

SPECIAL MEETING

November 23, 2022

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dennis Pavella at 9:04 a.m. Present were Joan Windnagel, Janet Carson, Director Michelle Lane, and Deputy Director Nora McGinnis. Attending as guest was ShoMore DeNiro, Regional Liaison for the Secretary of State. Attending via Teams were Andy Haines, Shelly Lewis, Nancy McArthur, Zach McLeod and Charles Walder. Absent was Board Member, Edward Ryder.

Deputy Director McGinnis reviewed the list of bills to approve. Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to pay the following bills as presented. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

Robert Amick	\$60.78
Kenneth Chuha	\$130.44
William Clark	\$44.49
Dawn Greene	\$40.06
Mark Halford	\$47.56
Thomas McGinnis	\$100.00
Don Mohney	\$26.88
Harold Strahan	\$16.38
Terrance Zion	\$36.13
Marla Zwinggi	\$61.44
Lori O'Neill	\$90.00
Maureen Depenbrok	\$24.50
Richard Depenbrok	\$24.19
Chardon Oil	\$79.45
Quill	\$61.15
Munson Township	\$125.00
Sunrise Springs Water Co	\$33.85
Blue Technologies	\$485.28
OAEO	\$2,310.00
Cathy Hall Gillette	\$10.63
Ted Gedeon	\$159.88

The discussion with Mr. Walder was moved up on the agenda to accommodate his schedule. Mr. Pavella made a motion to move Mr. Walder's report after the approval of bills. Mrs. Windnagel seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

Mr. Walder stated that Mitel is the new phone system for the entire county. It is a cloud-based system that couples to Microsoft 365 and has wireless capabilities. It can be installed in late December or early January for the Board of Elections and then again once the Board office moves. Andy Haines stated that cellular backup was added to the internet in the new Administration Building. Hot spots can be used in case of emergencies and the Board of Elections can use ADP's hot spots during the election cycle if needed.

Poll worker payroll was reviewed. Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to allocate up to \$60,000.00 for the November 8, 2022, General Election to include all poll workers, marshals, and night workers. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

The 10-Day Absentee ballots and 11-S absentee ballot supplements were examined.

There were 47 Ten-Day Absentee ballots with good postmarks of November 7, 2022, or earlier. There were eight 11-S forms returned on time. In total, 55 returns were reviewed for this category. Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to accept all 55 Ten-Day Absentees and returned 11-S forms as recommended by staff. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

There were 18 UOCAVA ballots returned during the 10-day timeframe. Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to accept all 18 UOCAVA ballots that were returned on time. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

The Board reviewed 60 Ten-Day ballots with late postmarks. There were 57 with postmarks between November 8 and November 18, 2022 and three that arrived after the 10-day deadline. Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to not count the 60 ballots that arrived with a late postmark or after the 10-day deadline. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

There were four unreadable postmarks among the 10-Day ballots. After using the date scanner it was determined that three of the envelopes had timely postmarks. Mrs. Carson made a motion to accept the three ballots that were received timely at a Board of Elections. Mrs. Windnagel seconded the motion. All voted: AYE. Mrs. Carson made a motion to not accept the one ballot that was received with a late postmark. Mrs. Windnagel seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

There was 1 UOCAVA ballot returned after the 10-day deadline. Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to not accept the 1 UOCAVA ballot that was returned after the 10-day deadline. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

Next, Provisional ballots were considered.

There were 137 Provisional ballots from voters that had requested an absentee ballot but either did not receive them or did not vote them.

Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to accept the 137 Provisional ballots. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

There were 157 address changes within Geauga County.

Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to accept the 157 in-county address changes as recommended by staff. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

There were 161 Provisional ballots from registered voters in Ohio that moved to Geauga County.

Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to accept the 161 Provisional ballots from registered voters that moved to Geauga County from another county. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

There were 28 Provisional ballots with name changes.

Mrs. Carson made a motion to accept the 28 name changes as recommended by staff. Mrs. Windnagel seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

Two Provisional ballots were because of the cancelation of voter registrations due to inactivity.

Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to accept the two Provisional ballots due to the Federal court case allowing canceled voters to vote, also known as the APRI exception. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

There were 25 Provisional ballots that did not have a reason given as to why the voter voted provisionally. Probable reasons are lack of ID, name not in poll pad or misspelled, or poll worker error. After careful review by the Board Members, they were determined to be valid.

Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to accept the 25 Provisional ballots as recommended by staff. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

Laura Amick then presented 103 Provisional ballots for further Board review and consideration.

There were 17 voters who voted provisionally due to an expired driver's license. The driver's license numbers matched their voter registrations.

Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to accept the 17 Provisional ballots with expired driver's license numbers as recommended by staff. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

There were 17 voters who voted provisionally due to not having an ID. The provisional affirmations contained the Driver's License No. and/or Social Security No. for the voters.

Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to accept the 17 Provisional ballots as recommended by staff. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

There was 1 Provisional ballot where the voter moved to Geauga County and wrote a street name that was slightly different from the actual street name. The house number was correct.

Mrs. Carson made a motion to accept the 1 Provisional ballot with the incorrect street name. Mrs. Windnagel seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

Four Provisional voters had already returned an absentee ballot to the Board of Elections.

Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to reject the four Provisional ballots of voters that had already voted Absentee. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

There were 11 incomplete Provisional envelopes.

Three Provisionals did not have an ID.

Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to reject three Provisionals that had no ID on the affirmation. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

Five Provisionals were missing the birthdate or had an incorrect birthdate.

Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to reject four Provisionals that had no birthdate. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to accept one Provisional that had an incorrect birthdate since voter identity could be established. Mr. Pavella seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

One Provisional envelope was not signed.

Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to reject one Provisional that was missing the signature. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

Two Provisionals were missing street names.

Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to accept the two Provisionals with missing street names since the voters had filled out the Voter Assistance Log with their full address. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

There were 37 voters not registered in Ohio that voted provisionally.

Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to not accept the 37 Provisional ballots of voters that were unregistered in Ohio. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

Six Provisional ballots were due to the voter being in the wrong precinct and wrong polling location.

Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to not accept the six Provisional ballots of voters that voted in the wrong precinct and polling location. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

One voter voted in the wrong precinct but correct polling location.

Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to accept the Provisional ballot of the voter in the wrong precinct but correct polling location. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

Three voters moved out of Geauga County yet voted in the county.

Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to reject the three Provisional ballots of votes that voted in the wrong county. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

There were four voters that voted provisionally due to poll worker error.

Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to accept the four Provisionals as recommended by staff. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

There were two Provisional ballots with no reason documented.

Mrs. Carson made a motion to accept the two Provisionals as recommended by staff. Mrs. Windnagel seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

The accepted 10-Day Absentee and Provisional ballots were run through the scanner. No ballots needed to be reviewed or remade.

Mrs. Carson made a motion to accept and approve the official results of the November 8, 2022 General Election. Mrs. Windnagel seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

Mrs. Windnagel made a motion at 12:12 p.m. to go into Executive Session per the ORC Section 121.22 (G) (3) to conference with the Board's legal counsel, Corey Colombo, concerning pending litigation, and to include Director Lane, Deputy Director McGinnis, and Office Administrator Daisher. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. The roll call vote was taken by Deputy Director McGinnis: Mrs. Carson, Yes; Mrs. Windnagel, Yes; Mr. Pavella, Yes.

Mr. Pavella made a motion to leave Executive Session at 1:52 p.m. Mrs. Windnagel seconded the motion. The roll call vote was taken by Deputy Director McGinnis: Mrs. Carson, Yes; Mrs. Windnagel, Yes; Mr. Pavella, Yes.

The post-election audit date and precincts were discussed and December 13, 2022, was selected as the audit date. A minimum of 2,160 ballots (5% of total votes counted in the November 8, 2022, Election) must be counted as part of the audit. Chairman Pavella pulled the following precincts to be included in the audit: Munson Township F (745 voters); Chester Township G (743 voters); Munson Township B (664 voters); Russell Township D (512 voters). A total of 2,664 ballots will be counted and audited. County-wide Issue 3 will be included in the audit.

Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to perform the post-election audit on December 13, 2022, at a special meeting. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

Mrs. Carson made a motion to cancel the regular meeting scheduled for December 15, 2022, due to the special meeting and audit on December 13, 2022. Mrs. Windnagel seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

Director Lane reported on the security directive and grant and asked for authorization to use \$692.99 from the equipment fund to cover the amount over the \$10,000 grant.

Mr. Pavella made a motion to authorize the use of \$692.99 out of the equipment fund for the amount over the \$10,000 grant. Mrs. Windnagel seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

Director Lane also reported that the old Berkshire High School can no longer be used as a polling location. Other locations to consider in Burton are Kent State University, Burton Library, and the new Berkshire High School. Mrs. Lane also helped with the Provisional ballots and is back working on public records requests.

Deputy Director McGinnis has been assisting Director Lane with the security grant and spreadsheets. She reviewed all the marshal mileage and prepared the bills. Mrs. McGinnis also helped with the processing of 10-Day Absentee ballots and Provisional ballots.

Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:08 p.m. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

Next meeting: Special Meeting and Audit - December 13, 2022, 9:30 a.m.