



**Board Meeting
11-28-2017**

Attending:*

Inajo Davis Chappell, Chairwoman
David J. Wondolowski, Member
Jeff Hastings, Member
Robert S. Frost, Member
Pat McDonald, Director
Anthony W. Perlatti, Deputy Director
Brendan Doyle, Assistant Prosecutor, Cuyahoga County

Linda D. Walker, Clerk to the Board
Anthony Alto, Clerk to the Board

The Board Meeting began via roll call at 3:02 p.m.

Chairwoman Chappell: Present
Board Member Wondolowski: Present
Board Member Frost: Present
Board Member Jeff Hastings: Present

Agenda Item 1: Approval of minutes from the October 31, 2017 board meeting

The Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the October 31, 2017 board meeting.

Agenda Item 2: Revision of minutes from the August 18, 2017, September 25, 2017, September 28, 2017, and October 31, 2017 board meetings to reflect the assistance of an American Sign Language interpreter

The Board voted unanimously to revise the minutes from the August 18, 2017, September 25, 2017, September 28, 2017, and October 31, 2017 board meetings to reflect the assistance of an American Sign Language interpreter.

Agenda Item 3: Certification of the Official Results of the November 7, 2017 General Election

Ballot Department manager Brian Cleary stated that a total of 273,393 ballots were tabulated for the November 7, 2017 General Election. There was one (1) tie vote in the race for Cuyahoga Heights Village Council.

Chairwoman Chappell used a coin flip to determine the winner of the race. Rick Centa was declared the sixth winner of the Cuyahoga Heights Village Council race.

* Assistance for the hearing impaired was provided by a certified American Sign Language Interpreter at this meeting

Cleary stated that 92,307 absentee ballots were issued, 81,586 were returned and counted, 193 were challenged, 792 were returned late, and 9,736 were not returned. A total of 3,358 provisional ballots were cast in house and on Election Day. Of those ballots, 3,012 were valid and tabulated by the Ballot Department. There were 346 invalid provisional ballots, resulting in a 10.3% rejection rate for this election.

Chairwoman Chappell stated she was concerned there could be an issue with the post office timely processing absentee ballots. She mailed her ballot about six (6) or seven (7) days before the deadline, but it did not arrive at the Board office until after Election Day. If there is an issue with the Post Office it needs to be corrected.

Director McDonald stated that he contacted the Post Office during early voting because his ballot took several days to arrive. The Post Office said that there were no problems.

Cleary stated that during the election, 1,241 ballot sheets were processed in accordance with CCBOE Remake Policy. Of those, 340 were processed during the Unofficial Canvass. The remaining 901 ballot sheets were processed during the Official Canvass. There were a total of 893 over votes recorded, resulting in a .33% over vote rate for the election. Nine hundred and seventy five precincts were involved in this election. Voter History is ongoing. Ballot Reconciliation is also ongoing. There are six (6) automatic recounts for this election. The recounts will be conducted beginning Monday, December 4th at 9:00 a.m. The recounts include Cleveland City Council Ward 1, Cleveland City Council Ward 7, Lakewood City Council at Large, Cuyahoga Heights Village Council, Board of Education Member for East Cleveland, and Issue 58, the Brooklyn School District Tax Levy. The requested recount deadline is Monday, December 4th at 4:00 p.m. The post-election audit will be conducted following the conclusion of recounts. The audit will be conducted using the batch-based risk-limiting audit method.

Board Member Wondolowski asked Cleary what the odds are of any changes in outcome of the races.

Cleary replied that there is a very low chance that any outcomes will change. The only time there is a discrepancy is when a ballot is very lightly marked and counts the race as an under vote but to the human eye it is clear that the voter intended to vote for that race. However, that is very rare. The audits have a 99.96% accuracy rate.

The Board selected the Cuyahoga County Community College Bond Issue as the random contest to be audited.

The Board voted unanimously to approve the remake of the optical scan ballots for the November 7, 2017 General Election, approve the absentee ballots from the November 7, 2017 General Election, approve the provisional ballots from the November 7, 2017 General Election, acknowledge the Official District Wide Results of the November 7, 2017 General Election for Lorain and Geauga counties, acknowledge the pre- & post-test results of the vote tabulation system from the November 7, 2017 General Election, and certify the Official Results of the November 7, 2017 General Election.

Agenda Item 4: Acknowledgement of the date, time, and place of the post-election audit for the November 7, 2017 General Election and random selection of a contest to be included in the audit

The Board unanimously voted to acknowledge the date, time, and place of the post-election audit for the November 7, 2017 General Election and random selection of a contest to be included in the audit.

Agenda Item 5: Approval of allocation of voting booths for the December 5, 2017 Olmsted Falls Mayoral Run Off. Allocation quantities are based on 1 booth for every 175 registered voters per polling location. A total of 35 voting booths will be allocated plus 5 DS200 precinct scanners and 1 ADA AutoMark voting unit

The Board voted unanimously to approve the allocation of voting booths for the December 5, 2017 Olmsted Falls Mayoral Run Off. Allocation quantities are based on 1 booth for every 175 registered voters per polling

location. A total of 35 voting booths will be allocated plus five (5) DS200 precinct scanners and one (1) ADA AutoMark voting unit.

Director McDonald stated that there were three (3) candidates for mayor in the Olmsted Falls General Election. Their Charter requires the winning candidate to receive at least 51.1% of the vote. None of the candidates satisfied the threshold and so the Board is required to hold a run-off election between the top two (2) vote getters. There are four (4) Wards, eight (8) precincts, and one (1) voting location. There will be one (1) plain clothes officer who will provide security at the location. In house voting begins tomorrow, similar to all other in house voting but on a shorter time frame.

Agenda Item 6: Approval of vouchers

The Board voted unanimously to approve the vouchers as presented.

Agenda Item 7: Approval of Personnel Agenda

The Board voted unanimously to approve the personnel agenda as presented.

New Business

Vendor Demonstration:

Director McDonald stated that there will be a vendor demonstration next week hosted by the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections. Although the Board is not in need of new equipment, they are hosting the demonstration out of good-will.

2017 Employee Appreciation Ceremony

Director McDonald stated that the 2017 Appreciation Ceremony will be held on Monday, December 18th. The key note speakers will be Senator Frank LaRose and County Councilwoman Shontel Brown.

Errata Sheet

Chairwoman Chappell stated that there was an error in the transcript concerning a nay vote. She notified the court reporter and he sent her an errata sheet. She asked if any board members had any concerns about making that part of the record. No board members had any objections to making the errata sheet part of the record.

Public Testimony

Rico Dancy

Mr. Dancy asked why the 26 provisionals in China Town have not been counted yet.

Chairwoman Chappell responded that his question is noted and a response will be promptly provided.

Mr. Dancy then asked when the results for Cleveland City Council races in Wards 1 and 7 will be made public.

Chairwoman Chappell responded that the results were made available during the certification and are also available on the website.

Additionally, a clerk provided Mr. Dancy with a hard copy of the requested results.

Executive Session

The Board voted unanimously via roll call vote to enter executive session at 3:29 p.m. to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official.

The Board voted unanimously via roll call vote to enter into public session at 3:38 p.m.

The Board voted unanimously to recess at 3:38 p.m.

Certification: I have reviewed the above minutes and certify that they are an accurate summary of the actions taken by the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections at its meeting held on November 28, 2017.

Inajo Davis Chappell, Chairwoman

Robert S. Frost, Member

Jeff Hastings, Member

David J. Wondolowski, Member

Pat McDonald, Director
