



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2025

The meeting of the Union County Board of Elections was called to order by Chair Clara Harelik, Esq. at 12:00 pm. 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.

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

TALLYING MAIL-IN BALLOTS & PROVISIONAL BALLOTS VOTED IN THE 2025 HILLSIDE RUNOFF ELECTION

The Board tallied mail-in and provisional ballots voted in the 2025 Hillside Runoff Election.

ADJUDICATION OF MAIL-IN AND PROVISIONAL BALLOTS VOTED IN THE 2025 HILLSIDE RUNOFF ELECTION

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

The Board voted to reject mail-in ballots which were received beyond the statutory deadline.

The Board voted to reject provisional ballots wherein the mail-in ballot was received.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Commissioner Foerst to enter Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Varnerin and all Commissioners present voted in the affirmative.

- Personnel Matters
- Union County Board of Elections 2026 Early Voting Security Plan

A motion was made by Commissioner Foerst to return to the Regular Meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Varnerin and all Commissioners present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTIONS

- A Resolution to hire Katherine Rivera at a salary in the amount of \$35,000.

Commissioner Szpond made a motion to hire Ms. Rivera at a salary of \$35,000. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Varnerin. All Commissioners present voted in the affirmative.

- A Resolution to approve the Board's 2026 Budget request.

Commissioner Szpond made a motion to approve the Board's 2026 Budget request. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Foerst. All Commissioners present voted in the affirmative.



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Foerst to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Varnerin and all Commissioners present voted in the affirmative. The meeting adjourned at 1:15 pm.