

*Commissioners*

**MARISEL A. HERNANDEZ**, *Chair*  
**WILLIAM J. KRESSE**, *Commissioner/Secretary*  
**JUNE A. BROWN**, *Commissioner*  
**CHARLES HOLIDAY, JR.**, *Executive Director*



**Board of Election Commissioners for the City of Chicago**  
**Special Board Meeting**  
**April 4, 2023, 7:00 a.m.**  
**69 West Washington Street, 8th Floor, Chicago, Illinois 60602**

**Board Members:**

Marisel A. Hernandez, Chair  
William J. Kresse, Commissioner/Secretary  
June A. Brown, Commissioner

**Staff:**

Charles Holiday, Executive Director  
Sandra Aspera, Assistant Executive Director  
Adam Lasker, General Counsel  
Lance Gough, Consultant  
Trish Sheehy

**Guests:** [None]

- I. **Call to Order:** The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:08 a.m.
- II. **Roll Call:** All members were present.
- III. **Consideration of Agenda:** The agenda was accepted as presented.
- IV. **Approval of Minutes:** No Minutes were presented for approval at this meeting.
- V. **New Business**
  - A. **Approval of professional services agreement with Jane Ignacio for graphic design professional and artistic services.**

The Chair pointed out that Ms. Ignacio has provided professional and artistic services to the Board for many, many years including work on the Judges of Election handbooks and many other publications. She has done an excellent job and we've always been pleased with the work she has done.

Commissioner Kresse moved to approve the professional services agreement with Jane Ignacio for graphic design professional and artistic services, the terms of which are: 1-year beginning April 4, 2023 through March 31, 2024 at a rate of \$95.00 per hour not to exceed \$100,000 over the term of the agreement. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed by 3:0 vote of the Board.
- VI. **Financial Report:** There were no Financial Reports for approval at this meeting.
- VII. **Election Day**

General Counsel Lasker said that there is no action necessary at this time.

**A. Possible removal of Judges of Election:**

Mr. Lasker said that he hasn't heard anything regarding Judges of Election removal.

**B. Possible court action to address delayed polling place openings and/or other emergency needs:**

Mr. Lasker stated that we are monitoring late openings. It appears that no voter has been turned away, but we'll continue to monitor the situation.

**VIII. Public Comment:** There was no request for Public Comment.

**IX. Executive Session per 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11).** The Chair confirmed with the General Counsel that there was a need for Executive Session to discuss probable or imminent litigation.

Commissioner Brown moved to enter into Executive Session to discuss potential litigation. Commissioner Kresse seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote of the Board.

The Chair reminded everyone that no votes will be taken during Executive Session and that the Board will return to Open Session.

Executive Session began at 7:10 a.m.

The Board returned from Executive Session, and the Open Session resumed at 7:33 a.m.

The Chair announced that no action was taken during Executive Session.

**X. Recess:** Commissioner Brown moved to recess until the call of the Chair. Commissioner Kresse seconded the motion. The motion passed by 3:0 vote of the Board. The meeting was recessed at 7:34 a.m.

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**XI. Call to Order:** Chair Marisel A. Hernandez reconvened the meeting at 2:57 p.m.

**XII. Roll Call:** All Board members were present. Also present were Executive Director Charles Holiday, General Counsel Adam Lasker, Trish Sheehy and Consultant Lance Gough.

**XIII. Election Day**

**A. Possible removal of Judges of Election:**

General Counsel Lasker presented a proposal for removal of a Democratic Judge of Election.

Election Central received a call from a voter who complained about the conduct of a judge in the 10<sup>th</sup> Precinct of the 32<sup>nd</sup> Ward in the Hamlin Park facility. The judge is Ritha Gail C Catibog. We dispatched an Investigator who interviewed several of the other election judges at the site. The Investigator also interviewed the voter who made the original complaint, and the judge, Ms. Catibog, who is the subject of the incident.

The other judges also reported the alleged conduct. The allegation and the witness testimonies are that the judge in question approached the 7-year-old daughter of the voter and talked to the child about various things and obtained the voter's phone number from the 7-year-old girl while the parent was busy voting. The voter then left the premises and ended up getting a phone call from this election judge. The voter did not answer the phone and then blocked the number. The voter then came back to report the incident.

The investigator who interviewed the judge reported that the judge did admit that she had obtained the phone number from the girl and then also called this person's phone; all of which is not in the course of duty as an election judge. The purpose of the telephone call is unknown, but there was no purpose as an election judge to make such a phone call.

Furthermore, the other election judges also reported that this judge was otherwise disruptive to the process, not helpful, not engaging and frequently going outside of the polling place for personal telephone calls, and also did not show up in the morning to the polling place until 7:20 a.m. It should be noted that the judges are supposed to show up by 5:00 a.m. to help with opening the precinct by 6:00 a.m.

The General Counsel is requesting that the judge be removed from the position.

Commissioner Brown moved to remove Ritha Gail C Catibog as a Judge of Election. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kresse. The Board voted unanimously to remove Ritha Gail C Catibog as a Judge of Election. The Order and Notice of removal were signed by the Board members at this time.

Mr. Lasker stated that there was no further business at this time, but there is one more investigation that's ongoing, and will follow up with the Board on that.

**B. Possible court action to address delayed polling place openings and/or other emergency needs:**

Mr. Lasker stated that there is no report of any voters turned away this morning due to late openings who were unable to return by 7 o'clock or go to a Vote Center. So, as of 3:00 p.m., there are no grounds for needing to hold Polling Place open late tonight.

**XIV. Recess:** Commissioner Kresse moved to recess until the call of the Chair. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote of the Board. The meeting was recessed at 3:02 p.m.

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**XV. Call to Order:** Chair Marisel A. Hernandez reconvened the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

**XVI. Roll Call:** All Board members were present. Also present were Executive Director Charles Holiday, General Counsel Adam Lasker, Trish Sheehy and Consultant Lance Gough.

Minutes of the Special Board meeting of  
April 4, 2023

The Chair asked the General Counsel if there was any further business before the Board with regards to this Special Board meeting. Mr. Lasker responded that there was no further business for the Board at this Special Board meeting, but he would like to extend a hearty congratulations and a big thank you to the thousands of people who made it a smooth election today, including the voters.

- XVII. Adjournment:** Commissioner Brown moved to adjourn the Special Board meeting. Commissioner Kresse seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the Special Board meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Submitted,



Commissioner William J. Kresse  
Secretary