

**STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS
STATE OF ILLINOIS**

2329 S. MacArthur Blvd.
Springfield, Illinois 62704-4503
217/782-4141
Fax: 217/782-5959

James R. Thompson Center
100 W. Randolph St., Ste. 14-100
Chicago, Illinois 60601-3232
312/814-6440
Fax: 312/814-6485



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Steven S. Sandvoss

BOARD MEMBERS
Charles W. Scholz, Chairman
Ernest L. Gowen, Vice Chairman
William J. Cadigan
Andrew K. Carruthers
Betty J. Coffrin
John R. Keith
William M. McGuffage
Casandra B. Watson

**AGENDA
STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS
BOARD MEETING
Thursday, July 23, 2015
10:00 a.m.**

2329 S. MacArthur Blvd.
Springfield, Illinois
and via videoconference
James R. Thompson Center – Suite 14-100
Chicago, Illinois

Roll call.

1. Certification of the ballot for the September 10, 2015 Special Election in the 18th Congressional District.
2. Report of the Executive Director;
 - a. July 7, 2015 Special Primary post election report; (attached)
 - b. Resignation of Eric Donnewald, Director of Election Training & Resource Development (ETRD) – consolidation of Election Information and ETRD; (attached)
 - c. Legislative update; (oral report)
 - d. FY16 budget update; (oral report)
 - e. Senate Bill 172 update; (oral report)
3. Follow up.
4. Comments from the general public.
5. Next Board Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, August 18, 2015 in Chicago.
6. Executive session, if necessary.

Illinois State Board of Elections

Brent M. Davis | Director of Election Information | 217.558.1664 | bdavis@elections.il.gov



To: Steve Sandvoss, Executive Director

Re: Special Primary Post Election Report

Date: July 8, 2015

A special primary election was held on July 7, 2015, to nominate candidates for the 18th Congressional District to be elected at a Special Election on September 10, 2015.

Our office was staffed from 5:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Election Day with four staff designated to provide assistance to voters and election officials. The number of calls received on Election Day were so low that some staff didn't receive a single call related to that day's election. The subject matter of any problems or complaints were also minor and insignificant in nature. Questions included:

- Voters that are not residents of the 18th Congressional District were showing up at their polling places under the assumption that they could vote, but were confused about why they couldn't vote.
- Question regarding eligibility of 17 year olds to vote in the Special Primary Election.
- Questions related to provisional voting.
- Party order on the ballot for the Special Election.

Initial estimates for turnout in this election are 11.15% for the entire district. Turnout numbers for individual jurisdictions range from 7% to 13%. These numbers are noticeably lower than a regularly scheduled election, and are tough to compare directly with other special primary elections. This is due to the fact that special elections are, whenever possible, held in conjunction with a regularly scheduled election. This prevents us from making a direct comparison since the regularly scheduled election undoubtedly increases the voter turnout.

The last time a Special Primary Election was held independent of a regularly scheduled election was the Special Primary Election for the 14th Congressional District on March 3, 2009. Turnout for that election was 17.15%. While that turnout was still a low number, it was still roughly 55% higher than the turnout for the 18th Congressional Special Primary Election of 2015.

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS



From the desk of.... Steven S. Sandvoss, Executive Director
Phone: 217-557-9939
Email: ssandvoss@elections.il.gov

To: Charles W. Scholz – Chairman, Ernest L. Gowen – Vice Chairman,
Members of the Board

Re: Resignation/Consolidation of Divisions

Date: July 20, 2015

Eric Donnewald, current Director of the Election Training and Resource Development Division (ETRD) has tendered his resignation, (see attached) which is effective August 31, 2015. I believe this presents an opportunity to both streamline State Board of Elections (the Agency) operations and lower Agency costs. The ETRD Division is generally responsible for Agency publications (such as the Candidates Guide, Election Judge Manual of Instructions, various pamphlets and brochures, etc.) as well as the training of election judges throughout the State, providing guidance to local election officials, generating legislative district maps and processing Statewide Constitutional amendment and advisory referenda petitions.

Another Agency Division; Election Information, has related functions, such as providing non-legal guidance and advice to candidates, county clerks and other election officials, producing the election calendar (which contains numerous deadlines and timeframes related to election processes) calculating signature requirements (which are included in the Candidates Guide), creating and updating nominating petitions and maintaining an archive of numerous election related material. I believe that the merging of these two Divisions would make the SBE's election operations more efficient, given the overlap in the two Divisions' functions. This would also enable Division staff to perform additional duties, thereby increasing the available human resources without incurring additional cost. Lastly, it would lower Agency costs by eliminating the necessity of having two Division Directors.

Based on the reasons stated above, I propose combining the ETRD and Election Information Divisions into one Division that could be named "Election Operations" or some other suitable name, appointing the current Director of Election Information; Brent Davis, as Director of the new Division, and providing Mr. Davis with a Deputy to assist him in administering the Division, such Deputy to be chosen from qualified staff within the Agency or if necessary, from non-SBE sources. In addition, I propose assigning supervisory duties to an existing staff person in the Election Information Division (with a commensurate salary adjustment) to serve in the Chicago office to oversee the employees of the new consolidated division (Currently, there are two ETRD and one Election Information staff persons who work in the Chicago office, with no on-site supervision). I believe that the new division would benefit from having work administered and overlooked by a division supervisor situated in the Chicago office.

Thank you for your consideration of my proposal.



SSTATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

From the desk of... Eric Donnewald
Director of Election Training/Resource Development
Phone: 217-782-1573
Email: edonnewald@elections.il.gov

To: Steve Sandvoss
Re: My Retirement from IL State Board of Elections
Date: July 2, 2015

Hello Steve,

This memo will serve as my official statement that I will be retiring from the IL State Board of Elections effective September 1, 2015. My last day of employment will be August 31, 2015.

Eric J. Donnewald

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Eric J. Donnewald". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "E" and "D".

PROPOSED DIVISION OF ELECTION OPERATIONS

