

Monmouth County Board of Elections



2014 Year End Report

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

**Christine Hanlon, Secretary
Mary DeSarno, Commissioner**

2014 Year End Report

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 appointed by the Governor, for two-year terms. At their annual reorganization meeting held in March, the appointed Board elects a Chairperson and Secretary from opposite political parties. This appointed Board also hires staff to handle the daily operations in the office.

The Board Members include:

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

The Administrative Staff consists of:

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

Eligible Voters and Turnout

As of November 2014, there were 442,228 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	2/15/2014	216,414	*	*
Special School Election (Middletown)	3/11/2014	47,960	4,118	9%
Annual School (Neptune Township)	4/23//2014	19,025	798	4%
Special Fire Referendum (Freehold Township)	4/26/2014	24,191	*	*
Municipal Election (Highlands, Keansburg and Long Branch)	5/13/2014	22,837	3,977	17%
June Primary	6/3/2014	427,357	19,118	4%
Special Municipal Election (Belmar)	8/19/2014	4,047	1,820	45%
Special School Election (Freehold Borough)	9/30/2014	5,333	646	12%
Special Fire Dist. Election (Freehold Township District #2)	10/14/2014	900	*	*
General Election	11/4/2014	428,212	154,840	36%
Special School Elections (Freehold Borough, Ocean, Loch Arbour and West Long Branch)	12/9/2014	29,713	3,120	11%

*=not reported

Number of Elections And Statistics

The following eleven elections were conducted in 2014:

ELECTIONS

Annual Fire Election

Special School Election
(Middletown)

Annual School Election
(Neptune Township only)

Special Fire Referendum

Municipal Election
(Highlands, Keansburg and Long Branch)

Primary Election

Special Municipal Election
(Belmar)

Special School Election
(Freehold Borough)

Special Fire District Election
(Freehold Township District 2)

General Election

Special School Elections
(Freehold Borough, Ocean, Loch Arbour and West Long Branch)

DATE

February 15th

March 11th
March 13th Provisionals

April 23rd
April 24th Provisionals & Canvassing

April 26th

May 13th
May 15th Provisionals

June 3rd
June 6th Provisionals

August 19th
August 22nd Provisionals

September 30th
October 2nd Provisionals

October 14th

November 4th
November 10th Provisionals
November 13th Canvassing

December 9th
December 11th 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 13,336 paper ballots, including 12,023 mail-in ballots and 1,313 provisional ballots processed during 2014. 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	2/15/2014	177	*	177
Special School Election (Middletown)	3/11/2014	28	11	39
Annual School	4/23/2014	20	1	21
Special Fire Referendum	4/26/2014	132	*	132
Municipal Election (Highlands, Keansburg and Long Branch)	5/13/2014	77	35	105
Primary Election	6/3/2014	408	50	458
Special Municipal Election (Belmar)	8/19/2014	229	21	250
Special School Election (Freehold Borough)	9/30/2014	18	3	21
Special Fire Election (Freehold Township District 2)	10/14/2014	17	*	17
General Election	11/04/2014	10,857	1,184	12,041
Special School Election (Freehold Borough, Ocean, Loch Arbour and West Long Branch)	12/09/2014	60	8	68

*=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 (Middletown)	46	186
Annual School (Neptune Township)	20	80
Special Fire Referendum	26	1
Municipal Election (Highlands, Keansburg and Long Branch)	27	54
Primary Election	458	1807
Special Municipal Election (Belmar)	5	20
Special School Election (Freehold Borough)	7	29
Special Fire District Election (Freehold Township District 2)	1	0
General Election	458	1861
Special School Election (Freehold Borough, Ocean, Loch Arbour and Long Branch)	36	142

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 2,767 Poll Worker names in the database. During 2014, 808 attended classes in the months just prior to the June Primary. An additional 594 were trained just prior to the November General Election. Approximately 50% of all Poll Workers attended some training during 2014 with a total of 1,402. In addition to daytime training classes, many are given in the evening to accommodate people working during the day. The following 24 training classes were given in 2014.

March 12, 2014	6:30 p.m.	Midtown Elementary School, Neptune
March 21, 2014	1:30 p.m.	Long Branch Middle School, Long Branch
March 24, 2014	7:00 p.m.	Millstone Municipal Court, Millstone
April 07, 2014	7:00 p.m.	Bayshore Senior Center, Keansburg
April 09, 2014	1:00 p.m.	Monmouth County Library, Manalapan
April 09, 2014	6:30 p.m.	Monmouth County Library, Manalapan
April 16, 2014	6:30 p.m.	Monmouth County AG building, Freehold
April 30, 2014	6:30 p.m.	Monmouth County AG building, Freehold
May 6, 2014	7:00 p.m.	Wall Township Municipal Complex, Wall
May 30, 2014	1:00 p.m.	Special Class for Tinton Falls
July 09, 2014	10:00 a.m.	Board of Elections, Freehold
July 29, 2014	10:00 a.m.	Board of Elections, Freehold
July 31, 2014	10:00 a.m.	Board of Elections, Freehold
August 6, 2014	10:00 a.m.	Board of Elections, Freehold
August 12, 2014	10:00 a.m.	Board of Elections, Freehold
August 14, 2014	10:00 a.m.	Board of Elections, Freehold
September 10, 2014	6:30 p.m.	Monmouth County Ag Building, Freehold
September 15, 2014	6:30 p.m.	Monmouth County Library, Manalapan
September 17, 2014	6:30 p.m.	Bayshore Senior Center, Keansburg
September 22, 2014	1:00 p.m.	Shrewsbury Township Municipal Complex
October 8, 2014	6:30 p.m.	Monmouth County Ag Building, Freehold
October 14, 2014	6:30 p.m.	Wall Township Municipal Complex, Wall
October 16, 2014	1:00 p.m.	Monmouth County Library, Manalapan
October 16, 2014	6:30 p.m.	Monmouth County Library, Manalapan

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. There are 53 municipalities in Monmouth County spread over an area of 471.57 square miles. There are a total of 458 election districts in our County. 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 949 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 (Middletown)	0
Annual School	0
Municipal Election (Highlands, Keansburg and Long Branch)	70
Primary Election	41
Special Municipal Election (Belmar)	10
Special School Election (Freehold Borough)	0
Special Fire District Election (Freehold Township District 2)	0
General Election	828
Special School Elections (Freehold Borough, Ocean, Loch Arbour and West Long Branch)	0

Election Recounts

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

Recounts

There was one recount in the municipality of Eatontown in 2014.

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 website is updated regularly for changes and dates of instruction classes.

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 October 16, we held a class specifically for clerks on how we train poll workers.