

From: Deborah Munitz (Seidman) deb@welcomedriver.com 

Subject: Forward of letter and question

Date: July 30, 2015 at 11:31 AM

To: Kristen Zebrowski Stavisky StaviskK@co.rockland.ny.us, Louis C. Babcock BabcocLo@co.rockland.ny.us

Bcc: Golden Melanie melaniegolden@gmail.com

DM

Dear Kristen and Lou,

I attended the beginning the validation processing at the Town of Ramapo yesterday. I believe Chris Sampson is being very organized about the functions he has planned to perform however I am concerned about what he potentially may not be planning to perform based on his limited procedure document that I forwarded yesterday. I don't want to assume anything nefarious but I do want to be in a position to recommend corrections to the process and I hope he will consider them. I already commented on the plans to validate the affidavit as outlined in the email I cc'd you both, he has not replied yet to those comments.

Yesterday, as I thought through the process underway, other concerns came up for me and I did some research in the afternoon and my research confirmed my expectation that there is detail work that needs to be done to account for the ballot and organize all the paperwork in a manner that can easily be tabulated and shared in a final certification report. I also realized that we can't challenge the town decision to count all the votes together as planned unless someone formally asks them not to do it that way. So I wrote the enclosed letter and delivered it to Chris Sampson at Town Hall earlier this morning and also handed a copy to Christopher St. Lawrence to share with the town board. I am copying you you on this letter as well just to keep you in the loop.

I left a message for Kristen yesterday late afternoon asking about what ballot reconciliation forms are going to be used as I want to request a copy of what the BOE use. I still want to discuss that and to get a copy of that form (under FOIL if necessary).

Also, I want to clarify something from the Journal News article that has triggered a half a dozen calls to me last night. The article says: "The board has already canvassed voting machines, but will not tally the electronic results until the paper ballots are counted. Results will be counted and certified by the the board."

Wording can be important as I believe a lot of confusion occurs because of different meanings of counting. As of late Monday afternoon I understood that the board had not read the memory sticks. I am not sure if this means that you finally did that yesterday or not. You had said you were planning to do that in public but perhaps there was a change in decision midday. Or perhaps everyone is talking about different counting. I see that there is an absolute need to count the number of ballots put through each machine even if there is no tabulation of the results of the vote so I need to understand the different words used for that type of tallying vs. vote counting.

I would like to speak with you briefly to clarify terminology and what has occurred.

1. Did you canvass the voting machines? What does that mean? Does that just mean create a report of the number of ballots by machine? Were election day results read or not?
2. Each polling location contained one or more machine readers and covered one or more election districts. Are the tallies of ballots cast done by machine, by polling location or by ED?
3. When the results are finally read how do the results get generated? By machine, by polling location or by ED?
4. Does the BOE know which ballot books were delivered to which polling location and used by which ED?
5. How are the ballot numbers accounted for. Someone told me that the ballots numbers are entered into the poll registration books by each voter's information. I seem to recall the poll workers keeping a running tally or perhaps doing both.
6. How are ballot numbers supposed to be tracked for affidavit envelopes. With the special election there were certain locations that were careful to track the ballot numbers on the envelope whereas others did not include that information at all. What is the requirement? Can Sampson open the envelope to get the ballot number for accounting purposes?

If one of you has a couple of minutes (I know this is a terribly busy week) I would appreciate a phone call to get the answers so that I have an opportunity to confirm my understanding.

Thank you

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