

# VALENCIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

## General Election 2008 Canvass Special Meeting

**November 14, 2008**

PRESENT	ABSENT
Pedro G Rael, Chairman	
Georgia Otero-Kirkham, Vice-Chairman	
David R Medina, Member	
	Ron Gentry, Member
Lynette Pinkston, Member	
Eric Zamora, County Manager	
	Adren Nance & Dave Pato, County Attorneys
Sally Perea, County Clerk	
Press and Public	

**1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pedro Rael at 1:02 P.M.**

**2. Chairman Rael led the Pledge of Allegiance.**

**3. Approval of Agenda**

Commissioner Pinkston moved for approval. Seconded by Commissioner Kirkham. Motion carried unanimously.

**4. Action Item(s)**

**Board of County Commissioners Convene as Canvassing Board**

Commissioner Pinkston moved for approval. Seconded by Commissioner Medina. Motion carried unanimously.

**a) Finalizing 2008 General Election Canvass – Peggy Carabajal**

County Clerk Sally Perea introduced her staff who had done a phenomenal job. She emphasized their dedication and hard work to put on a good election and sincerely appreciated them. Rick Nesbit and Lawrence Esquibel were always there to help. Ms. Perea gave her appreciation to Commissioner Pinkston for her support during her term and wished her well. She congratulated Commissioner Kirkham and Commissioner Gentry on their re-election and Treasurer elect Dorothy Otero Lovato and Commissioner elect Donald E. Holliday and all the candidates on their re-election.

A special thanks to Lilly McNabb, a designated "Special" for the early voting, who as usual did her job well.

Ms. Perea presented the outcome of Election Day which was normal for any election day. The phones start ringing at 6:00 A.M. At one precinct, election workers were unaware of the tabulator's location. Presiding Judges were missing election workers, but Chief Deputy Theresa Sanchez immediately found alternates to fill positions. At 4:30 P.M First Presbyterian Church had a tabulator that stopped accepting ballots and so ballots were fed into the emergency bin. After the precinct closed they were fed into the tabulator. We had one memory card failure at the Los Lunas Elementary and that was replaced. This could have been caused during the transport of the machines because they were all tested and certified prior to Election Day. Ms. Perea said these were the "major" happenings of Election Day.

As per state law all counties are mandated to do a 2% audit of tabulators chosen at random by the Secretary of State. This is only for presidential and gubernatorial races.

Ms. Perea said the office had been notified that Precinct 18 tabulator would be audited and she had set a date for November 18<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 P.M. Attorney Adren Nance was preparing a court order.

The Secretary State will canvass on November 25, 2008, and then it's officially over.

Ms. Carabajal gave her appreciation to all staff for running a successful election. A special thanks to County Clerk Sally Perea for giving her the reins to do her job. She stated this was one of the largest elections the county has seen in a long time. Ms. Carabajal read the General Election results:

- ♦Voter registration - 40,606.
- ♦28,823 votes (71 % voted)
- ♦Hand Talley's - 192 hand talleys.
- ♦Provisional's -217 provisional. 156 qualified.
- ♦Absentee – Total 6082.

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-In person – Total votes 1593 (accommodations were crowded due to lack of office space).

♦Early voting in Belen total votes 3546.

♦Early voting in Los Lunas total votes 5,807

♦Total of 16, 528 voted early in one fashion or another.

♦Election day -12451 voted.

Ms. Carabajal congratulated the winning candidates and once the Secretary State signs the Final Canvass, the officials will receive their canvass book. Also as soon as this Commission approves the 2008 General Elections Canvass, our technician Edwin Tucson will deliver it to the Secretary of State in Santa Fe.

Commissioner Kirkham thanked Ms. Perea and Ms. Carabajal and all the staff for being diligent employees.

Lilly McNabb employed as a "Special" for the General Elections gave her appreciation to the County Clerk and staff for supporting the election process. A special thanks to the County Manager and Marilyn Silva for providing water to the voters especially for the elderly. Ms. McNabb praised Administrative Assistant Valerie Griego for taking the responsibility of assisting with the sample ballots for the voters. She gave her appreciation to Deputy Preston Smith for maintaining the one hundred feet political clearance. Ms. McNabb emphasized the importance to consider more allowance in the county's budget to hire more election workers to better serve the voters.

Commissioner Kirkham said she will be willing to approve this into the budget if Ms. McNabb is willing to work the next General Election. Ms. McNabb said as long she can pick her board (laughter).

Commissioner Pinkston gave her appreciation to Ms. McNabb for her dedication.

County Clerk Sally Perea gave Ms. Carabajal recognition for organizing the double station with early voting. This plan improved the election process and minimizing the lines for voters.

Commissioner Kirkham asked about extending the early voting hours. County Clerk Sally Perea said all county clerk's had been given the option to extend the hours but with four days left of early voting and too late to advertise we decided not to extend the hours. Ms. Carabajal said the voter had the option to vote in the Bureau of Elections office from 8:00 A.M -12:00 P.M.

Ms. Carabajal discussed the success of mobile voting at Highland Meadows with thirty one out of 166 voting. A medical trauma emergency occurred at the precinct and Ms. Carabajal expressed the emotional impact to staff and the ability to stay calm and assist to their abilities. Once paramedics and Life Guard arrived they were able to take over the situation.

Chairman Rael asked if this 2008 General Election Canvass contained all the counting that had occurred throughout the county including:

♦Voting places

♦Early voting

♦Early voting in person

♦Regular Election Day process. Ms. Carabajal said yes.

Chairman Rael asked if these were results of the provisional ballots presented to the board.

Ms. Carabajal yes, for your approval.

Chairman Rael asked if to your knowledge, were all procedures outline by law followed by everyone and precincts/ polling places during the voting and counting process to achieve the results that are presented to the Board. Ms. Carabajal answered yes.

Chairman Rael asked who received the most votes. Ms. Carabajal said our County Clerk Sally Perea receiving over twenty-thousand votes.

Commissioner Medina moved to approve the 2008 Official General Election Canvass.

Seconded by Commissioner Pinkston. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **Board Re-Convenes as Board of County Commission**

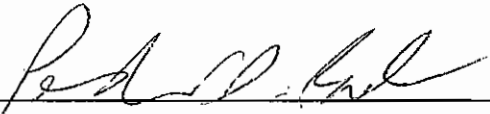
Commissioner Medina moved to reconvene as the Board of Commission. Seconded by Commissioner Pinkston. Motion carried unanimously.

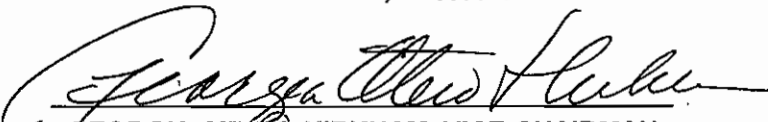
#### **5. Adjournment**

Commissioner Pinkston moved to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Medina. Motion carried unanimously. Time 1:26:47 P.M.

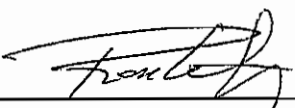
**NOTE:** All proposals, documents, items, etc., pertaining to items on the agenda of the November 14, 2008, 2008 General Election Canvass, Special Meeting (presented to the Board of County Commissioners) are attached in consecutive order as stated in these minutes.

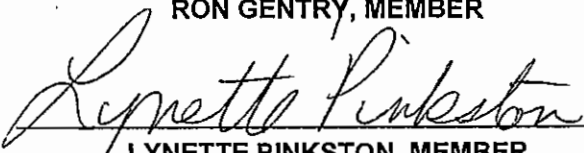
VALENCIA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

  
PEDRO G RAEI, CHAIRMAN

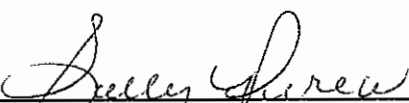
  
GEORGIA OTERO-KIRKHAM, VICE-CHAIRMAN

  
DAVID R MEDINA, MEMBER

  
RON GENTRY, MEMBER

  
LYNETTE PINKSTON, MEMBER

ATTEST:

  
SALLY PEREA, COUNTY CLERK

12.3-08  
DATE