

DRAFT COUNTY OF ALAMEDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: Thursday, April 17, 2025

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Location: Via Zoom/In person
San Lorenzo Library Greenhouse Community Room
395 Paseo Grande
San Lorenzo, CA 94580

1. Call To Order / Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by President James R. Lindsay. Clerk Noe Lucio conducted a roll call.

Present:

Commission Members: Judy Belcher, Karen A. Butter, Irene Dieter, Susan R. Henderson, James R. Lindsay, Alexander Ramon, Karl I. Seabrook, David Wagner, Allie Whitehurst, and Alissa Moore (remotely, late arrival).

Registrar of Voters (ROV) staff: *Tim Dupuis*, Noe Lucio, Shaheer Siddiqui, and Charles Smithline;
County Counsel: Jason Allen (remotely).

Absent:

Commission Members: Zabrae Valentine
Registrar of Voters: Cynthia Cornejo

2. Swearing-In of New Commissioners

David Wagner was publicly sworn in as a new commissioner.

3. Approval of Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda without modifications was made by Commissioner Belcher, seconded by Commissioner Ramon, and passed unanimously by acclamation.

4. Approval of Minutes of March 20, 2025

A motion to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2025 meeting was made by Vice President Dieter, seconded by Commissioner Ramon, and passed with a vote of 9–0.

5. Announcements and Communications

(a) From staff:

- Registrar Tim Dupuis noted that the Deputy Registrar Cynthia Cornejo was currently working on the canvass and could not attend. He also mentioned that County Counsel Jason Allen was participating in the meeting online.

(b) From commissioners:

- Commissioner Belcher added three items to the Commission's request list. Mr. Lindsay

reminded everyone that all requests are triaged, and commissioners can inquire anytime of the status.

- Commissioner Butter lauded the big digital billboard near the Oakland Coliseum saying to vote.

6. Public Comment on Agenda Items

Public comments were made on the agenda items.

7. Monthly Update from Registrar of Voters Office

Mr. Dupuis provided an overview of the work completed and to be completed for the April 15, 2025, City of Oakland Special Election. Questions and a discussion ensued.

8. Business Items

(a) Old Business

(1) Responsiveness and Communications

President Lindsay noted that, with the implementation of a public records request portal in 2024, the ROV's response times have improved. He also mentioned that city clerks can get responses within 24 hours and the media now have a single point of contact, enhancing communication. The commissioners discussed the possibility of creating an ad hoc committee on responsiveness and communications but ultimately decided not to form a new committee.

(2) Election Observation Issues

Mr. Lindsay noted that this item remains open. The commissioners discussed observation issues and ultimately decided not to form a new committee.

(3) Meeting schedule change

Mr. Lindsay explained that because of the Juneteenth holiday, the date and location of the June meeting needs to be changed from June 19 to June 18. The meeting would be held in Oakland where we used to meet but in a different room. A motion was made to change the June meeting date and location by Ms. Belcher, seconded by Mr. Ramon, and passed 10 to 0.

(b) Ongoing Items from Committees

(1) 2024 Post-election Assessment

Commissioners Belcher and Butter recommended that the Commission immediately submit its assessment to the Board of Supervisors. A motion was made by Ms. Butter, seconded by Ms. Dieter, to submit the assessment. Mr. Dupuis said he preferred waiting until the May meeting for the ROV to provide more comprehensive answers. After discussion, the motion passed with 8 votes in favor and 2 abstentions.

(2) Structure of the ROV position

Mr. Lindsay reported that this item is on hold.

(3) Voting Participation

Commission Moore reported that the committee is continuing to gather information.

(4) Nominations

Commissioner Ramon reported that the committee is currently seeking additional applications to fill District 2 and impacted community vacancies. Ms. Moore offered to provide potential sources, and other commissioners suggested looking into language access resources for the community.

(c) New Business

Ms. Dieter suggested that the Commission engage in a brainstorming session to start the conversation about the April 15 post-election assessment, and to decide whether there should be an ad hoc committee. Oakland-based commissioners shared their observations and feedback on the election process. The issue will be discussed further at the May meeting.

9. Special Report from the ROV

There was no special report from the Deputy Registrar of Voters this month.

10. Public Comment on Agenda or Non-Agenda Items

Public comments were made.

11. Requests for Future Agenda Items

No requests were made.

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:37 p.m.