

Monmouth County Board of Elections



2015 Year End Report

**Leah Falk, Chairperson
Jo-Ann Dinan, Commissioner**

**Mary DeSarno, Secretary
Chantal Bouw, Commissioner**

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The Monmouth County Board of Elections is a quasi-state agency funded by the County. It works in conjunction with a variety of municipal, county, state and federal offices and agencies for the purpose of carrying out statutory responsibilities related to our electoral process. As a vital component to the process, the Board of Elections has mandated responsibilities that encompass a myriad of duties to ensure that all elections in Monmouth County are conducted in a bipartisan manner and with efficiency and integrity.

The Board of Elections is comprised of four Commissioners, two Republicans and two Democrats, who are commissioned by the Governor, for two-year terms. At their annual reorganization meeting held in March, the commissioned Board elects a Chairperson and Secretary from opposite political parties. This commissioned Board also hires staff to handle the daily operations in the office.

The Board Members include:

Leah Falk, Chairwoman (D)	Mary DeSarno, Secretary (R)
Jo-Ann Dinan, Commissioner (D)	Chantal Bouw, Commissioner (R)

The Administrative Staff consists of:

Robin Major, Administrator (D)	Maria Sardo-Lopes, Chief Clerk (R)
Beverly Holland, Senior Clerk (D)	Debbie McEnery, Senior Clerk (R)
Jean Pometti, Senior Clerk (D)	Tracee Johnson, Senior Clerk (R)
Kimberly Earl, Senior Clerk (D)	

ELIGIBLE VOTERS and TURNOUT

As of November 2015, there were 418,830 active, registered voters in Monmouth County. The voter turnout for each of the elections is as follows:

Election Name	Date	Eligible Voters	# voted	% turnout
Fire District	2/21/2015	27,463	*	*
Special School Election (West Long Branch)	3/10/2015	4,880	736	15%
Annual School (Neptune Township)	4/21//2015	18,175	1,887	10%
Municipal Election (Ocean Township)	5/12/2015	18,606	4,069	22%
Primary Election	6/2/2015	415,553	12,076	3%
Fire District (Manalapan FD #2)	6/20/2015	*	*	*
Special School Election (Manasquan)	9/29/2015	4,404	1,955	44%
General Election	11/3/2015	418,830	95,570	23%
Special Municipal Election (Roosevelt)	12/15/2015	631	312	49%

*=not reported

NUMBER OF ELECTIONS and STATISTICS

The following nine elections were conducted in 2015:

ELECTIONS

DATE

Annual Fire Election

February 21st

Special School Election
(West Long Branch)

March 10th

March 12th Provisionals & Canvassing

Annual School Election
(Neptune Township only)

April 21st

April 23rd Provisionals & Canvassing

Municipal Election
(Ocean Township)

May 12th

May 14th Provisionals

Primary Election

June 2nd

June 5th Provisionals

Special Fire Election
(Manalapan FD #2)

June 20th

Special School Election
(Manasquan)

September 29th
October 1st Provisionals & Canvassing

General Election

November 3rd
November 9th Provisionals & Canvassing

Special Municipal Election
(Roosevelt)

December 15th
December 17th Provisionals & Canvassing

MAIL IN AND PROVISIONAL BALLOTS

Effective July 1, 2009, a new law changed “Absentee Ballot Voting” to Vote by Mail. There are now two options on the Mail-In Ballot application. **Option A** allows the voter to receive a ballot for all elections within the calendar year while **Option B** a voter may chose to receive a ballot for all General Elections in perpetuity or until they may otherwise indicate to the County Clerk that they no longer wish to receive such.

Paper Ballots Processed

There were 10,375 paper ballots, including 9,473 mail-in ballots and 902 provisional ballots processed during 2015. The breakdown for each election is as follows:

<u>Election Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Mail-In</u>	<u>Provisional</u>	<u>Total Ballots</u>
Annual Fire District	2/15/2015	206	*	206
Special School Election (West Long Branch)	3/10/2015	10	2	12
Annual School	4/21/2015	33	20	53
Municipal Election (Ocean Township)	5/12/2015	211	41	252
Primary Election	6/2/2015	516	32	548
Special Fire Election (Manalapan FD #2)	6/20/2015	4	*	4
Special School Election (Manasquan)	9/29/2015	107	29	136
General Election	11/3/2015	8,373	775	9,148
Special Municipal Election (Roosevelt)	12/15/2015	13	3	16

*=not reported

POLL WORKERS and POLLING PLACES

There are 458 voting districts, also known as polling places, throughout the County. By statute, there must be a minimum of 4 poll workers for each polling district, with the exception of school elections. In compliance with various other statutes, the Board may assign 2 additional workers (one from each party) when there is an additional voting machine and/or the total number of registered voters in that district exceeds 900. The following indicates the number of districts and the number of Poll Workers that worked.

Election Name	# of Districts	# of Poll Workers
Annual Fire Election		2
Special School Election (West Long Branch)	6	23
Annual School (Neptune Township)	20	79
Municipal Election (Ocean Township)	22	87
Primary Election	458	1763
Special Fire Election (Manalapan FD #2)	1	0
Special School Election (Manasquan)	4	16
General Election	458	1850
Special Municipal Election (Roosevelt)	1	5

POLL WORKER TRAINING CLASSES

In addition to assigning the Poll Workers, the Board of Elections is responsible for qualifying Poll Workers to work on Election Day through statutory required training. There are currently 2,800 Poll Worker names in the database. During 2015, 410 attended classes in the months just prior to the June Primary. An additional 665 were trained just prior to the November General Election. Approximately 38% of all Poll Workers attended some training during 2015 with a total of 1,075. In addition to daytime training classes, many are given in the evening to accommodate people working during the day. The following 23 training classes were given in 2015.

March 4, 2015	6:30 PM	Monmouth County AG building, Freehold
March 26, 2015	1:00 PM	Fort Monmouth Rec Center, Tinton Falls
April 13, 2015	6:30 PM	Bayshore Senior Center, Keansburg
April 16, 2015	1:00 PM	Monmouth County Library, Manalapan
April 16, 2015	6:30 PM	Monmouth County Library, Manalapan
April 22, 2015	6:30 PM	Monmouth County AG building, Freehold
April 29, 2015	6:30 PM	Monmouth County AG building, Freehold
May 5, 2015	6:30 PM	Wall Township Municipal Complex, Wall
June 24, 2015	10:00 AM	Board of Elections, Freehold
July 23, 2015	10:00 AM	Board of Elections, Freehold
July 24, 2015	10:00 AM	Board of Elections, Freehold
July 28, 2015	10:00 AM	Board of Elections, Freehold
July 30, 2015	10:00 AM	Board of Elections, Freehold
August 7, 2015	10:00 AM	Board of Elections, Freehold
September 16, 2015	6:30 PM	Bayshore Senior Center, Keansburg
September 24, 2015	1:00 PM	Fort Monmouth Rec Center, Tinton Falls
October 1, 2015	6:30 PM	Monmouth County Ag Building, Freehold
October 6, 2015	6:30 PM	Wall Township Municipal Complex, Wall
October 8, 2015	1:00 PM	Monmouth County Library, Manalapan
October 8, 2015	6:30 PM	Monmouth County Library, Manalapan
October 14, 2015	6:30 PM	Monmouth County Ag Building, Freehold
October 20, 2015	11:30 AM	Brookdale Community College, Lincroft
December 8, 2015	11:30 AM	Brookdale Community College, Lincroft

MASTER BOARD WORKERS

The Master Board Worker program has been in existence since the November 2012 General Election. It was implemented to assist our Board Workers at the polls with any questions or immediate concerns. They receive extensive training throughout the year and are assigned various towns to cover on Election Day. The Master Board Workers continue to be an asset to the BOE staff and 53 Municipal Clerks in resolving issues that arise in the polls on Election Day.

CERTIFICATION OF POLLING PLACES FOR ELECTION DAY

The Board of Elections is responsible for the ADA certification of polling places. Communication with the Municipal Clerks has been established to meet these needs. The Board maintains contact information for every polling site.

REDISTRICTING ELECTION DISTRICTS and MAPS

The Board of Elections, in conjunction with the Superintendent of Elections and the County Clerk, oversees the voting process for more than 629,000 residents. We are the 5th largest county in the State. Our 53 municipalities are spread over an area of 471.57 square miles. After a census year (2010) and promulgation of the census figures by the Governor or a referendum, the Board must draw new boundaries in those municipalities that elect a local governing body (Title 13, Title 19 and Title 40). If an election district, due to size or any other consideration as noted in Title 19, requires altering or merging, the Board must prepare such information and materials to effectuate this change (Title 13, Title 19 and Title 40).

ELECTION DAY CHALLENGERS

Challenger Credentials

Candidates, County and Municipal Chairs may apply to the Board of Elections for Election Day Challengers. Challengers are those people who represent their party, a candidate or a question in the polling place on Election Day.

The following illustrates the 668 credentials initially applied for by the candidates and issued for each election but does not include any changes during the two weeks after the submission deadline to Election Day.

Election Name	Credentials
Special School (West Long Branch)	0
Annual School	0
Municipal Election (Ocean Township)	0
Primary Election	26
Special School Election (Manasquan)	8
General Election	632
Special Municipal Election (Roosevelt)	4

ELECTION RECOUNTS

Election Recounts

The Board of Elections conducts all election recounts at the direction of a Monmouth County Superior Court Judge.

RECOUNTS

There were five recounts this year. The municipalities involved were Red Bank, Asbury Park, Neptune City, Spring Lake Heights and Rumson.

MISC INFORMATION

Legal and Display Advertisements

The Board of Elections advertises all meetings and elections in compliance with the “Open Public Meetings Act” and Title 19.

Website

The BOE Website gives Poll Workers the opportunity to refresh the voting machine training and instructions for Election Day at anytime of the year. The county website is updated regularly for changes and dates of instruction classes. There was an additional website added this year through the County Clerk’s Office. Monmouthcountyvotes.com contains information for Poll Workers, Voters, Candidates and Challengers.

Staff Training

BOE staff and commissioners attend continuing education classes throughout the year as well as attending training seminars during our annual convention each year in March.

TRAINING of MUNICIPAL CLERKS

The Board of Elections participates in Municipal Clerk training seminars. These seminars ensure that the Clerks are as up to date as possible of all the newest election laws and procedures. On August 28, we held a class specifically for clerks regarding SVRS and poll workers.