

## **2020 PARTIAL REPORT OF THE ELECTION COMMITTEE**

The IU Executive Board has determined that, if an election of International Union Officers is necessary at this 2020 Convention, it shall be held by electronic ballot, administered by BallotPoint. Thus, the Election Committee's charge at this stage is two-fold: to examine the safeguards of the BallotPoint process and to adopt any procedural rules needed to translate our existing Code 3 to an electronic election.

### Election Safeguards

We evaluated the BallotPoint election process to ensure that: credentialed delegates on the voter list will have access to cast a ballot anonymously; the ballot will be counted; the election is observable; and the results will be accurate and can be verified.

We found that the BallotPoint system has robust safeguards to ensure eligible voters can cast a vote in secret and the vote will be counted. The log-in process requires access credentials that will only be given to those on the voter list. No credential can be used more than once. BallotPoint authenticates the voter's identity on a separate network server from the one used to access and cast a ballot. Once cast, the vote is broken into smaller pieces that are encrypted and recorded anonymously. This is similar to the color-coded ballots of varying voting strengths that BAC uses in in-person elections. The votes cannot be tied to the voter by name, ID number or voting strength. The voter receives a confirmation number on screen and an email confirming the ballot was cast and recorded. From the time the polls open until they close, BallotPoint staff will monitor access and detect any suspicious log-in activity. The total votes cast must match the tally, ensuring that no vote has been voided.

During and after the election, Observers can view reports of the separated votes – vote digests - and of who has voted. Observers and candidates can attend the tally via electronic meeting room where they will see and hear as the votes are decrypted and

tallied, and the results are announced. The ultimate tally must correspond to the verifiable total number of votes cast.

Given these procedures, we conclude that the BallotPoint system ensures a secret ballot that is safe, accurate, observable, and verifiable.

### Procedural Rules

Next, we drafted the “Special 2020 Rules Governing the Election of International Union Officers,” adapting existing procedures in Code 3 as necessary to implement the electronic election. We kept changes to the minimum necessary, and always followed the letter and intent of Code 3. The Special Rules have been readily available to the delegates for several days, but for ease of reference we will briefly summarize the changes, by Section, within Code 3.

Section 1 reflects the earlier day (Wednesday) and later time (noon) for the vote, given our shorter Convention and varied time zones of delegates. As in other Sections, we removed references to the physical locations. In Section 2, we noted this Committee was appointed and met in advance of the Convention in order to thoroughly examine the electronic voting process.

Section 3, respecting the secret ballot, was unchanged. Section 4, regarding voting eligibility lists, was changed in two minor respects: eligibility lists will be readily available on the Convention App, and voters will be authenticated through the election system, and will not physically sign the voting list.

Section 5, “Physical Arrangements,” is inapplicable and was suspended by Code 3, Section 11, so no changes were necessary. Section 6, respecting the nomination process, also is unchanged. The Observer role, outlined in Section 7, was modified only to remove references to physical locations and to specify the timeline and procedure for challenging a voter’s eligibility.

Section 8, describing the voting process, required several changes, including to remove references to physical location, physical signatures, and physical presentation of Badges. We specified the opportunities to challenge voters and observe the voting process. Finally, we specifically described the electronic process, from eligible voters' receipt of a unique access code, through log-in, authentication, accessing, and casting the ballot in secret, and confirmation that the ballot has been cast and recorded.

In Section 9, Counting the Vote, we removed references to physical arrangements such as ballot boxes, tables, etc., and specified who may be present, through the electronic meeting room, to observe and verify the decryption and counting of the votes. Section 10 was modified only to note that election results will be announced on Wednesday because there is no fourth day of this Convention.

In sum, we are confident that although the electronic format will be a new experience, the election process will be seamless, transparent, and in many ways familiar to our delegates. We are further confident that the BallotPoint process will preserve the secrecy of the ballot and deliver accurate, tamper-proof, and verifiable results.

Should an Election of IU Officers be necessary, we will prepare a further Report to the Convention. However, this concludes the Partial Report of the Election Committee. I would like to thank the members of the Committee:

Brian Jennewein, Head Teller, Administrative District Council of Missouri

John Capo, Associate Teller, Administrative District Council of New Jersey

Pat Tirino, Clerk, Local 2 New York/Vermont

## ELECTION COMMITTEE

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