



**Board Meeting
11-19-2016**

Attending:

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

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

The Board voted unanimously to begin the meeting at 9:09 a.m. via roll call vote:

Board Member Frost: Yes
Board Member Wondolowski: Yes
Chairwoman Chappell: Yes
Board Member Hastings: Yes

Agenda Item 1: Acknowledgement of Secretary of State Directives:

Chairwoman Chappell thanked everyone for their hard work in facilitating a successful election.

Board Member Wondolowski asked how absentee voters are notified during the Cure Period. Director McDonald said that the voters are not notified by phone call, but by a letter. Registration Department Manager Betty Edwards said that there were only four (4) provisional voters during the cure period. Candidate and Petition Services Assistant Manager Patrick McAlea said that there were 192 absentee voters who corrected their issues during the cure period.

The Board voted unanimously to acknowledge the following Secretary of State Directives:

- Directive 2016-42 Unofficial Canvass of the November 8, 2016 Presidential General Election
- Directive 2016-43 Reasonable Accommodation for a Voter with a Disability Who is Unexpectedly Hospitalized in an Out-of-County Hospital After the Absentee Ballot Request Deadline
- Directive 2016-44 Post-Election Cure Period for Absentee and Provisional Ballots
- Directive 2016-45 Pursuant to a Court Order – The Issuance of Absentee Ballots to UOCAVA Voters who were Cancelled under the Supplemental Process in 2015, 2013, or 2011
- Directive 2016-46 Official Canvass for the November 8, 2016 Presidential General Election
- Directive 2016-47 Expedited Official Canvass & Certification of the November 8, 2016 General Election

Agenda Item 2: Approval of Board Meeting Minutes from the October 26, 2016 Board Meeting

The Board voted unanimously to approve the meeting minutes from the October 26, 2016 Board Meeting

Agenda Item 3: Approval of the transfer of the observance of Veterans Day to Tuesday, January 3, 2017

The board voted unanimously to approve the transfer of the observance of Veterans Day to Tuesday, January 3, 2017.

Agenda Item 4: Approval of the Voter Information Guide for the December 6, 2016 East Cleveland Recall Election

Director McDonald said that the Voter Information Guide would be mailed before Thanksgiving.

The Board voted to unanimously to approve the Voter Information Guide for the December 6, 2016 East Cleveland Recall Election.

Agenda Item 5: Determination of the validity of provisional ballots and authorization to count provisional ballots from the November 8, 2016 Presidential General Election

Registration Department Assistant Manager Tony Kaloger said the Registration Department received 19,396 provisional ballots from the 2016 Presidential Election. 3,089 were voted in house. Of the ballots, 16,160 were found to meet the requirements for opening.

Chairwoman Chappell asked how many voters were purged. Director McDonald said that 147,000 voters have been purged since 2011, and only 626 of those purged voted in this election.

Assistant Manager Kaloger said 3,236 provisional ballots are being recommended not to be opened for the following reasons. 1,660 were not registered, 7 had no printed name, 27 had a missing date of birth, 83 had missing addresses, 47 voted in the wrong county, 93 had no signature, 10 had a non-matching signature, 46 had no ballot in the envelope, 170 voted absentee, and 754 voted in the wrong precinct and wrong location.

Chairwoman Chappell asked if staff was supposed to report any instances of potential voter fraud to the Secretary of State. Director McDonald stated that staff will investigate any instances and then present those instances to the Board. The Board will then decide on what to do.

Assistant Manager Kaloger then went over the Reason for Voting Provisional pie chart. Board member Frost asked by there is a discrepancy between the total numbers in the Validation Summary and the pie chart. Manager Edwards left to find the answer. Assistant Manager Kaloger said that 1,059 voted provisional because the acknowledgement was returned, 7,191 voted provisionally due to an address change, 5,182 voted provisionally because they requested an absentee ballot, 1,876 voted provisionally because they moved into Cuyahoga County, 494 voted provisionally due to a name change, 1,660 voted provisionally because they were not registered, 217 voted in the wrong location, and 1,718 fell into an "Other" category.

Direct McDonald said that in 2012 there were 31,848 provisional ballots compared to the 19,296 this year. He said he gives credit to the Secretary of State for cleaning up the rosters. He said that without the

purge it would have caused issues with the amount of ballots needed to be ordered, reprecincting, and keeping the voter rolls clean.

Chairwoman Chappell said that it is important for people to come back and vote, but is happy that there is a balance. She said that everyone should be allowed to cast a ballot, but reiterated that she is glad that a balance was struck.

Deputy Director Tony Perlatti suggested that staff should partner more with the DMV to catch some of the voters moving and update their information that way.

Assistant Manager Kaloger said that the pie chart had an error in that there was one provisional ballot added. The correct number is the number on the provisional validation summary sheet which is 19,396.

Chairman Frost asked if the Registration Department could better specify the reasons that voters voted provisionally in the "Other" category. He prefers not to have a catch all category that includes both validated and rejected provisional.

The Board voted unanimously to determine the validity of provisional ballots and authorization to count provisional ballots from the November 8, 2016 Presidential General Election.

Agenda Item 6: Authorization to pay: 7 Polling Location Coordinators at \$200 totaling \$1,400; 15 Voting Location Managers at \$182.10 totaling \$2,731.50; 52 Precinct Election Officials at \$172.10 totaling \$9,949.20 [sic]; and 7 standby workers at \$50 totaling \$350.00 for the December 6, 2016 East Cleveland Recall Election.

Chairwoman Chappell asked if there was anything they needed to know about the East Cleveland Election. Director McDonald said that it will happen and there could be another recall election in the near future as well. Board Member Wondolowski asked if there could be a scenario where East Cleveland would not be able to pay for an election. Board Member Frost said that since a recall election costs about \$10,000, the payment of elections are taken from their property taxes, and their property tax revenue is in the millions it is unlikely that they would ever be unable to pay for an election.

The Board voted unanimously to approve payment for seven (7) Polling Location Coordinators at \$200 totaling \$1,400; 15 Voting Location Managers at \$182.10 totaling \$2,731.50; 52 Precinct Election Officials at \$172.10 totaling \$9,949.20 [sic]; and seven (7) standby workers at \$50 totaling \$350.00 for the December 6, 2016 East Cleveland Recall Election.

Director McDonald said that he received a call from Councilman Mays that he was upset because there will be no East Cleveland poll workers utilized for the East Cleveland election. Director McDonald said that staff decided that to avoid the appearance of impropriety.

Agenda Item 7: Acknowledgement of Candidate Resignations and Appointments

Chairwoman Chappell, and Board Members Wondolowski and Frost voted to acknowledge the Candidate Resignations and Appointments.

Agenda Item 8: Allocation of voting booths for December 6th, 2016 Recall Election. Allocation quantities are based on 1 voting booth for every 175 registered voters per polling location. A total of 75 voting booths will be allocated + 16 DS200 precinct scanners and 7 ADA AutoMark voting units

The Board voted unanimously to approve the allocation of voting booths for December 6th, 2016 Recall Election.

Agenda Item 9: Personnel Agenda

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

Board Member Wondolowski asked what the protocol is for the deadline of campaign finance reports. He said that he received a complaint from someone who said he was referred to the Secretary of State because his report arrived after the morning mail pickup and was determined to be late. Director McDonald said that he will look into the incident but would allow flexibility in a situation like that.

Director McDonald said that staff will be opening all authorized provisional envelopes today. Once all authorized envelopes are opened, then ballots will be remade and the ballots scanned.

Board Member Hastings excused himself from the Board Meeting at about 9:50am

Public Comment:

Adele Eisner said she also appreciates Linda's hard work. She said that she saw some poll workers ask observers about voting procedures. She said that she thinks observers added a lot of value to the process. She also said that she doesn't believe that the expedited canvass is in compliance with Ohio law. She doesn't think that the secretary of state has the proper authority.

Director McDonald said that staff has talked about it and it was determined that the Secretary of State does have that authority

Eisner said that the parking signs could be confusing and not helpful. She also said that the entire Absentee Department did a stunningly brilliant job with early voting.

Chairwoman Chappell, and Board Members Wondolowski and Frost voted to recess at 10:01am.

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 19th, 2016.

Inajo Davis Chappell, Chairwoman

Inajo B. Chappell
RHS

Robert S. Frost, Member

Jeff Hastings, Member

David J. Wondolowski, Member

David J. Wondolowski
Pat McDonald

Pat McDonald, Director