



**Board Meeting
8-20-2018**

Attending:

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

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

The Board Meeting began via roll call at 9:30 a.m.

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

Agenda Item 1: Approval of minutes from the July 17, 2018 Board Meeting

The Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the July 17, 2018 Board Meeting.

Agenda Item 2: Acknowledgement of the following Secretary of State Directives

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

- Directive 2018-23: Examination of Verification of Nominating Petitions from Statewide Candidates of Newly Formed Minor Political Parties
- Directive 2018-24: Mandatory Training for Precinct Election Officials
- Directive 2018-27: Instructions Regarding the Review, Examination, and Verification of the Supplementary Part-Petitions Proposing a Constitutional Amendment

Agenda Item 3: Complaint against Timothy Austin, East Cleveland Councilman-at-Large

The transcript of proceedings from the complaint is incorporated by reference into the minutes and are available for review upon request.

Board Member Frost moved to dismiss the complaint against Timothy Austin.

Board Member Wondolowski seconded the motion.

The Board voted unanimously to dismiss the complaint against Timothy Austin.

Agenda Item 4: Acknowledgement of the May 8, 2018 Primary Post-Election Audit

Ballot Assistant Manager Jason Culek stated that on June 19, 2018 staff conducted a Risk-Limiting Post-Election Audit for the May 2018 Primary Election. There were 210,582 total ballots cast in the election. A hand count was conducted of 2,029 ballots cast in the audited contest. The accuracy rate for the post-election audit was 100%.

The Board voted unanimously to acknowledge the May 8, 2018 Primary Post-Election Audit.

Agenda Item 5: Certification of Candidates for the November 6, 2018 General Election

The Board voted unanimously to certify the candidates for the November 6, 2018 General Election as listed.

Agenda Item 6: Certification of Issues for the November 6, 2018 General Election

The Board voted unanimously to certify the issues for the November 6, 2018 General Election except the Parma City School District proposed tax levy, and the proposed tax levy for the City of Parma on which Board Member Hastings recused himself from voting.

Chairwoman Chappell and Board Members Frost and Wondolowski voted to certify the Parma City School District proposed tax levy and the proposed tax levy for the City of Parma to the November 6, 2018 General Election.

Agenda Item 7: Acknowledgement of Appointments, Resignations, and Withdrawals

The Board voted unanimously to acknowledge the appointments, resignations, and withdrawals as listed.

Agenda Item 8: Approval of Personnel Agenda

Business Administrator Sean Webster stated that staff would like to move the observance of Columbus Day to Wednesday, December 26, 2018 in order to properly prepare for the General Election.

Board Member Hastings stated that Director McDonald sent an email to the board explaining all the personnel recommendations.

The Board voted unanimously to approve the Personnel Agenda as listed.

Agenda Item 9: Approval of Vouchers

The Board voted unanimously to approve the vouchers as listed.

Agenda Item 10: Purchase Award Recommendation for Voter Information Guide

The Board voted unanimously to approve the purchase award recommendation for the printing of the Voter Information Guides to New Channel Direct.

Agenda Item 11: Budget Review of the May 8, 2018 Primary Election

Mr. Webster stated that the final cost for the May 8, 2018 Primary Election is \$2.3 million. This is 11 percent less than actual expenditures for the last gubernatorial primary election in 2014, resulting in a savings of over \$280,000. The budget categories with the most savings were ballot printing and poll workers, both of which were in large part due to the implementation of electronic pollbooks. By allowing the poll workers to access real-time information at the voting locations and making it easier and quicker

to check in voters, these devices significantly reduced the quantity of ballots and poll workers needed on Election Day. Expenditures for both the postage and printed materials budget categories decreased compared to 2014.

Over 2,600 voters responded to the online voter survey for the May 8, 2018 Primary Election. Approximately 93% of respondents reported a “Good” or “Very Good” voting experience for this election, including 98% of respondents who voted by mail, 89% of respondents who voted early at the Board of Elections, and 85% of respondents who voted on Election Day.

New Business:

Election Update and Miscellaneous Matters

Director McDonald acknowledged a complaint by Rev. Pinkney-Butts. She stated in her complaint that Board staff intentionally did not put her name on the ballot. Security camera footage shows that Rev. Pinkney-Butts did not actually file her petitions. This has been explained to Rev. Pinkney-Butts several times before both orally and via email.

Chairwoman Chappell asked attorney Brendan Doyle what abilities the Board of Elections has if a prospective candidate misses a filing deadline.

Attorney Doyle responded that there is no statutory vehicle by which a prospective candidate can appeal a missed deadline.

Director McDonald also stated that voter turnout for the Gubernatorial election should be 45 percent. These numbers are based off current registered voters, voter interest, and historical trends. Some important dates are August 27th, the write-in deadline, August 28th, the last day a candidate can withdraw without his name appearing on the ballot, September 4th, when the election is to be imported, September 7th, the charter filing deadline, September 22nd, when UOCAVA opens, and October 9th, the date when registration closes.

Chairwoman Chappell acknowledged the mandamus action against the City of Solon, the Board of Elections, et al. filed by Solon residents Mark A. Harris et al.

Director McDonald stated that there will be a job fair at the main building on August 21, 2018, the goal of which is to hire around 60 temporary workers for the General Election.

Director McDonald mentioned that staff is looking into an inexpensive GPS system to track vans on election night.

He also stated that the Board had their team building retreat. It received a lot of positive feedback. There was a civics information session, a team building exercise, a town hall forum, and a scavenger hunt.

Public Comment:

Juanita Gowdy

Ms. Gowdy spoke about the complaint heard before the Board at this meeting.

Justyn Anderson

Mr. Anderson spoke about the complaint heard before the Board at this meeting.

Dr. Patricia Blochowiak

Dr. Blochowiak spoke about the complaint heard before the Board at this meeting.

Rev. Pamela M. Pinkney-Butts

Rev. Pinkney-Butts spoke about her civil rights in regards to her desired candidacy.

Mariah Crenshaw

Ms. Crenshaw spoke about the complaint heard before the Board at this meeting.

The Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 10:47 a.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 August 20, 2018.

Inajo Davis Chappell, Chairwoman

Inajo D. Chappell

Robert S. Frost, Member

Robert S. Frost

Jeff Hastings, Member

Jeff Hastings

David J. Wondolowski, Member

David J. Wondolowski

Pat McDonald, Director

Pat McDonald