

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING  
JANUARY 18, 2024**



THE ARMSTRONG COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER ON JANUARY 18, 2024, AT 11:30 AM IN THE COMMISSIONERS' CONFERENCE ROOM WITH THE FOLLOWING IN ATTENDANCE:

Commissioner John W. Strate, Commissioner Anthony G. Shea, Commissioner Pat Fabian, Aaron Poole – Chief Administrator, James Webb – Election Director, Rick Drumm, Marsha Dufour, Ruth Ann Ward, Rocco Ali, Darlene Smail

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**MEETING REPORT**

None

**OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Political Parties use of Belmont:** Commissioners, Strate, Shea, and Fabian agreed to allow Political Parties use of the Belmont Banquet Room for meeting use at no cost to the party. Mr. Fabian stated that Parties should pay the regular Banquet Room fee if they are hosting a Political Event. All Parties should coordinate with Gary Montebell to book the Banquet Room
- B. Mail In and Election Day ballots on Election Day:** There was discussion on the chain of command of all Ballots. Also discussed how ballots are stored. Mr. Webb stated that there is no public inspection of machines due to Election Code. If a public inspection happened, the County would risk the decertification of all machines.
- C. Possible hand recount of Election day/Mail In Ballots on Election Day:** Mr. Webb stated that a hand recount of Election day/Mail In ballots can take place just not on Election Day, the recount would have to be set on a date after the Election once the Election office has finished all reporting required by the Department of State (DOS). Mr. Webb provided the Commissioners a copy of a rough draft of hand count recount procedures. Mr. Webb stated he would continue to work on the procedures in the lead up to the Election and would provide a final copy once it is finalized.
- D. Opening of sealed Ballot bags on Election night:** Mr. Webb stated that the Election office would not be opening Seal Ballot Bags on Election Night, Ballot bags stay sealed until the DOS declares weather or not there will be a statewide recount.
- E. Mail In Ballots being returned to individual Polling Sites:** Mr. Poole recommended Mr. Webb speak with the County Solicitor to discuss the legality of the matter.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Political Parties will provide list of potential auditors for the Recount to Mr. Webb
- B. Mr. Shea Made a motion to change Election Board meetings from every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday a month to just the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday in a month. Mr. Fabian seconded the motion.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

**OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, it was moved by Mr.Fabian, seconded by Mr.Shea, and carried unanimously; the Commissioners adjourned the Board of Commissioners' Meeting at 12:12pm. The next Board of Commissioners' Meeting will be held February 15, 2024, at 11:30 a.m.

ATTEST:

ARMSTRONG COUNTY  
BOARD OF Elections

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Aaron S. Poole, Chief Administrator

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Pat Fabian, Secretary