

Board of Election Commissioners Meeting
City of Galesburg, Illinois
November 20, 2025 — 9:00 a.m.
City Hall Erickson Conference Room

Chairman Roger Williamson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Attending were Commissioners David Christensen and Steven Medhurst, Executive Director Lisa Watson, and Assistant Bill Gohring. Also in attendance were Jeannette Chernin and Darla Krejci.

After reviewing the minutes from the October 23, 2025 meeting, David Christensen made a motion to approve the minutes. Steven Medhurst seconded. Motion carried.

Public Comment: There was no Public Comment.

Old Business:

Memo Only Budget

David Christensen provided an overview of the Memo Only Budget. Total expenses were \$8,479.00. Total revenue was \$186.00. The bulk of the expenses were for maintenance items.

2026 Primary Election

Library Tabulator Recommendation – A DS200 tabulator can handle four or more precincts. In the November 2024 Presidential Election, The First Church of God had a total of 1228 ballots cast in four precincts using one DS200 tabulator. In the same election, the four precincts that will now be in the Galesburg Public Library had a total of 582 ballots cast. The recommendation for the March 17, 2026 election is to use one DS200 tabulator at the Galesburg Public Library.

Emergency Management Preparations – The State Board of Elections recommends, but does not require, having backup generators available in the event of a power failure at a voting location. There are no state or federal grants available for the purchase of backup Election Day generators. The City of Galesburg Fire Department has joint-use generators, but there would be a minimum of at least one hour to transport one from another city. Webber Rental has gas powered generators available, but they are noisy. Anker SOLIX F3000 Portable Power Stations are currently available during Black Friday sales events. (Regular \$2,599.00 on sale for \$1199.00). LED Portable work lights are also currently on sale. (Regular \$96.99 on sale for \$59.57). One power unit would, for example, provide enough power for Bethel's two tabulators and lighting, but not portable heaters. Two power units would provide enough power for Bethel's two tabulators and lighting and provide extra power for intermittent usage of a couple of electric space heaters. Power solution #1 (two generators plus 2 work lights with no heat) is \$2,489.00. Power solution #2 (four generators and lights plus extra power for heat) is \$5,489.00. David Christensen's opinion is that the expense is too high since the odds of needing it are very

low. There has not been an Election Day emergency requiring generators. Other thoughts are to check Galesburg Electric for other recommendations. Further investigation is needed.

New Business:

New City Phone System – 2026

The City will work around our schedule. Our share will be around \$500.00.

Invoices & Supplies — David Christensen made a motion to approve the invoices for the month of October. Steven Medhurst seconded. Motion carried. Steven Medhurst made a motion to approve the supply list for the month of October. David Christensen seconded. Motion carried.

Schedule December meeting —The next commissioners' meeting was scheduled for December 18, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

Other: It was recommended with our older voting equipment that our election judges only use red pens to initial ballots as the old equipment could not detect red ink. ES&S confirmed that the new DS 200 tabulators all have visible light read heads, so that the election judges ink color does not matter. It has been suggested that we use different color felt tip pens for the different precincts to aid in ballot sorting at the end of the day. This has been discussed with several judges and they like the idea.

Steven Medhurst made a motion to adjourn the meeting. David Christensen seconded. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.