

# **GREENE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

## **2022 Annual Report**

The Greene County Board of Elections was challenged by several unique issues and much uncertainty in 2022. This required great flexibility on our part as we worked diligently to continue meeting our mandate to conduct fair and impartial elections in the most efficient and cost effective manner possible.

The first challenge we faced was the uncertainty surrounding the redistricting process for Congress, State Senate and State Assembly. Initial drafts submitted by the Independent Redistricting Commission had Greene County split into multiple districts in both the Senate and Assembly proposals. This was further complicated by delays in this process resulting in many areas of the state not even knowing who might be representing them in these various offices.

Fortunately, under the redistricting plan adopted by the State Legislature, Greene County was wholly within districts for Congress, State Senate and Assembly. While that was a positive step forward, it was derailed by litigation challenging the constitutionality of the plan enacted by the legislature. Ultimately, the State Courts ruled the redistricting done by the legislature for Congress and State Senate unconstitutional and a court master drew lines.

This action delayed and altered petition circulation timelines and submissions. It also resulted in two primary election cycles in New York rather than one. The originally scheduled June primary was conducted only for Statewide Offices and State Assembly. A second primary was scheduled for August for the delayed new Congressional and State Senate Districts.

While all of this was taking place, a vacancy was created in the 19<sup>th</sup> Congressional District when Anthony Delgado was appointed as Lt. Governor. This resulted in a Special Election being called by the Governor to fill the remaining 4 months of Congressman Delgado's term. This Special Election was scheduled to take place on the same day as the August Primary.

All of this proved to be extremely challenging for the BOE and, unfortunately, confusing to the voters of Greene County. Nonetheless, thanks to the dedication and commitment of our BOE staff, we successfully navigated all of this and professionally conducted a June Primary, an August Special Election and the November General election.

In addition to the above cited elections, the BOE conducted four village elections in March of 2022.

While the Board does not directly administer school district elections, we do work with our school districts in a cooperative fashion to facilitate those elections. We provide access to our voting machines which saves districts from having to purchase their own at a cost of \$12,000 to \$15,000 per machine. We also provide voter enrollment information and access to our trained election inspectors if a district so desires. At the end of the day, this saves our local taxpayers money.

The Board continues to implement numerous changes in State Election Law. Over the past few years this has included items such as:

- \*The continuation of enhanced access to absentee voting.
- \*Creation of a permanent Absentee Ballot Application transmittal system.
- \*Complete overhaul for the canvassing of absentee ballots requiring review of such ballots within four days of receipt by the BOE.
- \*Creation of an online absentee ballot tracking system.
- \*Expansion of early voting hours required on weekends.

Without the support and assistance of so many others we would not be able to accomplish our responsibilities and mandate. Therefore, we wish to acknowledge:

- \*The staff of the Greene County Board of Elections.
- \*County Administrator Shaun Groden and our County Legislators.
- \*County Department Heads and their staff.

Please see the attached for some statical comparisons of recent year data.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Respectfully submitted.

Marie Metzler  
Democratic Commissioner

Brent Bogardus  
Republican Commissioner

**GREENE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS STATISTICAL ANALYSIS**

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
Registered Voters	29,549	29,337	29,968	30,417	32,829	32,335	31,178
Absentee Ballots Sent	2,198	1,160	2,053	1,080	4,692	1,207	1,821
Absentee Ballots Returned	1,978	798	1,792	826	3,185	860	1,506
Petitions Processed	35	94	60	133	30	23	39
New Registrations	2,926	1,297	635	449	2,412	1,246	2,528
Early Voters							
Primary	0	0	0	0	71	12	203
Special	0	0	0	0	0	0	380
General	0	0	0	630	4,308	650	1,921