



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

MEETING MINUTES FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2025

The meeting of the Union County Board of Elections was called to order by Chair Clara Harelik, Esq. at 10:36am. The following Commissioners were in attendance: Chair Clara Harelik, Esq.; Secretary / Commissioner of Registration James Foerst, Esq.; Commissioner Dennis Kobitz; Commissioner Donald Stanzione, Esq.; Commissioner Raymond Szpond; Commissioner Debra Varnerin; and Administrator Nicole DiRado and Deputy Administrator Linda Wise.

The Statement of Compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act was read by Chair Harelik.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION

Kenneth Kassner, Linden: Mr. Kassner advised the Board that he is visually impaired and feels he cannot vote in Union County. Mr. Kassner was advised of all the options available to him including the increased font size on the voting machine ballot; the assistive hearing device on the voting machine; the ability to have an assistor help him inside the curtain; the ability to receive a mail-in ballot certified for the disabled from the County Clerk's Office; and the ability to have an assistor help him complete a mail-in ballot.

ADJUDICATION OF MAIL-IN BALLOTS VOTED IN THE 2025 GENERAL ELECTION

Commissioner Kobitz announced he would abstain from taking action on all ballots from Hillside as he has a conflict.

The Board voted to approve ballots for the following reason: certificate envelopes were not contained in an outer envelope.

The Board voted to reject ballots for the following reasons: the envelope did not contain a certification; the certificate envelope did not contain a ballot; a voter moved out of county; a sample ballot was voted; and original, misprinted Berkeley Heights ballots were disapproved because the duplicate ballots were received.

The Board voted to issue cure letters to voters whose ballots contained a signature deficiency.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Foerst and seconded by Commissioner Szpond. All Commissioners present voted in the affirmative. The meeting was adjourned at 11:55am.