can bring back home and use this November 5.

One of the workshops at the Spring conference used a smartphone app called **Slido** to make it easy to record your Tips, then send them to the large screens in front of the room. We want to use it again to make this workshop more interactive.

So before arriving at the conference:

- Please download the free [Slido](https://www.slido.com) app (<https://www.slido.com>) for your smartphone. (If you don’t have a phone, you can team up with someone at your table who does.)
- Come to the conference with 1-2 ideas on each of the three Topics. *What does your town do especially well, or have success with, that could help other Registrars?*

2. We are purposefully casting a very wide net:

TOPIC 1: PREPARING FOR ELECTIONS. Tips on such subjects as recruitment and retention of poll workers ... Training poll workers at the mandated pre-election meeting ... If you mail election info to voters, how do you measure whether it worked? What does your town do well?

TOPIC 2: ELECTION DAY PROCEDURES. How to get cooperation from other municipal departments in meeting your Election Day needs (i.e., police/state police/constables; mayor/own manager/selectman; schools that don’t want to give up space). Handling the disruptive poll worker. Handling the disruptive voter. Utilizing former ROVs and Moderators to smooth the process. What works well in your town? What are you proud of?

TOPIC 3: ELECTION AFTERMATH AND EMS REPORTING. How to effectively debrief: What went right, wrong. How to speed up end-of-night reporting. Explaining budget realities to mayor/town manager/council on how much EV is going to cost; securing the needed funds. How to train a new ROV/deputy in the use of EMS system, CVRS, poll books. With multiple Early Voting days, how to avoid burnout among workers. Split shifts? Planned limit on consecutive days worked? Other suggestions?

(more)

3. The Moderators will take up one Topic at a time, asking you to post your responses through Slido within a tight 10-minute time frame. They will then spend 10 minutes to highlight some of the more interesting responses, often asking the writer to stand up and explain it more fully. There will be two people bringing microphones to the speakers in the audience. We then move onto Topics 2 + 3.

Again, what suggestions, tips, best practices, and relevant experiences can you add to the discussion that others might find useful?

4. We will repeat the process with Topics 2 and 3, allowing us to finish within the 70 minutes allotted. After the conference, we hope to gather the ideas – and any handouts you might have brought – and assemble them for you to view on the ROVAC web page.

We know that big cities have different concerns than small towns; new ROVs have a different set of concerns than veteran Registrars. ***Nonetheless, we think there are Best Practices that each of you can contribute, learning from each other – and hopefully making your 2024 Presidential Election run more smoothly.***
