

SPECIAL MEETING

May 3, 2022

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dennis Pavella at 6:20 a.m. Present were Joan Windnagel, Janet Carson, Edward Ryder, Director Michelle Lane, and Deputy Director Nora McGinnis.

Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to open the polls at 6:30 a.m. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

Mr. Scott Daisher joined the meeting to review and explain the batches of ballots for possible remakes, over votes, and to determine voter intent.

Batch A1 Republican (17 ballots) –

After reviewing the 17 ballots, Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to accept the ballots as such:

Not count the races on 9 ballots where they were true over votes;

Accept 7 ballots as voted where voter intent was determined;

Remake 1 ballot.

Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

Batch A2 Democratic and Issues (12 ballots) –

After reviewing the 12 ballots, Mrs. Carson made a motion to accept the ballots as such:

Not count the races on 7 ballots where they were true over votes;

Accept 5 ballots as voted where voter intent was determined.

Mrs. Windnagel seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to go into Executive Session per the ORC Section 121.22 (G) (1) for personnel at 7:15 a.m., and to include Director Lane and Deputy Director McGinnis. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. The roll call vote was taken by Deputy Director McGinnis: Mrs. Carson, Yes; Mrs. Windnagel, Yes; Mr. Ryder, Yes; Mr. Pavella, Yes.

Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to leave Executive Session at 7:50 a.m. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. The roll call vote was taken by Deputy Director McGinnis: Mrs. Carson, Yes; Mrs. Windnagel, Yes; Mr. Ryder, Yes; Mr. Pavella, Yes.

Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to go into Executive Session per the ORC Section 121.22 (G) (3) to conference with the Board's legal counsel, Corey Colombo, concerning imminent litigation at 7:51 a.m., and to include Director Lane and Deputy Director McGinnis. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. The roll

call vote was taken by Deputy Director McGinnis: Mrs. Carson, Yes; Mrs. Windnagel, Yes; Mr. Ryder, Yes; Mr. Pavella, Yes.

Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to leave Executive Session at 8:20 a.m. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. The roll call vote was taken by Deputy Director McGinnis: Mrs. Carson, Yes; Mrs. Windnagel, Yes; Mr. Ryder, Yes; Mr. Pavella, Yes.

Provisional ballot processing by the employees was discussed. Nora McGinnis, Kim Schwartz and Scott Daisher are listed as contacts for Geauga County for out of county Provisionals.

The date of the Official Canvass was confirmed as May 26, 2022. The public test is tentatively set for May 23, 2022.

Possible polling locations for the August 2, 2022, election were discussed. Mayfield Church in Chesterland is unavailable the first week of August. Other possibilities are Word of Grace Church or Patterson Fruit Farm. And although Berkshire High School has been sold, Director Lane will look into being able to use part of the high school as a polling location in Burton.

The post-election audit may start six days after the official certification if there is no recount. Deciding on the post-election audit date will be put on the May 26, 2022, meeting agenda.

The Board of Elections budget worksheets are in progress. Director Lane inquired about adding the purchase of a vehicle to the budget for use by office personnel. Once the office moves to the new administration building, mail pickup and drop off will be a concern. During election cycles, mail is picked up and dropped off at the Post Office multiple times a day by a bipartisan team. It would also be useful for transporting training equipment and delivering ballots to the Post Office on the first day of mail out ballots. In previous years, multiple trips have been made with personal vehicles carrying numerous trays of ballots.

Director Lane reported that preparing for and working on this election has been her top priority and where almost all her time has been spent. In addition to the election and working on the budget, Mrs. Lane has also responded to several public records requests and is looking into getting more phones for the office. Director Lane also reported that registration for the Summer Conference will be opening up soon. The Board Members responded that all four members will attend as well as the Director and Deputy Director.

The Board Members decided to begin their visits to the polling locations and reconvene at 6:30 p.m. to complete the remainder of the Agenda and certify the Unofficial Canvass.

At 6:40 p.m., the meeting was continued and Deputy Director McGinnis gave her report. She reported that the majority of her time has also been spent on election preparations as well as managing absentee voting procedures. Mrs. McGinnis stated that she works with Mrs. Lane on responding to requests and also administrative responsibilities.

Mr. Daisher brought in more batches of ballots for Board review.

Batch A4 (5 ballots) –

After reviewing the 5 ballots, Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to accept the ballots as such:

- Not count the race on 1 ballot where it was a true over vote;
- Accept 4 ballots as voted where voter intent was determined.

Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

Three ballots voted by 17-year old voters were reviewed. Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to accept the three ballots as cast. Mr. Ryder seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

Batch A5 (1 ballot) –

After reviewing the 1 ballot, Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to accept the ballot as such:

- Not count the race on 1 ballot where it was a true over vote;

Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

Batch A6 (1 ballot) –

After reviewing the 1 ballot, Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to accept the ballot as such:

- Remake 1 ballot.

Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

Mr. Ryder made a motion to allow the staff to come in at 10:00 a.m. the following morning. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

Mr. Ryder made a motion to accept the unofficial results of the May 3, 2022 Primary Election. Mrs. Windnagel seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

Mr. Ryder made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:50 p.m. Mrs. Windnagel seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

Next meeting: Special Meeting May 26, 2022 – Official Certification