



**ROVAC BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 8, 2018  
NEWINGTON TOWN HALL**

**Members Attending:** Sue Larsen (S. Windsor), Bonnie Anderson (Cromwell), Tim Beeble (Bethel), Lou DeCilio (Stratford), Peter Gostin (New Britain), Anne-Marie Mastroianni (Bethlehem), Kevin McCauley (Bristol), Dianne Slopak (Norwich) & Mike Wyman (Tolland).

**Ex-Officio Member Attending:** None

**Non-Voting Members Attending:** Lisbeth Becker (Glastonbury)

**Guests:** Linda Cultrera (Newington) - Host

Meeting was called to order by President Sue Larsen at 10:02 AM

**I. Minutes from last Meeting:** (October 11, 2018)

Mike W. moved to accept minutes as amended for October 11, 2018 / Anne-Marie M. seconded.

Minutes approved.

(0) Abstention(s):

Motion made by Lou D. and seconded by Anne-Marie M. to table all Committee Reports and any Old or New Business to discuss election. Motion carried unanimously.

**II. Treasurer's Report:** Tabled

**III. County Reports:** Tabled

**IV. Committee Reports:** Tabled

**V. Old Business:** Tabled

**VI. New Business:** Tabled

## **VII. Election Discussion:**

Lengthy discussion ensued and some of the topics are shown below.

- Hartford electronic poll pad check-in did not work with the scanning of drivers' licenses, as the voters were reluctant to have their licenses scanned.
- Glastonbury had a 76% turnout, while Norwich had 60%.
- Tab failures in Glastonbury & Stratford – Glastonbury reported that voters were upset with putting ballot in Auxiliary Bin. Stratford gave option, as well, while they switched memory card to the back-up Tab and continued voting. Consider running a Start-up (Zero Report) tape on the back-up Tab at the same time the main Tab is set up for election on Election Day and also have that back-up Tab on a secondary Ballot Box to be ready to go immediately if the main Tab fails. Creating two sets of tapes or one tape is a question we should consider under best practice for Registrars when there is a failure. SOTS should provide protocol on what is best practice for when a Tab fails during an election.
- Lines and waiting times varied throughout – can budget afford hiring more Poll & EDR workers? When all privacy booths are occupied, have ARs direct traffic to open booths.
- EDR issues –
  - ID requirements/guidelines for posting should be produced from SOTS to be uniform throughout all locations.
  - Returned EDR letters – Send letter a second time and if returned by P.O. report to SEEC
  - Lines should be managed better in many locations throughout the state – if available, registrars can jump in to help process registrations. Having computers available for registrants to pre-register or use of their smart phone (if they possess a valid CT DL) to register online, providing link to SOTS Register to Vote site.
  - Dedicated EDR workers to handle the incoming and outgoing town to town calls and perhaps manage the EDR Log. Sue L (S. Windsor) utilizes the Election Day Change Detail Report for the EDR Log.
  - SOTS should shut down online registration precisely at 8:00 PM to cut off all registration centrally. CVRS and Online Registration should shut off at same time.
  - SOTS position to swear-in mass numbers of non-voters in New Haven & Mansfield EDR locations, allowing them to vote without completing their voter registrations, was not and is not supported by ROVAC.
  - High numbers at EDR revealed DMV failure to register everyone. The inputting of incorrect addresses by DMV added to the issue.
- Wet Ballot Issues – Inclement weather created some issues with ballots getting dripped on by some rain soaked clothing or umbrellas, resulting in the scanner not accepting the ballots.
  - Providing paper towels to wipe & dry hands, clothing and umbrellas at the entrance to the polls could help minimize.
  - Provide umbrella holders to drop off at entrance.

- Blank Ballots sticking together - Some Ballot Clerks experienced stacks of ballots sticking together resulting in the occasional handing out of multiple ballots (by mistake) to the voters. Be sure Ballot Clerks are aware of the possible sticking of ballots and to fan the stack to help minimize and ensure one ballot is removed from stack at a time.
- AB Ballots not being ready due to the Amigo Party replacement candidate – Need legislation to move the deadline up.
- Timely Announcement of Results at Polls – Dot matrix tabulator printers slow down the announcement of results.
  - Massachusetts has new Tabs where they remove memory card at end of election and slide it into a card reader that laser prints the results much faster.
  - SOTS should consider approving a reader system.
- EMS Issues–
  - Still not set up to be as user-friendly as it could be. Fails to speed up the reporting of results times.
  - Candidates should be arranged in rows and districts in columns and adding tabs for Tabulator, AB, EDR, Hand Counts, Aux., etc. could help inputting numbers more quickly.
  - Mirroring how the results are arranged on Tab Tapes would also help.
  - Stratford has a spreadsheet they use that is very easy to follow and input numbers to. If EMS is structured as recommended, could get much faster results with little to no mistakes on the initial report.
  - Stratford and Norwich have two people reading the tape, while one person inputs into EMS and a fourth person watching to ensure inputting is correct.
  - Technology Committee will continue to communicate our frustrations with the current EMS model.
- Legislative Agenda – Sue L. will share the highlights from this discussion with Legislative Committee to incorporate into our Legislative Agenda.

**VII. Adjourn:**

Motion to adjourn made by Peter G. and seconded by Tim B. at 12:23 PM.

Motion Approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin McCauley  
Secretary