

## SPECIAL MEETING

March 14, 2022

## MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dennis Pavella at 9:05 a.m. Present were Joan Windnagel, Director Michelle Lane, Deputy Director Nora McGinnis, and Regional liaison ShoMore DeNiro. Board members Janet Carson and Ed Ryder attended via WebEx. Guests attending the meeting via WebEx were Shelly Lewis, IT Chief Deputy Administrator Frank Antenucci, Nancy McArthur, and Christine Lopez.

Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to approve the February 9, 2022, Board Minutes as presented. Mr. Ryder seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to pay the following bills as presented. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

Knowink	\$540.00
UPS	\$16.05
UPS	\$13.47
Blue Technologies	\$62.15
Quill	\$25.98
Quill	\$44.97
Quill	\$229.96
Graphic Village	\$320.00
KMI Printing	\$114.52
KMI Printing	\$115.61
KMI Printing	\$395.73
Sunrise Springs	\$26.85
Ramona Saikaly	\$285.00
Gillmore Security	\$165.00
Kiwanis Lake Homeowners Assoc.	\$375.00

New maps were made available for the State and Congressional Districts.

A motion was made by Mrs. Windnagel to move the review of the write-in petitions to before executive session. Mr. Ryder seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

Deputy Director McGinnis reviewed the ballot quotes that were submitted. Youngstown Letter Shop quoted their price as \$0.25 each for 1-sided ballots and \$0.27 each for 2-sided ballots. ES&S/Graphic Village submitted a price of \$0.27 each for 1-sided or 2-sided ballots plus \$0.01 per ballot for shipping charges. Mrs. Carson made a motion to award the ballot bid to Youngstown Letter Shop stating that

they have been very good to work with in the past. Mrs. Windnagel seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

Director Lane reviewed the chargebacks and stated that the Board of Elections was projected to get back \$138,458.06 in chargebacks. The Board members signed the form. Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to accept the chargebacks as prepared by B. Fink Consulting Inc., and have it deposited into the election fund account. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. All voted: AYE. It was explained to our guests that chargebacks are the dollars charged back to municipalities, townships, etc., for the cost of running an election.

Director Lane and Mr. Daisher visited Veterans Legacy Woods in Newbury Township as a possible new polling location. Mrs. Lane stated that there was plenty of room and would be acceptable to use. The DS200s would need to be placed around the raised floor, not on it. Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to use Veterans Legacy Woods in Newbury Township, Ohio, for all precincts that had been using Newbury Auditorium. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

The declarations of intent to be a write-in candidate were reviewed next. On the first two declarations of intent, the candidates, Christine Stenzel and Edmund Corsi III, failed to specifically identify the precinct for the office they were seeking. Mr. Ryder made a motion to reject the declarations of intent to be a write-in candidate submitted by Christine Stenzel and Edmund Corsi III. Mrs. Windnagel seconded the motion. AYES, Mr. Pavella, Mrs. Windnagel, Mr. Ryder. NO, Mrs. Carson.

The next declaration of intent was submitted by Christine Dove with an address that did not match her voter registration address on file. Mrs. Carson made a motion to reject the declaration of intent submitted by Christine Dove based on the recommendation of the Assistant Prosecutor. Mrs. Windnagel seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

A motion was made by Mr. Pavella to approve Ed Ryder as a write-in candidate. Mrs. Windnagel seconded the motion. AYES, Mr. Pavella, Mrs. Windnagel, Mrs. Carson. Abstain, Mr. Ryder.

Mr. Pavella made a motion to approve the remainder of the write-in candidates. Mrs. Windnagel seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

A discussion was held on whether the Board needs to take action relative to its earlier decision to certify the candidates for the 23<sup>rd</sup> District of the Ohio House of Representatives. At the time of certification of Lori O'Neill and Steve Demetriou, the January 2022 maps had just been struck down but there was no guidance yet from the Secretary of State as to how to proceed on those candidate petitions. According to our Assistant Prosecutor, the Board could choose to rescind its prior motions concerning those candidate petitions. The decision is up to the Board as to how it wants to handle this in its record. All were in agreement to take no action on the 23<sup>rd</sup> District candidates.

After further discussion concerning the 23<sup>rd</sup> District candidates, and as a result of the 23<sup>rd</sup> District no longer existing in Geauga County, Mr. Pavella made a motion to rescind the action of certifying Lori O'Neill and Steve Demetriou that occurred February 9, 2022. Mrs. Windnagel seconded the motion. AYES, Mr. Pavella, Mrs. Windnagel, Mr. Ryder. NO, Mrs. Carson.

Given that Geauga County is now the most populous county for the 99<sup>th</sup> House District, Mr. Pavella made a motion to certify the candidacy of Abby Kovacs and Sarah Fowler Arthur for the 99<sup>th</sup> State House District. Mr. Ryder seconded the motion. AYES, Mr. Pavella, Mrs. Windnagel, Mr. Ryder. NO, Mrs. Carson.

Mrs. Carson made a motion to move the executive session to the end of the agenda in consideration of guests attending the meeting. Mr. Ryder seconded the motion. All voted: AYE.

Marshal pay was reviewed and Director Lane noted that Voting Location Managers get paid more for their training than marshals. The Board would like to look at pay for all poll workers, marshals, and part-time workers as well as full-time employees. Mrs. Lane will send the pay information to the Board.

Director Lane asked for a review of the mask policy. The Board would first like information from the County Health Department and CDC guidelines. The mask policy will be addressed at the next meeting.

The Election Official Manual has been updated. For 10 printed copies, KMI quoted \$247.06 for black and white and \$748.00 for color. The Board suggested waiting a few weeks in case of more changes.

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, at 10:22 a.m., and to include Director Lane, Deputy Director McGinnis, Mr. Daisher, and Counsel Mr. Colombo. Mrs. Carson seconded the motion. The roll call vote was taken by Deputy Director McGinnis: Mr. Pavella, Yes; Mrs. Windnagel, Yes; Mrs. Carson, Yes; Mr. Ryder, Yes.

Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to leave Executive Session at 11:12 a.m. Mr. Ryder seconded the motion. The roll call vote was taken by Deputy Director McGinnis: Mr. Pavella, Yes; Mrs. Windnagel, Yes; Mrs. Carson, Yes; Mr. Ryder, Yes.

Director Report – Director Lane reported that new plastic tamper-evident seals for polling location supplies need to be ordered and inquired if any color can be used. In the past, yellow and red have been used but a new vendor can supply us with red and blue seals and save the office \$100.00 per 1,000 seals. The grant money from the Secretary of State was received. Geauga County received \$95, 853.00 to be used for Primary Election expenses only. It can be used for poll worker pay, part-time worker pay, supplies, and other administrative costs used in the Primary. Unused funds will need to be returned. Director Lane, Deputy Director McGinnis, and Mr. Daisher met with Auditor Charles Walder. Mr. Walder stated that there is no cell phone service in the basement of the new Administration Building and the County Commissioners turned down a resolution to pay for a cell phone booster. Mrs. Lane contacted the Secretary of State to report this issue and it will be addressed at the ADP Board Meeting the following day.

Deputy Director Report – Mrs. McGinnis has been assisting with the proofing of ballots and also proofing and updating the poll worker training manual. She helped the staff with the registration readiness mailing and also has been checking the UOCAVA and regular absentee ballot applications. She is working with Kim Schwartz on the updated candidates list to prepare for the posting of the 46-day notice. Due to the paper and envelope shortage, Mrs. McGinnis ordered a large supply of absentee

envelopes for mailings and nursing homes to be prepared for the Primary and General Elections, and is handling normal administrative duties.

Mr. Pavella made a motion to cancel the next regular Board Meeting scheduled for March 17, 2022.

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

Mrs. Windnagel made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:45 a.m. Mr. Ryder seconded the motion.

All voted: AYE.