

NEW HAMPSHIRE BALLOT LAW COMMISSION
MINUTES OF COMMISSION MEETING
July 12, 2022

The New Hampshire Ballot Law Commission met at the State Archives Building in Concord on July 12, 2022, at 9:00 a.m., according to notice. Those members and alternates in attendance were Chairman Cook, and members Letourneau, Eaton, Sullivan, Messier and Normand.

Chairman Cook welcomed the members and public to the meeting and had all those present at the head table introduce themselves. He invited Secretary of State Scanlan to address the group, and he did so, giving background on the history of ballot counting devices and the need to review and identify additional devices to be approved for use in New Hampshire. Due to the age of the devices presently used, this is becoming more of an urgent issue. No town or city is required to use such devices, but those which do use them need options.

Chairman Cook introduced Milford Moderator Peter Basiliere, who confirmed that the town still is asking the Commission for permission to use a device manufactured by Dominion Voting Systems, the Democracy Suite (D-Suite), Version 5.5-C Voting System.

Jeffrey Silvestro, President of LHS Associates, was introduced to continue the demonstration of the Dominion system. This previously had been presented to the Commission and this meeting was to demonstrate the system further and perform a "mock election" which it had been hoped could have been done at the Milford Municipal Election but could not, for various reasons. Chairman Cook reviewed the standards for approval and Mr. Silvestro applied them to the device. He reminded the Commission that the device has a 3000 ballot box capacity.

200 ballots, marked in various ways, were fed through the device in all four directions possible. After reviewing the printout and other results, the Secretary of State's representative declared the results accurate, compared to a previously performed hand count of the ballots.

Members of the Commission were allowed questions about the operations of the device.

The next order of business was a demonstration of a different ballot counting system presented by Votingworks, a not-for-profit entity which has a relatively new device, using open source software. Matt Rowe, Stephen Trout and Ben Adida, founder of the company, presented for it. They stressed the security of the system is their key concern, the system uses readily-obtained components, which are adjusted to prevent networking, hacking or other security concerns. The ballot box for this system holds 1200 ballots with a second bag for segregation of over-votes or other ballots needing hand counting. They indicated there probably would be the need for obtaining a second device if there were more than 1200 voters.

Ballots were run through the device, and after calculation by it, the Secretary of State's representative confirmed that the count was accurate, when compared to a previously conducted hand count of the paper ballots used.

In answer to questions, it was stated that the system cost \$2500 for the scanner, \$2000 for the election management machine and \$2750 for a central scanner, if needed. Also, the system presently is used only in 5 counties in Mississippi, due to its recent development. This device uses the same ballot New Hampshire has used for its current Accuvote device.

Mr. Cook described the process for further consideration of devices.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, it was, upon motion duly made and seconded, adjourned, at 12:15 p.m.

A true record, attest. Signed by Bradford E. Cook, Chairman