



MICANOPI, SEMINOLE CHIEF

# Minutes

## Town Commission – Special Meeting Election Results - Canvassing Board Meeting Tuesday • March 8, 2016 • 7:05 pm

**1. Call to Order: 7:05 pm**

**2. Roll Call:**

Commissioners Attending:

- |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| • Joseph Aufmuth                    | Present – Observing Via Skype, Not participating |
| • Michael Berkowitz, Mayor Pro-Tem  | Present – Not participating                      |
| • Virginia Mance, Mayor             | Present  |
| • Michael Roberts                   | Present  |
| • Richard Shutterly                 | Present  |
| • Debbie Gonano, Town Administrator | Present  |
| • Stephen Lee, Town Attorney        | Present  |
| • Patty Polk, Deputy Town Clerk     | Present  |

Debbie Gonano as the Micanopy Supervisor of Elections called the meeting to order.

**3. Canvassing Board will count the Ballots:**

Micanopy Election Polls closed at 7:00 PM.

The Town Commission acts as the Canvassing Board. Town Administrator Gonano, Deputy Town Clerk Polk, and Alachua County Poll Clerk Barbara Mathers worked with the Canvassing Board to manually count the ballots.

Due to the close proximity to the Presidential Preference Primary Election to be held on March 15, 2016, the tabulating poll machines are unavailable and this election required a paper ballot and a manual vote count. The ballots were removed from the ballot box by Clerk Mathers and Gonano, organized, and stacked to prepare for the official count. The audience was asked if anyone wanted to check the ballot box for any ballots not removed, but the offer was declined. Town Administrator Gonano announced that Julie Penrod-Glenn had withdrawn from the election; thus, any vote cast for Glenn would be tallied, but not counted.

The manual count followed this procedure: Each participant observed a ballot, marked their tally sheet and passed the ballot to the next member, who repeated the procedure and passed it on until all participants had counted every ballot. After all the regular ballots were tallied, the totals of all 6 participants were compared. Voters cast 118 regular ballots through the ballot box:

	Seat #1	Seat #2
Mathers	Aufmuth 85, Penrod-Glenn 14; Parker 65, Berkowitz 52	
Gonano	Aufmuth 85, Penrod-Glenn 14; Parker 64, Berkowitz 53	
Polk	Aufmuth 85, Penrod-Glenn 14; Parker 65, Berkowitz 52	
Roberts	Aufmuth 95, Penrod-Glenn 00; Parker 65, Berkowitz 52	
Mance	Aufmuth 84, Penrod-Glenn 14; Parker 65, Berkowitz 52	
Shutterly	Aufmuth 85, Penrod-Glenn 14; Parker 65, Berkowitz 52	

Commissioner Roberts had inadvertently counted votes for Glenn as votes for Aufmuth. As Penrod-Glenn had withdrawn from the race for Seat #1, only Seat #2 needed to be checked. To verify the vote count for Seat #2, Mayor Mance and Commissioner Shutterly separated the ballots by votes cast for candidate name, totaled the count, and compared totals which matched the majority of canvassing board totals. Parker 65, Berkowitz 52.

Absentee Ballots were opened by Clerk Mathers. The same manual count procedure was followed as was followed for the votes cast through the ballot box. Voters cast 15 absentee ballots:

	Seat #1	Seat #2
Mathers	Aufmuth 8, Penrod-Glenn 6; Parker 11, Berkowitz 4	
Gonano	Aufmuth 8, Penrod-Glenn 6; Parker 11, Berkowitz 4	
Polk	Aufmuth 8, Penrod-Glenn 6; Parker 11, Berkowitz 3	
Roberts	Aufmuth 8, Penrod-Glenn 6; Parker 11, Berkowitz 4	
Mance	Aufmuth 8, Penrod-Glenn 6; Parker 11, Berkowitz 4	
Shutterly	Aufmuth 8, Penrod-Glenn 6; Parker 11, Berkowitz 4	

With one discrepancy for the absentee ballots, Mayor Mance and Commissioner Shutterly verified the vote counts by separating the ballots by candidate name, totaled the count, and compared totals, which matched the majority of canvassing board totals. Berkowitz 4

Total votes cast were 133 (which was 28.9% voter turnout): Incumbent Candidate Commissioner Aufmuth had a total of 93 votes, as he ran for seat #1 unopposed. Incumbent Candidate Berkowitz lost his re-election bid for Seat #2 with a total of 56 votes; while Candidate Tim Parker had a total of 76 votes for Seat #2. Good job getting that many voters out to the polls. Congratulations to the candidates for conducting civil campaigns. Town Administrator Gonano stated that a majority vote, called for by the Town Charter, isn't a problem this year with only two candidates in the race. Commissioner Shutterly stated that all the ballots, envelopes, and supporting documents will be kept on file at Town Hall.

Town Administrator Gonano certified the election results to the Canvassing Board and announced the winners. Congratulations were offered to Commissioner Aufmuth and Timothy Parker, our new Commissioner-elect. Commissioner Berkowitz was duly thanked for all his years of experience and service.

**4. Adjourn: 7:52 PM**

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**MINUTES APPROVED:**

As submitted \_\_\_\_\_ as amended \_\_\_\_\_ at Town Commission Meeting \_\_\_\_\_

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**Virginia Mance, Mayor**

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**Patty S. Polk, Recorder**