

**2014 CITY OF ORLANDO GENERAL ELECTION
DISTRICT 5 CITY COMMISSIONER**

**CANVASSING BOARD ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
MARCH 17, 2014 at 4:00 P.M**

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**MINUTES**

City Clerk Alana C. Brenner called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m. on Monday, March 17, 2014 in the Agenda Conference Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Orlando City Hall. Those present are listed below:

**Members:**

Alana C. Brenner, City Clerk, Chair  
Commissioner Tony Ortiz – District 2  
Commissioner Patty Sheehan – District 4

**Staff:**

Amy T. Iennaco, Chief Assistant City Attorney  
Monica Varnado, Paralegal  
Elizabeth Davidson, Assistant City Clerk

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I. REVIEW OF CITY ELECTION CALENDAR

1. Poll Watcher Designations for Early Voting. Ms. Brenner stated that today at noon was the deadline for candidates to submit their Poll Watcher Designations for Early Voting. Candidate Cynthia Harris submitted her names at 12:04 p.m., four minutes after the deadline; therefore, her poll watcher designation names were not accepted. Neither candidate Edward Juan Lynum nor candidate Regina Hill submitted poll watcher designations for Early Voting.
2. Public Test on Thursday, March 27, 2014. Ms. Brenner reminded members of the date and time for the Public Test on Thursday, March 27, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. She then advised members and staff that she will be out of town on March 27, attending a workshop in Washington, D.C., and therefore not in attendance at the Public Test. Commissioners Ortiz and Sheehan checked their calendars and confirmed that they will be present for the Public Test on March 27, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.
3. Early Voting Begins. Ms. Brenner reminded members and staff that Early Voting begins Monday, March 31, 2014 at 8:00 a.m. through Sunday, April 6, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. She referred to the 2014 Election Time-Line for specific times.

4. General Election Voting Date. Ms. Brenner reminded members and staff that election day is Tuesday, April 8, 2014 beginning at 7:00 a.m. and ending at 7:00 p.m.
5. Voting Day Canvassing Board Meeting. Ms. Brenner reminded members and staff of the Canvassing Board Meeting on the General Election day, Tuesday, April 8, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. at the Orange County Supervisor of Elections Office.
6. Certification and Audit: Canvassing Board Meeting. Ms. Brenner reminded members and staff of the Canvassing Board Meeting on Thursday, April 10, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. at the Orange County Supervisor of Elections Office for the purpose of certifying the election and conducting an audit.

II. REVIEW OF STATE AND CITY ELECTION CODE PROVISIONS

The Canvassing Board turned to the section of their election binders containing the DOE Voter Intent Guidance (Sec. 1S-2.027 FAC)(Standards for Determining Voter's Choice on a Ballot.) Ms. Iennaco reviewed the Florida Division of Elections Standards for Determining Voter's Choice on a Ballot and noted that these examples will serve as the Canvassing Board's guide when it needs to determine whether there is a clear indication that a voter made a definite choice on a ballot.

III. DISCUSSION OF ABSENTEE BALLOT CRITERIA

Ms. Brenner and Ms. Iennaco reviewed the proposed criteria for acceptance of absentee and provisional ballots (see attached) and discussion ensued.

MOTION: Commissioner Patty Sheehan moved that the Canvassing Board adopt the criteria (attached) named "Orange County Canvassing Board 2014 Criteria" that the Orange County Canvassing Board previously adopted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tony Ortiz and vote carried unanimously.

IV. PROVISIONAL BALLOTS

Ms. Iennaco reviewed the materials concerning provisional ballots and suggested that the Board should review these sections prior to election night.

V. CHALLENGES (F.S. 101.111)

Ms. Iennaco advised that any registered elector or poll watcher may challenge the right of a person to vote pursuant to F.S. 101.111. She also reviewed the statute providing for challenges to absentee ballots based on defects on the envelopes and that such challenges must be made before the ballot is removed from the envelope. She further advised that any elector or poll watcher who files a frivolous challenge of any person's right to vote commits a misdemeanor, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 and s. 775.083.

VI. AUDIT (F.S. 101.591; Rule 1S-5.026 F.A.C.)

Ms. Brenner advised that a manual audit of the voting systems used in a randomly selected precinct must be held two (2) days after the General Election. The law requires that 1% of one race be audited. The Canvassing Board will meet on Thursday, April 10, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. at the Orange County Supervisor of Elections Office to conduct the audit.

VII. PUBLIC TEST OF VOTING TABULATION EQUIPMENT

Ms. Brenner reminded members and staff of the Public Test of the voting tabulation equipment on Thursday, March 27, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. at the Orange County Supervisor of Elections Office.

VIII. DIRECTIONS TO CITY STAFF – CANVASSING OF BALLOTS (F.S. 101.68)

A. Advance Review of Coded Absentee Ballots

Ms. Iennaco explained to the Canvassing Board that in the past staff conducted an advance review of all “coded” absentee ballots to determine if the ballots meet the criteria adopted by the Canvassing Board and this assisted staff in organizing review of the same with the Canvassing Board at its meeting on Tuesday, April 8, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.

MOTION: Commissioner Patty Sheehan moved to authorize staff to conduct an advance review of all coded absentee ballots prior to presentation of the ballots to the Canvassing Board. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tony Ortiz and vote carried unanimously.

B. Public Inspection of Absentee Ballots

Public Inspection of Absentee Ballots begins on Election Day at 8:00 a.m. and is scheduled to conclude at 9:00 a.m. Ms. Brenner and Ms. Iennaco explained the restrictions on members of the public touching absentee ballots and how Post-It type notes had been used by members of the public in previous elections to indicate ballots that needed to be brought before the Canvassing Board due to alleged ballot defects. Discussion ensued and it was agreed that the sticky note method is an acceptable way to indicate which ballots are for review by the Canvassing Board. Those ballots will not be opened until the Canvassing Board reviews them at its meeting at 5:00 p.m., at which the public is invited to attend.

C. Authorization to Open Absentee Ballots Which Meet Adopted Criteria

Ms. Iennaco requested that the Canvassing Board authorize staff to open all absentee ballots which meet adopted criteria after the Public Inspection period concludes on Tuesday, April 8, 2014.

MOTION: Commissioner Tony Ortiz moved to authorize staff to begin opening all ballots meeting the adopted criteria after the Public Inspection period concludes on Tuesday, April 8, 2014, but by law that the ballots would not be tallied until after 7:00 p.m. that evening. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Patty Sheehan and vote carried unanimously.

IX. PREVIEW OF CANVASSING BOARD AGENDAS

The Board reviewed the draft agendas for their meetings on Tuesday, April 8, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. and Thursday, April 10, 2014 at 3:00 p.m.

X. CITIZEN COMPLAINT

Ms. Brenner presented a voter intimidation complaint filed by Ms. Beverly Burgess against Regina Hill (copy attached) and indicated that it had been forwarded to the appropriate investigatory agencies.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alana C. Brenner", written over a horizontal line.

Alana C. Brenner, City Clerk
Canvassing Board Chair

**Orange County Canvassing Board
2014 Criteria**

Absentees	Accept	Reject	Case by Case	CB Review?
No Signature [101.68(2)(c)1]		X		
Signature does not match [101.68(2)(c)1] [101.68-15th day]		X		
Signature printed and does not match the signature on file [101.68(2)(c)1] [101.68]		X		
Voter signed envelope for someone else and the other person had a request on file	X			
Certificate envelope has two signatures and both voters requested ballots and both received the same card numbers.	X			
Voter sends ballot in blank envelope that does not have the oath [101.64(2)]		X		
Voted wrong ballot card (voter has moved) [101.046]			X	
Voter deceased or canceled since ballot returned [101.68(2)(c)1]	X			
Late return of absentee ballot (Except UOCAVA voters) [101.67(2)]		X		
Voted early or at the polls [101.69]		X		
F.S. 101.68 Until 6pm on the day before the election, the supervisor shall allow an elector who has returned an absentee ballot that does not include the elector's signature to complete and submit an affidavit in order to cure the unsigned absentee ballot.				
First time voters who registered by mail - Special Absentees	Accept	Reject	Case by Case	
Voter provides proper identification or indicates exemption [101.6923]	X			
Voter does not provide proper identification or indicate an exemption by 7 pm [101.6923]		X		
Provisional Ballots 101.048	Accept	Reject	Case by Case	
Voter is eligible, signature matches, correct precinct	X			
Voter is eligible but did not have proper ID - Signature matches that on file	X			
Voter given the provisional in error - should have voted a regular ballot	X			
Voter's application was not verified by State, voter furnished additional information prior to 5 p.m. of second day. Voter deemed eligible.	X			
Ballot cast in wrong precinct		X		
Voter name not found - not registered to vote		X		
Voter moved into county. Eligible, signature matches, correct precinct [101.046]	X			
Voter moved out of county		X		
Voter was canceled as a Felon or for other reasons		X		
Voter registered after the books closed		X		

**Orange County Canvassing Board
2014 Criteria**

Provisional Ballots 101.048	Accept	Reject	Case by Case	CB Review?
Voter's application was not verified by State, voter did not furnish additional identification by 5 p.m. of the second day.		X		
Voter's application was incomplete so not eligible to vote		X		
Voter's signature does not match and voter refuses to sign "Signature Differs" Affidavit. If signature on Prov matches that on file in the SOE office	X			
Voter's signature does not match and voter refuses to sign "Signature Differs" Affidavit. If signature on Prov does not match that on file in the SOE office		X		
Voter had been sent an absentee ballot, did not surrender it, absentee ballot has not been received by SOE	X			
Voter's right to vote has been challenged			X	
Voter has disputed party affiliation in PPP and Primary - provisional ballot is the wrong party according to SOE research		X		
Voter has already voted by absentee or at an early voting center		X		
Voting hours extended - voter is eligible and in the correct precinct [101.049]	X			
Voting hours extended - voter is eligible and NOT in the correct precinct		X		
Absentees from Overseas Voters (10 days after the election)	Accept	Reject	Case by Case	
No Postmark or date [101.0962] and [16-2.013]		X		
Dated or postmarked on or by election day [101.0962] and [16-2.013]	X			
Dated on or before election day but postmarked later or no postmark	X			
Dated and postmarked after election or dated after election with no postmark		X		
State Write-In Ballot	Accept	Reject	Case by Case	
Wait to see if we have requests - have never had one				

**Orange County Canvassing Board
2014 Criteria**

Federal Write In Absentee Ballot	Just the Facts			CB Review?
	Accept	Reject	Case by Case	
Must be a registered voter in the county				
Must have signed the FWAB and the signature verified				
No date and no postmark - received after election day		X		
Dated or postmarked on election day or earlier	X			
No request received but dated on or before election day and oath is signed	X			
Challenge of overseas voter based on not meeting definition of [97.021(22)]			X	
Not registered by deadline - all overseas voters		X		
10-Day Extension for Overseas Voters: Any absentee ballot (regular, FWAB, or State write-in) can still be counted for all races ONLY in PPP and General Elections if it is received after 7 p.m. on Election day and up through 10 days after, provided it is dated or postmarked no later than Election Day. Returned regular absentee ballot always trumps write-in absentee ballots if received by 7 pm, Election day. If FWAB is returned first, FWAB cannot be canvassed before 7pm to wait to see if regular ballot will arrive. [101.6962(6)] Rule 1S-2.013				
Date Adopted: 2/27/14				
	County Judge	County Commissioner	Supervisor of Elections	Orange County Canvassing Board
	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>

ELECTIONS FRAUD COMPLAINT

Voter Fraud Hotline Telephone number 1-877-868-3737

MAR 10 2014 PM 2:26

Under section 97.012(15), Florida Statutes, the Division of Elections has authority to conduct preliminary investigations into any allegations of irregularities or fraud involving voter registration or voting, or candidate or issue petition activities. The Division shall then report its findings to the Office of Statewide Prosecution or to the State Attorney for the judicial circuit in which the alleged violation occurred for prosecution, where warranted.

Please return the completed complaint form to: Florida Department of State, Division of Elections,
3rd Floor, R.A. Gray Building
500 S. Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

You will receive a written response from the Division of Elections at the end of its investigation.

PERSON BRINGING COMPLAINT

Name Beverly D. Burgess Day Phone 4076925602 Evening Phone 4076925602
Address 712 W. Washington Street #2 City Orlando
County Orange State Florida Zip Code 32805-1475
E-mail Address (optional) beverly7708@yahoo.com

PERSON OR ENTITY AGAINST WHOM COMPLAINT IS BROUGHT (limit one person/entity per form)

Name Regina Irene Hill Work Phone 407-879-7413
District (5) City Commissioner (Candidate) City of Orlando
Person's title of office or position held or sought if applicable Name of Governmental Office or Private Entity/Office
Address 400 S. Orange Avenue City Orlando
County Orange State FL Zip Code 32802

Have you filed this complaint with the (check all that apply):

State Attorney's Office

☒ Yes ☐ No

Office of Statewide Prosecution

☒ Yes ☐ No

Florida Department of Law Enforcement

☒ Yes ☐ No

Florida Elections Commission

☒ Yes ☐ No

Florida Commission on Ethics

☒ Yes ☐ No

VIOLATION: If you believe any irregularities or fraud involving voter registration or voting, or candidate or issue petition activities have been committed, please state the specific acts committed by the person or entity named in this complaint:

We are being bullied, forced, and voter intimidated by Regina Hill to vote for Regina Hill because of the power she states she holds as an Eastern Star. Regina Hill stated that she has our Absentee Ballots from our old address and that she has already casted our votes for her. We did not give Regina Hill permission to retrieve, sign, or submit an Absentee Ballots on our behalf.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

State in your own words exactly what happened. Please include details such as what happened, where the events or acts happened, when they happened (include dates and times), what you were told, who spoke to you and to whom did you speak, what did you agree or not agree to, and who else saw or knows about what happened. Include the names, addresses and phone numbers of relevant persons. Also, give any reasons why you feel that the person or entity against whom you have brought this complaint knew that his or her actions were wrongful. The more specific information that you provide to us, the better we are able to assist you.

March 03, 2014 Regina Hill came to our home, pulling in our drive way like she was going to hit the side of our building in a red car. Regina Hill jumps out of the car swearing, cursing, and spitting in my face. Regina Hill then further states in my face that she has our Absentee Ballots in her possession mine and my husband's Absentee Voting Ballots and she is going to cast our votes for us and there's nothing we can do. I and my husband told Regina Hill not to cast any votes for us or on our behalf, because we will not be voting for her. Regina Hill then states putting her hands in my face and telling me in front of my husband and minor child, that she is an Eastern Star, she can vote for us, she can make our lives a living hell, and again there's nothing we can do about it. I don't know how she got our Absentee Ballots. We feel that we are being bullied, forced, and voter intimidated by Regina Hill, to vote for Regina Hill because of the power she states she holds as an Eastern Star. We did not give Regina Hill permission to retrieve, sign, or submit any Absentee Ballots on our behalf. This incident took place March 03, 2014@5:21p.m., at our home.

☐ Check here if additional pages or documents are attached.



March 09, 2014

Date Signed

Beverly D. Burgess

Print or type name of complainant

It is a second degree misdemeanor, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, and s. 775.083, for any person to knowingly make a false official statement. (s. 837.06, Fla. Stat.)

THIS COMPLAINT IS NOT CONFIDENTIAL.

ONCE IT IS FILED WITH THE DIVISION OF ELECTIONS, IT BECOMES A PUBLIC RECORD.