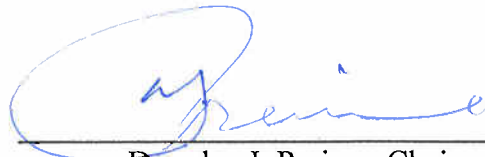


FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
280 EAST BROAD STREET
COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215
(614) 462-3100

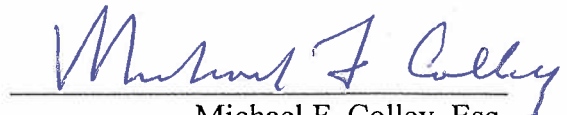
MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON
10/13/11

APPROVED ON 11/7/11

BY:



Douglas J. Preisse, Chairman



Michael F. Colley, Esq.

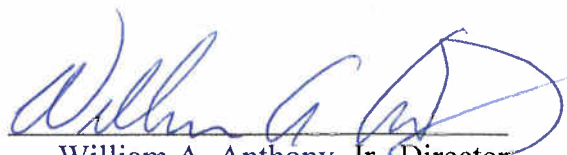


Kimberly E. Marinello



Zachary Manifold

ATTEST:



William A. Anthony, Jr., Director

BEFORE THE
FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

- - - - -

In Re: :

Special Meeting :

:

- - - - -

Proceedings before Chairman Douglas J. Preisse,
Board Members Michael F. Colley, Zachary E. Manifold,
and Kimberly E. Marinello, with Director William A.
Anthony, Jr. and Deputy Director Nathan Burd, taken
at Franklin County Board of Elections, 280 East Broad
Street, Columbus, Ohio on Thursday, October 13, 2011,
at 3:07 o'clock p.m.

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ATTENDEES

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Ms. Suzanne Brown, Executive Assistant,
Franklin County Board of Elections

Mr. Ben Piscitelli, Media Relations,
Franklin County Board of Elections

Ms. Melanie Cheng, John Glenn School of Public Affairs

Pastor Dale B. Snyder, Bethel AME Church

Ms. Mary Wood

AGENDA

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P R O C E E D I N G S

- - - - -

DIRECTOR ANTHONY: I'd like to call the Franklin County Board of Elections meeting to order. I'll do a roll call.

Kim Marinello?

MS. MARINELLO: Here.

DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Zachary Manifold?

MR. MANIFOLD: Here.

DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Douglas Preisse?

CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Here.

DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Michael Colley?

MR. COLLEY: Here.

DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All are accounted for, sir.

The first item on the agenda: Probably several years ago, when Matt Damschroder was sitting over where Nathan is sitting, we had met with some representatives from the Glenn School, talking about potentially getting some interns from the Glenn School to come in and assist on trying to find out ways to excite the young voters and participate in our electoral process.

1 And we bumped it around; talked to Glenn
2 School; went out there and visited. And a couple of
3 years later we finally have an agreement with the
4 Glenn School to get two interns; one a democrat and
5 one a republican.

6 And their purpose will be -- they will be
7 working while they're at the Glenn School. Glenn
8 School will pay for it all. Similar situation that
9 the County Commissioners have with the Glenn School.
10 And they will work on that project on what we could
11 do, what the board could do, to try to motivate and
12 activate young voters.

13 And to that end, we need to do a Memorandum
14 of Agreement between us and the Glenn School. We got
15 the funding for it. Like I said, we've been working
16 on this for about two years, so we finally got
17 everything in place.

18 We have -- we've selected the students
19 already from the Glenn School. They're both, I
20 believe, graduate students. And one is here now, the
21 democratic one. Her name is Melanie Cheng.

22 Melanie, can you stand up and let them see
23 you?

24 MS. CHENG: Hi.

1 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: That's Melanie Cheng.
2 She'll be the democratic representative, or intern,
3 from the Glenn School. Patrick Manley will be the
4 republican.

5 And from what Melanie has told me, her and
6 Patrick have worked together or collaborated on some
7 projects in the past, or just school.

8 MS. CHENG: I mean, school projects,
9 friends. We're going through the same program
10 together, so we know each other pretty well.

11 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: So are there any
12 questions? Did I kind of go through it enough?

13 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: I think you can tell
14 by their resumes they're both exceptional students and
15 they have been involved in a lot of good things.

16 Just to highlight a few things in the
17 memorandum. They are subject to our personnel
18 policies in our handbook. We won't have any issues.
19 But if we did have issues, we would have the ability
20 to dismiss them. We're not planning to do that
21 obviously, but they will be treated as regular
22 employees; although, they will be here on a limited
23 schedule.

24 But we've been working with Kate from the

1 Glenn School. I feel pretty good about it, and
2 anxious to finally get the point where we can bring
3 them on board.

4 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Yeah.

5 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Has our counsel looked at
6 this?

7 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: At this agreement? I
8 don't believe so. Nick, no. We can send it to him
9 though.

10 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: If I may say, this is a
11 boilerplate agreement, similar to the one that they
12 entered into with the County Commissioners as well.

13 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: Yeah. The Glenn
14 School does this with other -- with multiple agencies
15 in county and state government.

16 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Okay. Could we -- I
17 wonder if we could just say it's subject to --

18 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: Yeah. Absolutely.

19 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: -- if they take a look at
20 it.

21 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Okay.

22 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: I'm sure it's fine.
23 Particularly if it's from them, it's quite reputable.
24 I guess I'd like to run it by, since we're --

1 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Okay. We can certainly
2 do that. So then a motion would have to reflect that
3 then.

4 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Yeah, just to --

5 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: Pending review from
6 the Prosecutor's Office?

7 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Yeah.

8 MR. MANIFOLD: Any other questions?

9 (No audible response.)

10 MR. MANIFOLD: Mr. Chairman, I move that the
11 board approve the Memorandum of Agreement with the
12 John Glenn School of Public Affairs and authorize the
13 Director and Deputy Director to appoint two graduate
14 school interns, Melanie Cheng and Patrick Manley, for
15 employment of the board under the terms specified in
16 the agreement, subject to the Prosecutor's Office
17 approval.

18 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Is there a second for
19 that motion?

20 MR. COLLEY: Mr. Chairman, I second the
21 motion.

22 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All those in favor say
23 aye.

24 THE BOARD: Aye.

1 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All right. That motion
2 carries.

3 You want to -- I'm not going to put you on
4 the spot. I took her on a tour around the facility
5 yesterday and gave her so much information she just
6 couldn't wait to get out.

7 Looking forward to working with both of
8 them, and I know we'll get some great stuff that we
9 could use to figure out how to motivate our younger
10 voters.

11 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: We'll welcome you on
12 board --

13 MS. CHENG: Thank you.

14 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: -- and excited to see you
15 around and work with you. Exciting time to be here.

16 MR. COLLEY: Where is Patrick Manley?

17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: He was unable to come
18 today. He has a class. He'll be here 20 hours a
19 week, but he couldn't be here today. I did speak to
20 him this morning on the phone, though, just to make
21 sure he's still interested.

22 MR. COLLEY: He exists?

23 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: He exists. He's a
24 real person. Yep. Yep. He does exist.

1 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: He's not what they used
2 to call a phantom employee?

3 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: No. No. He was
4 unable to be here today, but he will be here when his
5 schedule allows, 20 hours a week.

6 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Excellent.

7 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: The next item on the
8 agenda is to extend the hours for in person absentee
9 or early voting. And as I can see in the audience, I
10 believe we probably have some folks that want to get
11 up and talk about it, Mr. Chairman.

12 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Yes. We understand that
13 there are some folks that are here that would like to
14 speak to the issue. I'm not sure how many. Maybe, as
15 it relates to the allocation of time, we can see a
16 show of hands of how many of you wish to address the
17 board today.

18 Just one? Well, then you can have a lot of
19 time. Sir, we had thought we might have many, and we
20 were going to, in the interest of everyone having a
21 chance to speak, suggest some limitations. But as it
22 is, and I can see from here, if those are your talking
23 points, they're not very long. So we'll welcome you
24 to make your remarks and comments you may wish, and

1 ask you to state your name for the record at the
2 beginning.

3 PASTOR SNYDER: I'm Pastor Dale Snyder,
4 pastor of Bethel AME Church, 2021 Cleveland Avenue.

5 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Thank you, sir.

6 PASTOR SNYDER: And I would ask that the
7 board would take under consideration the fact that the
8 vote by mail application is not being mailed out to
9 all the residents in Franklin County; therefore, they
10 will not have their opportunity to early vote as they
11 once had.

12 And I don't know how much notification,
13 either by television or radio, have been made to the
14 residents of Franklin County; therefore, I'm asking
15 for some consideration for extended hours, not only
16 for now, but also in the 2012 election, since Senate
17 Bill 194 has been put in abeyance.

18 And I know that there is some consideration
19 for Saturday hours, but maybe one Sunday towards the
20 close of the election would help a lot of
21 congregations get their members out. And especially
22 the seniors who are not aware of this new change of
23 not receiving the application at home, it will give
24 them enough opportunity -- realize it's not coming in

1 the mail.

2 And we have a lot of things on television,
3 the pros and cons about what's happening with this
4 upcoming critical election, especially with Senate
5 Bill 5, Issue 2. And I think that Franklin County,
6 because of this change, residents need to be made
7 aware and have time to respond.

8 My church is a senior church, and a majority
9 of my members are usually vote by mail, and we want to
10 have some applications and work with them. But I
11 don't think the majority of the residents of Franklin
12 County are aware that they will not be receiving that
13 notification in the mail, so I'm asking you to extend
14 some hours for that consideration.

15 That's all I have for right now. Thank you.

16 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Okay. Thanks.

17 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Any questions for him?

18 PASTOR SNYDER: Any questions for me?

19 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Yeah.

20 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Members of the board, any
21 comments or questions?

22 (No audible response.)

23 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Okay. Duly noted and
24 heard. Thank you, sir.

1 We will -- I would note that, as you ask the
2 question, that we can answer the question: How much
3 money has been spent on television, radio, and print
4 advertising?

5 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: 330,000.

6 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: \$330,000, which is a
7 significant expenditure, on television, cable, radio,
8 as well as newspapers, both the big daily and some of
9 the community newspapers. So we hope the word has
10 gotten out.

11 I think that's the most significant
12 expenditure that we have engaged in, certainly in an
13 odd year election, in communicating to the public the
14 changes.

15 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: That's right. I mean,
16 they started running October the -- Monday, October
17 the 3rd, so we've been running on major networks, some
18 cable TV. And the ad goes something like this:
19 Sometimes I don't have -- the time flies by, and I
20 just don't have time to vote, and I miss voting. But
21 now I can request an absentee ballot by mail.

22 And then it gives our web page that you can
23 go to. And you can go to our web pages and click on
24 "I would like to receive an absentee application," and

1 one will be sent out within two days. Actually, the
2 next day. So the ad talks about that, and it gives
3 our phone number.

4 Next week or the week after next, we start
5 running ads -- two weeks out, we start running ads
6 about ID requirements, telling folks what they will
7 need at the polls. And if we approve hours, extended
8 hours, that would be included in the advertisement for
9 what we call our voter ID ads. That will be coming
10 out, so we'll have it promptly displayed on our web
11 page as well.

12 So I think we're doing as much as we can to
13 get the word out. Plus we have applications in all
14 the libraries and other places that we're allowed to
15 have them. I forget all of the places now, but we go
16 through and make sure that we have applications out
17 there.

18 PASTOR SNYDER: I've seen the ad, but the ad
19 doesn't say you will not receive your normal request.
20 So if I'm used to receiving my normal request, I'm
21 going to tune out the ad. There's no need for me to
22 pay close attention, because it doesn't say you're not
23 going to receive your normal notification in the mail.
24 If we can add that maybe in some of your future ads or

1 communication, that would help them to realize that
2 it's not coming in the mail. So I'm just speaking for
3 the seniors.

4 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: We also send folks to
5 senior centers, and we start that at the start of
6 early vote. We make an attempt to notify every senior
7 center to make sure that we get the vote out to senior
8 centers.

9 We've gotten so far in -- and it is not as
10 much as it would have been if we had been allowed to
11 aggressively mail out the application, but we've
12 gotten in over --

13 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: 32,000 by now.

14 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Yeah. We've got 32,000
15 requests in already.

16 PASTOR SNYDER: Okay.

17 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: And, you know, that's
18 not -- we would have got a whole lot more, had we done
19 the proactive mail piece. But since we're not allowed
20 to, we're going -- about as best as we could do.
21 Certainly encourage all the community groups out there
22 and everybody to remind folks that you have to request
23 it, because we cannot do that now.

24 MR. MANIFOLD: I would add that -- I would

1 just reiterate, I think I've been impressed with the
2 amount of both returns of absentee applications for
3 not having sent out a proactive piece, but also even
4 in person vote.

5 I think the in person voting numbers this
6 week, that I have received, have been strong. I think
7 they're stronger than -- they have actually been
8 larger than the gubernatorial election last year,
9 which I think is a pretty impressive fete.

10 I think a little bit of that is probably
11 because we weren't able to send out that proactive
12 request, but I think absentee voting in person has
13 been very strong to this point, and hopefully we can
14 add some extended hours.

15 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: Just to follow up on
16 that. As of a few hours ago, we had 1,091 people come
17 in since last Tuesday to vote by now. Yesterday was
18 our lowest day, with 83. Our biggest day was the day
19 before, with 258. That was the day we stayed open
20 until nine o'clock to allow people to register, and
21 they could come over to the other side of the building
22 and vote. So that was our biggest day. So we've been
23 seeing around 150 on average, 140 on average a day.

24 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: We also -- just so

1 everybody kind of knows. We received a correspondence
2 or email from the Secretary of State's office advising
3 us that House Bill 224 had a provision in it that
4 basically says that -- requires that in person
5 absentee voting end at six o'clock the last Friday.
6 So that's a part of 224 which was not -- so it wasn't
7 stayed by 194.

8 And it's our understanding that even if
9 boards have voted for Saturday hours, that last
10 Saturday, November the 5th, or Sunday, November the
11 6th, or Monday -- as we have approved by this board,
12 Monday voting, November the 7th, that we are probably
13 going to get a directive from the SOS stating that we
14 cannot be open those hours, that voting will actually
15 stop -- in person voting will actually end at six
16 o'clock p.m. on Friday before the election. So we've
17 got to keep that in mind too.

18 MS. WOOD: So I didn't say I wanted to speak
19 earlier.

20 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Well, you have to come --

21 MS. WOOD: And I'm not going to speak very
22 long, so I won't even bother to come up there, because
23 I know you can all hear me.

24 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Well, you've got to give

1 us your name. Your name?

2 THE COURT REPORTER: You have to identify
3 yourself.

4 MS. WOOD: My name is Mary Wood. I'm an
5 elector in this county. Do you need my address or
6 anything else? I voted last Tuesday.

7 So all of us acknowledging, as a state
8 legislature have decided, that no one can vote after
9 six o'clock on the Friday before the election. And
10 looking at the number of people that have voted in
11 person the last weekend in the election, this gives
12 vote to board an opportunity to make sure that the
13 people in this county, when we probably have over
14 150,000 people, and I don't know how many people we
15 had sign saying we thought people should have the
16 opportunity to vote absentee, that you now have the
17 opportunity to make sure that people have that
18 opportunity, that so many people signed the petition
19 asking that we have absentee voting.

20 And that's all I have to say. And if you
21 vote no to Saturdays and Sundays, I would like to know
22 why you're voting against it.

23 MR. MANIFOLD: And I would add, just for
24 some more information -- I don't know if all the board

1 members know this -- but I was reading the Plain
2 Dealer this morning, and they met -- the Cuyahoga
3 County Board met yesterday, and they approved Saturday
4 and Sunday voting the second and third week out. They
5 did not do the final weekend, and they cited House
6 Bill 224 as the reason why they couldn't be open the
7 final weekend. And I know that's still under
8 discussion. Maybe the SOS will be sending something.

9 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: I called the legal
10 counsel at the SOS, because we were hearing from
11 different counties that they were being told this, and
12 they confirmed for me that they were working on a
13 directive that will come down this week, basically the
14 only day is tomorrow since we haven't gotten it yet,
15 that will advise us of that.

16 We were not aware of that prior to this;
17 that's why we voted to be open eight to six that last
18 Monday. And so I got a correspondence from her
19 confirming what she had told me verbally, and I think
20 that we are to expect something to come in tomorrow
21 that's going to set that as the policy for the whole
22 state.

23 Again, it's not anything we've done. It
24 becomes law October 27th.

1 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Right.

2 MR. MANIFOLD: And I think this board should
3 be proud that we are open until 6 p.m. every night,
4 Monday through Friday. I don't think any other boards
5 around the state --

6 MS. MARINELLO: Nobody else is open.

7 MR. MANIFOLD: -- are staying late every
8 night. I think Cuyahoga closes at 4:30. Most of them
9 are closing a little earlier.

10 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Four, I think.

11 MR. MANIFOLD: So I think we should be proud
12 of that. But I would hope that we could match our
13 Cuyahoga County counterparts, since we're similar in
14 size, you know, to approve Saturday and Sunday voting
15 that second and third week out.

16 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: You know, I'd like to
17 address one of your statements, Ms. Wood. Our
18 personal belief -- and we do understand that all the
19 folks worked hard to pass out the 194 and sign the
20 petitions to repeal 194, but we are under the -- by
21 law, if the SOS gives us a directive, we do not have
22 the luxury of denying not to follow it; because what
23 the director -- what the SOS could do is just remove
24 us, remove the entire board, including Nathan and I,

1 if we do not follow a directive.

2 So even if we disagree with a directive, we
3 are forced by law to follow the directive that the SOS
4 sends -- hands down to us, which we intend to do. I
5 mean, we do not intend to go against any directive.
6 And I've followed a lot of them, even under -- I mean,
7 I followed a lot of directives that I personally had
8 some issues with. But because it's law, I followed
9 it.

10 MS. WOOD: I'm not calling on you to break
11 the law or not to follow a directive -- I've read a
12 lot of the directives from the Secretary of State's
13 offices -- but you can extend hours before that.

14 And I have looked at some of the other board
15 of elections websites, and I know that even Butler
16 County is voting until 7:30 at night. Six o'clock at
17 night does not allow people to drive here after work
18 to vote. It's not enough time to get into downtown if
19 you work somewhere else and be here to vote by six
20 o'clock.

21 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: What does "even Butler
22 County" mean?

23 MS. WOOD: What does "even Butler --" it's a
24 rural county, is what I'm talking about. This is an

1 urban county that has a lot more counties -- has a lot
2 more voters than a rural county, and they are trying
3 to accommodate their voters by staying late until 7:30
4 many evenings before election day.

5 MR. MANIFOLD: I think what we have seen
6 this week -- this doesn't have it.

7 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: Yeah. I'm not sure
8 what you're asking.

9 MR. MANIFOLD: The one thing that I did see
10 with the early voting so far --

11 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: Oh, are you talking
12 about this with the hours of the day on it?

13 MR. MANIFOLD: -- is that I'm glad we're
14 open until six, but we haven't seen some sort of --

15 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: As of yesterday, and
16 this doesn't include today yet, we've had a total of
17 about 50 people vote in extended hours, but that also
18 includes that to nine on Tuesday.

19 MR. MANIFOLD: Just so people know, Tuesday
20 was that extra hour. I think it's a good thing that
21 our board is open and we provide our service, but it
22 just hasn't -- to extend beyond six, you know, we have
23 three people, nine people, three people, seven --

24 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Between five and six.

1 MR. MANIFOLD: Yeah. So, I mean, I think
2 it's a good service that we have. I don't think we've
3 seen a huge -- anything past six, we haven't seen a
4 huge turn out.

5 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: All right.

6 MR. MANIFOLD: But I would say it's
7 unfortunate. If 224 does remove the final weekend of
8 voting, I think that's unfortunate. Because I do
9 think, if you look at the years past, it really has
10 been the strongest. The public wants that last
11 weekend. We've had really good turnout that last
12 weekend. I mean, up to a couple thousand people each
13 day. So, you know, I think the citizens do like that.
14 I think it's unfortunate if 224 does take that away,
15 but unfortunately, it is the law. I think it would
16 take -- it takes effect October 27th.

17 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: October 27th it takes
18 affect.

19 MR. MANIFOLD: So that's what we have to
20 work with then, I guess.

21 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Yes, sir.

22 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: That is my opinion as
23 well.

24 MR. MANIFOLD: And we could always -- if a

1 directive doesn't come down, there's still how many
2 weeks left?

3 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: Twenty-six days
4 away -- I think twenty-six.

5 MR. MANIFOLD: Yeah. So we've still got
6 over three weeks, so there's always still that option
7 of having a meeting about the final weekend.

8 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Any more discussion,
9 Mr. Chairman?

10 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Not at the moment, but
11 there's likely to be a little bit more before we
12 adjourn.

13 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All right.

14 MR. MANIFOLD: Mr. Chairman, I make the
15 motion that we extend in person voting hours to
16 Saturday, October 22nd, 2011 from eight to noon and
17 Saturday, October 29th, 2011 from eight to noon.

18 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Is there a second for
19 that motion?

20 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: I'll second it.

21 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All right. All those in
22 favor say aye.

23 THE BOARD: Aye.

24 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Okay. Are there any

1 other motions?

2 MS. MARINELLO: Mr. Chairman, I make a
3 motion to extend in person absentee voting hours on
4 Friday, October 28th, 2011 from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.

5 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Is there a second for
6 that?

7 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Second.

8 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All those in favor say
9 aye.

10 THE BOARD: Aye.

11 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Motion carries.

12 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: And that was Friday
13 the 28th of October?

14 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Yes.

15 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: So that would be --

16 MR. MANIFOLD: Wait. Wait. The 6 p.m. is
17 the --

18 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: Well, but that's not
19 the last Friday, so that's what I was checking on.

20 MR. MANIFOLD: Oh, okay.

21 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: It's not the last Friday.

22 MR. MANIFOLD: Okay. Thank you.

23 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: Yeah. And so that
24 will be the Friday before the last Friday, which we're

1 still able to be open late on.

2 MR. MANIFOLD: Thank you.

3 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Yes, we're still able to
4 be open. That's the Friday before the 4th.

5 MS. MARINELLO: Mr. Chairman, I make a
6 motion to extend in person absentee voting hours for
7 Sunday October 23rd, 2011 from 8 to 5 p.m. -- I'm
8 sorry, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday,
9 October 30th, 2011 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

10 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Is there a second?

11 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: I'd like to have some
12 discussion on it at this point, if we can.

13 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All right.

14 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Because I want to reflect
15 on what our history has been and what some of our
16 sister counties are and are not doing, as far as we
17 know sitting here today.

18 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Okay.

19 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: We have, to my
20 recollection, and staff reminded me, we have never
21 been open on a Sunday in an odd numbered year in the
22 past; is that correct?

23 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: In '07 and '09,
24 correct.

1 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: In '07 and '09.

2 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: We weren't open in '07 --

3 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: Not a Sunday. It was
4 two Saturdays in '07 and one Saturday in '09.

5 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: And prior to that, I
6 don't --

7 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: No, we didn't have
8 this prior to that.

9 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: We didn't have this?

10 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: Right.

11 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: With the extension of
12 Saturday, October 22; Saturday, October 29; and
13 Friday, October 28, we are -- and the fact that we're
14 open -- that's an addition of how many hours?

15 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: That's nine extra
16 hours. That's four hours on two Saturdays and then --
17 oh, I'm sorry. No, it's more than that. It's four
18 hours on two Saturdays and three hours on Friday, so
19 it's an additional eleven hours.

20 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: And we're open until 6 on
21 weekdays.

22 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: Correct.

23 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: And this is after we've
24 seen some foot traffic, it shows a little higher

1 interest than, perhaps, some recent odd numbered
2 years, but nothing like a presidential year, which is
3 the years that things get really crazy. So I'm
4 questioning the deviation from what has been our norm,
5 one could say. And I certainly appreciate and am
6 well-aware of the changes from some years where we
7 send out -- have sent out applications, but that was
8 not a norm either every year.

9 PASTOR SNYDER: Yeah, but they all sent out,
10 over 3 million people --

11 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: I beg your pardon?

12 PASTOR SNYDER: Oh, I don't know if I can
13 speak or not.

14 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Sure.

15 PASTOR SNYDER: At one point, 3 million
16 people who have spoken, and you also have 319,000
17 people throughout the state who have spoken, that they
18 want to have the opportunity to speak again.

19 And because of 194, the normal -- even
20 though a lot of people -- you're doing the
21 commercials, the reason the churches want to have the
22 extended Sundays, so that we can get our parishioners
23 out to vote.

24 We want to be able to vote -- if they push

1 it back and the law goes in on the 6th, we want to be
2 able to get our parishioners out after Sunday on
3 service, drive them down to the post so they can
4 exercise their right.

5 The average -- I have a congregation of 175.
6 My average age is 65, and a lot of my people early
7 vote. A lot of the older congregations would love to
8 have the opportunity in Franklin County to extend that
9 right.

10 These are extenuating circumstances. These
11 are not normal off-years. The citizens want to have
12 an opportunity to speak. And I think it would show a
13 leadership in this county of offering the citizens the
14 same opportunity that Cuyahoga County is offering, and
15 you'll be taking the lead to make sure that democracy
16 is being exercised in its fullest extent.

17 You know, we're fighting all over the world
18 to extend voting rights in other countries, and here
19 in our own state we're limiting the opportunity for
20 people to vote. It's kind of contradictory when you
21 really look at it.

22 But what do we say to our children who are
23 looking at us and people are dying every day fighting
24 for other people's rights, and we're limiting people's

1 rights here.

2 So you have the opportunity to make and give
3 people the opportunity to exercise their right. If
4 they don't watch TV, if they don't listen to the
5 radio, if they don't belong to a church, and they find
6 out -- I think, you know, eight additional hours on a
7 Sunday or whatever it be will not, I don't think,
8 bankrupt Franklin County.

9 And we realize that 224 will kick into place
10 at some point. This will at least offer you those
11 opportunities. And if 224 doesn't kick in place, then
12 you still have the option to extend on that weekend
13 and maybe move those other two Sundays. But that's
14 what I would actually consider.

15 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: You know, when we look at
16 the stats, I think this year will probably be more
17 like a gubernatorial election. Because if you look at
18 our daily stats, we're getting about the same amount
19 of folks coming in and voting as we did in the 2010
20 cycle. And in that cycle, that last Saturday and
21 Sunday was pretty much our highest days of folks
22 coming in and voting.

23 So, I mean, if you can't agree, I think we
24 need to talk -- you guys need to talk, and if you

1 can't do two Sundays, at least consider at least the
2 30th, Sunday, the 30th. Because in 2010, we had well
3 over 500 people --

4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: 663 on October 31st,
5 2010.

6 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Right.

7 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: Of course we had no
8 Sundays to compare it to in '09 and '07, so there's no
9 comparison there.

10 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: But this cycle is -- I
11 think there's enough interest generated because of the
12 state issues, that at least -- I don't want to -- I
13 think we would do a disservice if we tie vote on this,
14 because it won't get handed down until probably after
15 two-eight.

16 But if the board could agree, maybe, on one
17 Sunday, I mean, that's something to kind of think
18 about. And make it that last Sunday -- not the last
19 Sunday, but the 30th, which would in essence be the
20 last Sunday. And then certainly if we can get some
21 commitments from the faith community that people will
22 show up.

23 PASTOR SNYDER: Yes.

24 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: And making the hours one

1 to four, it makes it easier for the faith community to
2 get the parishioners out here on a Sunday, so I think
3 that would be a good compromise. Something to, you
4 know, think about.

5 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: I do want to make the
6 comments for the record that with respect and
7 respectfully to the pastor, I disagree with some of
8 your comments about prohibiting -- I can't remember
9 the exact words, but the sense of your commentary was
10 denying and prohibiting people's right to vote.

11 Well, I reject that, because we are open
12 every weekday and we have just opened for two
13 Saturdays. We're open later than most boards. We've
14 spent over a quarter of a million dollars.

15 I wish we held perfect elections laws that
16 don't change every year. Considering myself an expert
17 in elections, I simply was not, until I got on this
18 board, and still am not. The laws change every year.

19 It's confusing. It's confusing to all of us
20 around the table and everyone in the room who has a
21 high level of sophistication. So I appreciate and
22 emphasize with the continued shifting sands.

23 Having said that, there is ample time and
24 opportunity for people of every stripe and walk of

1 life to find a way to vote, and, I would say, to find
2 a fairly convenient way to vote.

3 The Director has outlined some of the
4 outreach that we do at senior centers and elsewhere,
5 the many places in the community, the website, the
6 advertising, the libraries, the outreach, where
7 communication exists.

8 And I would also say, too, that what you are
9 asking us to do -- the big invisible elephant in the
10 room is not a republican elephant. It is the effort
11 to, in part, craft the public stance and policy of
12 this board to best convenience a political operation,
13 an electoral effort of a very select, very important,
14 very respected, very cherished part of our community,
15 but a very select part of the community.

16 And I just think it should be said that we
17 are engaged in politics in this room, as much as
18 policy right now, and everybody in the room knows it,
19 that isn't as naive as I'm certain no one in this room
20 is.

21 So I'm pleased and proud of the effort of
22 our professional staff on both sides of the aisle and
23 respectfully my colleagues on this board, and we have
24 once again begun to cooperate and extend hours beyond

1 what some of the sister boards have done around the
2 state.

3 I think that, having said that, I might ask
4 that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle,
5 whosoever may make the next motions, would separate --
6 would agree to withdraw and separate the two dates in
7 the form of two separate motions.

8 Or if that's not procedurally --

9 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: Well, procedurally
10 you can do that if you like; but if you're going to
11 separate the motions, I'm getting the sense that we
12 may end up with a tie. I'm wondering if you may want
13 to make one motion, as opposed to separating two
14 motions, based on how --

15 MS. MARINELLO: If we separate, maybe we
16 won't have a tie.

17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: Well, but there will
18 be two separate motions. Maybe I'm misreading the
19 conversation, but if you're going to make a motion for
20 October 23rd and have a vote, and then a motion for
21 October 30th and have a vote, that may not be what
22 you're looking to accomplish.

23 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: I think it is.

24 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: Okay.

1 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: I think.

2 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: If there's a two-two
3 vote on October 23rd, we'll be sending that to the
4 Secretary of State tomorrow.

5 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Well, how about why
6 don't -- may I suggest you withdraw the motion, and
7 then in reverse chronological order by date, make the
8 first motion and then decide whether you want to make
9 the second one or not.

10 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: That's what I was
11 trying to say. Thank you.

12 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Kimberly, you made the
13 motion.

14 MS. MARINELLO: Mr. Chairman, I withdraw my
15 previous motion.

16 MR. MANIFOLD: Can we still have a
17 discussion?

18 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Yes.

19 MR. MANIFOLD: I want to --

20 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: No. No. Go ahead.
21 I mean, is there a second -- we never
22 seconded her original motion.

23 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: That's true.

24 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: So it was never really

1 seconded. So it's not really a motion, because it was
2 never seconded. So we can still be in discussion,
3 because right now there's really no motion on the
4 floor, because it hasn't been moved and properly
5 seconded.

6 MS. MARINELLO: I thought you seconded it?

7 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: I think it might have --

8 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: No, it was not seconded.

9 MR. MANIFOLD: Nobody seconded it.

10 MS. MARINELLO: Okay.

11 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Yeah.

12 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: All right. Well, we've
13 heard her withdraw it, in the event that the record
14 subsequently shows that it was. I don't recall it.

15 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: This one hasn't been
16 seconded.

17 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: No, this one has not been
18 seconded.

19 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Okay.

20 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All right. So I don't
21 think we need to withdraw the motion, because it
22 wasn't properly seconded, so I think that we can
23 continue with discussion.

24 MR. MANIFOLD: And I appreciate the

1 Chairman's thoughts on early voting extended hours. I
2 do think it makes sense to match -- I think Cuyahoga
3 County is the closest comparison to what, you know,
4 our size here in Franklin County, and I think it does
5 make sense to be open the second and third Saturday
6 and Sunday.

7 I appreciate -- I have great respect for
8 this board, and I'm the newbie here, so I feel bad for
9 dinging you a little bit.

10 But I think the 2009, I think we saw, I
11 would say, a mistake -- it was a mistake not to do a
12 proactive absentee piece. This board didn't do one.
13 I think Cuyahoga County did; Hamilton County did.

14 The casinos passed. I think we didn't --
15 you know, Franklin County, we voted heavily against
16 it. There was a big blowup about how Franklin County
17 voted, and then the state voted the other way.

18 And I think -- I think we want to make sure
19 that -- as our board, we want to make sure that we're
20 promoting every chance for Franklin County voters to
21 have the most say in the state. I think that's what
22 our goal is as Franklin County Board of Elections.

23 I worry -- you know, I would like to see us
24 matching Cuyahoga County. You know, I don't want to

1 see something like 2009 where it gets the election day
2 and we have less voters in Franklin County than they
3 do; percentage-wise, we're way below where they are.

4 I think Sunday voting makes a lot of sense,
5 especially with the final weekend gone. And I just
6 think with us not doing the proactive absentee piece
7 this year, I think the cost is rather minimal. I
8 think Bill told me earlier this week it's \$400 an hour
9 that we're open.

10 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: About \$500.

11 MR. MANIFOLD: \$500?

12 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Yeah.

13 MR. MANIFOLD: So eight hours -- it's
14 \$4,000. I think \$4,000 isn't a whole lot of money to
15 this board to promote as much participation among
16 Franklin County citizens as we can get.

17 But like I said, I appreciate your opinion.
18 That's just my take.

19 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Any more discussion?

20 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: If I could. I would
21 just -- with what's happened today, we have more early
22 voting hours than Cuyahoga, so I would just put that
23 on the record. Now, we may have different days, but
24 we have more hours available than Cuyahoga has, with

1 the three motions that have been approved today.

2 MS. MARINELLO: Mr. Chairman, I would like
3 to move for the following hours for in person absentee
4 voting: Sunday, October 30th, 2011, hours 1 p.m.
5 to 5 p.m.

6 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Second?

7 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Second.

8 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Properly moved and
9 seconded. All those in favor say aye.

10 THE BOARD: Aye.

11 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Motion carries.

12 MS. MARINELLO: Mr. Chairman, I would like
13 to make the following motion for in person absentee
14 voting hours for Sunday, October 23rd, 2011, 1 p.m.
15 to 5 p.m.

16 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Is there a second for
17 that?

18 MR. COLLEY: Second.

19 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: We don't have a second.

20 MR. COLLEY: What?

21 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: We're not seconding. You
22 did, but I'm going to vote no.

23 MR. MANIFOLD: We have a second, so roll
24 call.

1 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: It's been properly moved
2 and seconded. We'll do a roll call vote on that one.

3 Kimberly Marinello?

4 MS. MARINELLO: Yes.

5 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Zachary Manifold?

6 MR. MANIFOLD: Yes.

7 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Douglas Preisse?

8 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: No.

9 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Michael Colley?

10 MR. COLLEY: No.

11 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: As a tie vote, according
12 to the policies and procedures, we will send a letter
13 up to the Secretary of State's office highlighting our
14 rationale for our votes and hopefully get a
15 determination quickly. So I would imagine -- I think
16 we need to get it up there as soon as we possibly can.

17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: We can do it
18 tomorrow. We should be able to do it tomorrow, I
19 think.

20 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Yeah, we can do it
21 tomorrow.

22 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: It's not too
23 complicated.

24 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All right.

1 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: Before we adjourn, I
2 just want to review what we have done. We're going to
3 be open until nine o'clock on Friday, October 28th.
4 We're going to be eight to noon on Saturday,
5 October 22nd and Saturday October 29th. We're going
6 to be open one to five Sunday, October 23rd. And we
7 will change --

8 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: No. No.

9 MS. MARINELLO: October 30th.

10 DEPUTY DIRECTOR BURD: I'm sorry about that.
11 So we'll reflect our ads from this point forward to
12 show that. We'll put that on our website tomorrow so
13 the people know, and we'll publicize this as best we
14 can.

15 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Is there anything else to
16 come before the board? Anything else?

17 (No audible response.)

18 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Is there a motion to
19 adjourn?

20 MS. MARINELLO: Mr. Chairman, I move to
21 adjourn.

22 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Is there a second?

23 MR. COLLEY: Second.

24 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All those in favor?

1 THE BOARD: Aye.

2 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: We stand adjourned.

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4 Thereupon, the proceedings were
5 concluded at 3:53 o'clock p.m.

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