


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

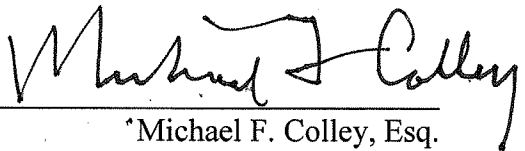
MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON

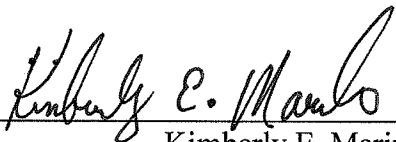
6/7/10

APPROVED ON 7/13/10

BY:


  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Douglas J. Preisse, Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael F. Colley, Esq.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kimberly E. Marinello

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zachary Manifold

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
William A. Anthony, Jr., Director

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FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO

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IN RE: :

Board Meeting :

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Proceedings before Chairman Douglas J. Preisse; Director William A. Anthony, Junior; Deputy Director Matt M. Damschroder; and Board Members Michael F. Colley, Zachary E. Manifold and Kimberly E. Marinello; taken at the Franklin County Board of Elections, 280 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio, on Tuesday, June 7, 2010, at 3:05 o'clock p.m.

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1 APPEARANCES:

2 Franklin County Board of Elections  
3 373 South High Street  
4 Thirteenth Floor  
5 Columbus, Ohio 43215  
6 By Mr. Anthony E. Palmer, Junior  
7 Franklin County Prosecuting  
8 Attorney's Office,

9 On behalf of the Department.

10

11 ALSO PRESENT:

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13 Ben Piscitelli, Media Relations

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15 Suzanne Brown, Executive Assistant

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17 Brenna Umbstaetter, Fiscal Officer

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P R O C E E D I N G S  
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CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Mr. Director and  
Mr. Deputy Director?

DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Are you all ready?

CHAIRMAN PREISSE: I think we're all  
here.

DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Then, sir, we'd like  
to call the Franklin County Board of Elections  
Meeting to order. Roll call.

Kim Marinello?

BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: Here.

DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Zack Manifold?

BOARD MEMBER MANIFOLD: Here.

DIRECTOR ANTHONY: New -- newly  
appointed Doug?

CHAIRMAN PREISSE: I'm here. Doug  
Preisse at present and accounted for.

DIRECTOR ANTHONY: And Michael Colley?

BOARD MEMBER COLLEY: Here.

DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Good morning,  
Michael -- or good afternoon, Michael.

All right. First item on the agenda,

1 sir, is the approval of minutes from the last  
2 meeting, May 18th and May 21st [sic] meeting.

3 BOARD MEMBER MANIFOLD: All right.

4 Mr. Chairman, I move that the minutes of the Board  
5 Meeting held on May 18th and -- Board Meetings held  
6 on May 18th and May 25th of this year be approved  
7 as submitted.

8 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Is there a second?

9 BOARD MEMBER COLLEY: Second.

10 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All those in favor?

11 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

12 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: The next one has to  
13 do with purchasing. And I'm not sure what --  
14 Matthew you want to give them --

15 DEPUTY DIRECTOR DAMSCHRODER: Yeah.

16 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: -- the detail on  
17 that?

18 DEPUTY DIRECTOR DAMSCHRODER: Every  
19 year we contract with Elections Systems and  
20 Software, our voting machine vendor, to provide  
21 service and support. That comes largely in the  
22 form of Dan Shebesta, who many of you know, who  
23 comes and helps us with -- set up of the database  
24 for each election, testing and programming the 650s

1 that the high-speed optical scanners for an  
2 absentee, and then providing election day support.

3 Dan provided a lot of service days to  
4 us this last spring because of the increased number  
5 of parties. That created a lot of internal  
6 problems for us to manage -- set up and manage the  
7 elections, so Dan has spent a lot of time here.

8 This represents the amount for the  
9 entire year. And, as always, if there are  
10 days/hours that we don't use, they rollover to the  
11 subsequent year. So it's our recommendation that  
12 we enact this contract with them covering this  
13 current fiscal year, including one of the days that  
14 Dan was already here.

15 BOARD MEMBER MANIFOLD: All right.  
16 Mr. Chairman, I move that the Board authorize the  
17 Director and Deputy Director to enter into a  
18 service and support agreement with Election Systems  
19 and Software for fiscal year 2010 in the amount of  
20 \$75,000.

21 BOARD MEMBER COLLEY: Second.

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

24 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

1                   DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Okay, that motion  
2 carries.

3                   The second -- the next item on the  
4 agenda is approving the submission for Election  
5 Management Consulting Services. We have to do a --  
6 for the national voter registration file, we have  
7 to get our names to coincide in there and somehow  
8 get them to merge. And I'm not doing it quite  
9 the -- the justice it deserves, but that system  
10 allows us to get information and share it with what  
11 the SOS has on file so we can get to it -- really  
12 and truly a national -- a national voter  
13 registration file system, and we need a consultant  
14 to help get our files so that we can move them over  
15 to the -- to the SOS Data System, and this guy's  
16 gonna do it -- I forgot the guy's name. He's gonna  
17 do it.

18                   UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Eddie Pronowski.

19                   DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Eddie Pronowski,  
20 yeah. We're not going to try -- try to do this  
21 in -- in-house. We're going to let him do it,  
22 because he has the expertise in the -- in our  
23 system, and he understands how to do all that. And  
24 this is probably quicker and easy -- easiest way

1 for us to get this done.

2 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: How long did  
3 he say it takes, if you know?

4 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: It's going to take  
5 at least a month.

6 DEPUTY DIRECTOR DAMSCHRODER: Yeah.  
7 I -- I think Eddie should -- if we get it started  
8 right away, can probably have it done by the end of  
9 July. The secretary has not yet -- she's given us  
10 the specifications for what needs to be upgraded,  
11 but she hasn't given us the -- the due date for  
12 when the specifications have to be implemented.  
13 Based on private conversations, or one on one  
14 conversations with David Ferrell, his expectation  
15 is that at -- right at or before conference is when  
16 they'll announce the due date. It will probably be  
17 an end of July, beginning of August deadline, so  
18 we -- we do need to get moving on this.

19 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: What kinds -- what  
20 kinds of things are we talking about that we --  
21 that we need to get done here for this?

22 DEPUTY DIRECTOR DAMSCHRODER: Carolyn  
23 Gorec could probably -- could -- could give a more  
24 detailed explanation of the technical side of it.



1           Basically, as -- as the Board Members  
2           may recall, in 2004 there was a federal lawsuit  
3           against the Secretary of State alleging that the  
4           secretary was not complying with the Help America  
5           Vote Act, because once she created the state-wide  
6           file of voters -- of registered voters, compared it  
7           with the Bureau of Motor Vehicles and Social  
8           Security Administration, that that created a list  
9           of mismatches. There were reportedly as many as  
10          227,000 across the entire state of people who were  
11          registered voters whose information, date of birth,  
12          social, driver's license, on file with their County  
13          Board of Elections didn't match, but BMV or Social  
14          Security Administration had.

15                 This upgrade that the Secretary of  
16          State is requiring will allow that process that  
17          hasn't been happening with getting information back  
18          to the Boards to happen in an automatic method, so  
19          it's -- it's basically in a -- in a technical term  
20          for more information, getting the -- the data  
21          packets up to the Secretary of State, the form that  
22          she's going to send to BMV, get back to -- to her  
23          from BMV and then sent back to us in useable  
24          fashion.

1                   BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: How did you  
2 find this guy?

3                   DEPUTY DIRECTOR DAMSCHRODER: Eddie  
4 used to work for Sequoia, which is the company that  
5 we bought the voter registration system from, and  
6 he's actually the individual who -- who created the  
7 system for Sequoia. So now that Sequoia no longer  
8 supports the system and we own the source code, we  
9 have a contract with him for general day-to-day  
10 support. Like he helped last week on the voter  
11 history upload for the Secretary of State from the  
12 May election.

13                   So having him as a resource to help  
14 us -- our plan is, as we've discussed before, is  
15 not that we own the source code to take two or  
16 three years working with Eddie so that we can learn  
17 the system ourselves to be able to support it and  
18 do these kind of things ourselves in the future,  
19 but at this point in time with such a narrow window  
20 for compliance and such a technical thing on the  
21 front end, that learning curve, we felt it made  
22 more sense to have Eddie just do the whole thing  
23 with us looking over his shoulder as opposed to us  
24 doing it and him kind of looking over our shoulder.

1 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: Mr. Chairman,  
2 I move that the Board approve the proposal  
3 submitted by Election Management Consulting  
4 Services in the amount of \$167,000 to upgrade the  
5 Board's voter registration and election management  
6 system to comply with the enhancements made by the  
7 Statewide Voter Registration System by the  
8 Secretary of State.

9 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Is there a second?

10 BOARD MEMBER COLLEY: Second.

11 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All those in favor  
12 say aye?

13 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

14 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: The motion passes.

15 And now a report from Brenna. Brenna?

16 MS. UMBSTAETTER: Hello.

17 BOARD MEMBERS: Hello.

18 MS. UMBSTAETTER: Matt thought it would  
19 be a good idea if -- now that we have financial  
20 information through the month of May, for us to all  
21 take a few minutes and take a look at where we are  
22 year to date, really do kind of a mid-year review  
23 since we're past most of the reporting for the  
24 primary.

1                   So what you have in your packet are  
2 the -- the reports that you're used to seeing  
3 with -- there's a -- a summary on top of some key  
4 percentages, and the report that -- that shows some  
5 graphs -- pie charts.

6                   There's also a summary that shows each  
7 line item expense that I normally give you just our  
8 agency totals, and I did include that entire in the  
9 report as well, so that if there are any -- if  
10 anything comes up that we want to talk about and  
11 you want to look at later, you'll have  
12 department -- departmental information as well as  
13 our totals.

14                  There are a couple of pages of notes  
15 that follow the format of the financial report and  
16 will kind of serve as our map of -- of working  
17 through this. What I tried to do was bring up some  
18 key points that we think that you should be aware  
19 of that will help us look at the historical data,  
20 not so much just to see what has happened, but  
21 really to give us an indication of what -- how  
22 we're positioned for the rest of the year.

23                  You know, at a glance some percentage  
24 calculations are very helpful, but they don't

1 always tell the whole story. There's some behind  
2 the scenes things going on with the way the -- the  
3 rest of the year is going to play out that we want  
4 to remain focused on as we make decisions and --  
5 and get into the next phase of our spending.

6 I started with the -- a couple -- a  
7 couple of brief comments about the revenues.  
8 The -- I don't know if you're all aware, but the --  
9 the Commissioners and their staff really view those  
10 revenues as reimbursements back into the county  
11 general fund that our budget comes from, and -- so  
12 if it's a year where we're receiving a -- a lot of  
13 charge back revenue from the previous year's  
14 elections, that doesn't really affect our bottom  
15 line for the current year any differently than a  
16 year that we're not receiving a lot of revenues  
17 back.

18 So we -- we track it and keep an eye on  
19 it and notice what kind of trends we have, but  
20 it -- it doesn't have a -- it doesn't have a major  
21 impact on our decision making as far as our  
22 appropriations and how we utilize those.

23 If you look at the report that has more  
24 of a grid format, that's the full financial

1 statement, you'll notice some categories that are  
2 subtotaled, and those are referred to as roll ups.  
3 And for budget purposes, it's important to remember  
4 that each section that has a separate subtotal has  
5 its own segment of the budget. So if we have  
6 excess funds under personal services in one line  
7 item, we can use them in a different line item, but  
8 it has to be within that personal services  
9 category.

10 Now, the -- if changes in our operation  
11 reveal large differences between actual spending  
12 and budget, then OMB has the ability to move those  
13 funds for us between categories. But as far as our  
14 internal management goes -- you know, we may have a  
15 project that we're considering either seasonals or  
16 full-time staff employee -- it's all in the same  
17 total roll up for budget purposes, so if we need to  
18 reallocate, we can.

19 Knowing it -- that -- that that's what  
20 we're working with on personal services, then I put  
21 some information together for you really looking at  
22 it by employee type. The -- the line that's  
23 labeled comp time payouts is a portion of our  
24 overtime for full-time staff, but it's for those

1 who opt to take the comp hours, and then at a point  
2 that they either reach maximum accrual of hours or  
3 180 days on those hours, then we're paying it out.

4           So even though this is a portion of our  
5 overtime expense, it has the time and difference in  
6 it that with -- primarily with the six-month payout  
7 requirement under our policy, so that's a little  
8 distorted from year to year. That's kind of a new  
9 thing that -- that we've not had to look at before  
10 in -- in our projections. So as Matt and I get  
11 into some of the nuts and bolts of the budget  
12 process for next year, we'll probably want to, you  
13 know, take that time and difference into account.

14           And then the other component of the  
15 overtime expense are the overtime wages. The --  
16 the accounting system does not divide and apply  
17 employee type, but I have pulled out some  
18 additional reporting so that I could split that  
19 figure and you could see which part of the overtime  
20 is going to our full-time staff and which part is  
21 going to seasonal employees, and that for full-time  
22 staff and for seasonals is exactly what it sounds  
23 like. They're being paid in the same group.  
24 They're being paid for the overtime in the pay

1 period that they earned the overtime.

2           And then the other kind of wildcard  
3 component to the full-time compensation are the  
4 termination payouts. So any time we have employees  
5 who have separated from service, and they are  
6 entitled to sick leave, vacation leave, and comp  
7 time that they have accrued, the -- there's a  
8 specific schedule for each of those items for  
9 qualifications of what they can receive as a payout  
10 because that is a moving target from a budget  
11 standpoint. We don't always know when people are  
12 planning to retire or are people planning to leave  
13 and pursue other opportunities.

14           So the Office of Management and Budget  
15 takes the position that we don't budget anything  
16 for those items, and we try to absorb them in our  
17 existing appropriations for the year if we can.  
18 And then they always have a process in the fall  
19 that they refer to as the omnibus resolution where  
20 any unbudgeted items of expected items are all  
21 addressed as far as the funding side of things.  
22 Can we pull that out of another category over our  
23 budget, or do we need a supplemental appropriation  
24 to cover that? So that's something that is going



1 to -- it's going to distort our compensation  
2 numbers a little bit as we move throughout the  
3 year, and you just want to keep in mind that --  
4 that it may or may not affect a supplemental in the  
5 fall.

6           So if you look at the full-time  
7 compensation total with all of -- all the  
8 categories I -- I repeated the figure on this page  
9 of notes for you, the \$933,000 figure, it's 39  
10 percent of our annual budget for those items, and  
11 if you look at a -- a purer number of months  
12 average for the year, we would be at 42 percent of  
13 our budget through May. Five months out of twelve  
14 is 41.666.

15           So it looks like we're doing really  
16 well and are coming in under budget. What distorts  
17 that a bit is that we had some vacant positions  
18 right at the beginning of the year, and we're not  
19 using our full appropriation for salaries. And at  
20 this point, that percentage makes it look as though  
21 those term -- termination payouts are covered as  
22 well. What we have to keep in mind is that that is  
23 a result of a new position that was added in the  
24 budget for this year that we have not yet filled,

1 and the plan is that we will utilize that position  
2 in the second half of the year, and that based on  
3 some calculations and some reductions in the amount  
4 funded for seasonals in our budget, we feel that we  
5 probably are going to need that -- that vacancy  
6 amount for half a year for that position to cover  
7 some -- some shortfall we expect to see in  
8 seasonals.

9           And then I did the -- took the same  
10 approach for the seasonal wages of, you know,  
11 looking at each component of that and -- and  
12 anything that has affected it differently than  
13 budgeted or that we're expecting.

14           The -- the primary one that I'm seeing  
15 there is that we changed our procedure on paying  
16 Harold's day drivers that rotate between voting  
17 locations on election day. That used to be treated  
18 as a part of the Precinct Election Official  
19 payroll, the PEO payroll, which is kind of a manual  
20 process. They don't run it through the payroll  
21 system at the Auditor's Office because they would  
22 have to create records for those 5 to 6,000 people.  
23 So they have a process where they are kind of  
24 manually generating a check run for us, and the day

1 drivers used to be included on that.

2 We got into some discussions last year  
3 about their status and -- and the best way to treat  
4 them, and the advice from the Auditor's Office was  
5 that we treat them like other seasonal employees.  
6 Some of them actually have now started coming in  
7 some additional days. Some are still election day  
8 only, but since those are being paid through the  
9 payroll system and considered seasonals, that  
10 creates a bit of a shift from the way we budgeted  
11 for this year. So when we look at the logistics  
12 and -- and election ops totals on seasonals, we're  
13 probably going to be over budget by the amount of  
14 those day drivers per election.

15 Now, it would -- the logic behind this  
16 would follow then that if that's going to be over  
17 budget, wherever we had it before would be under  
18 budget, which would be in the poll worker pay. I  
19 don't really expect to see that because the poll  
20 worker pay is always calculated on the assumption  
21 that we'll have full staffing of all voting  
22 locations, and we know that we have downs on  
23 election day, so that gives us some excess budget  
24 dollars.

1           And then we usually calculate very  
2 rounded figures on that as well, so that we know we  
3 have a little bit of cushion in there. That --  
4 that has always covered the day drivers, and we  
5 didn't really specifically put in a calculation for  
6 them, so it's -- it's possible that at the end of  
7 the year we'll have a little excess appropriation  
8 for poll worker pay that will cover this day driver  
9 seasonal expense, but it's possible that we will  
10 not.

11           And, basically, where -- where all of  
12 that -- what that -- all of that boils down to and  
13 where all of that gets us as we move through the  
14 year is that when we start looking at the  
15 combination of payroll and Precinct Election  
16 Official, PEO payroll for the fall, we reach a  
17 point where if we are over budget within this whole  
18 personal services roll up, the -- the payroll  
19 system will lock up.

20           And -- and our goal is to make sure  
21 that if we see any shortfalls in our funding, that  
22 we know that far enough ahead of time to go through  
23 that supplement process where we request additional  
24 funds and get that added to our budget before we

1 have to process our regular payroll cycle that most  
2 closely coincides with the PEO payroll for the fall  
3 election.

4 Fringe benefits, there again, the --  
5 the budget figure -- the budget totals are treated  
6 within that whole roll up for all of those line  
7 items. I made a few notes for you, about how some  
8 of those things flow through the year.

9 And then materials and services is  
10 really the part where we pretty much throughout the  
11 year are actively managing that appropriation and  
12 looking at utilizing budgeted amounts from some  
13 line items to cover other -- other line items that  
14 were unanticipated. So where the Commissioners'  
15 Contingency Fund covers things that we had no way  
16 of foreseeing when we budgeted, we kind of do that  
17 for ourselves throughout the year within the  
18 materials and services.

19 You know, as -- as things change  
20 from legislative changes or if we have new  
21 direct -- directives or advisories from the  
22 Secretary of State, we find that we have spending  
23 in one area that we didn't anticipate, then we also  
24 look very closely at where we might have some

1 excess funding or where we can make some different  
2 decisions to -- to locate enough dollars in that  
3 total to cover the -- the new expenses that we're  
4 considering.

5           And, again, this is an area that the  
6 total percentage year to date is a little  
7 misleading, because we're showing currently as 23  
8 percent of our annual budget.

9           The -- there -- there's always a little  
10 tiny difference from month to month, and -- and we  
11 don't worry about trying to track that, but looking  
12 at -- really -- really we have two major categories  
13 within that roll up that -- that can influence a  
14 lot of our decisions on spending.

15           The professional services includes all  
16 of our outside consultants and support services.  
17 So those are things like the contract with EMCS  
18 that Matt mentioned that is our basic support for  
19 the year. It also covers one time decisions like  
20 this new contract with EMCS.

21           And then the other item that we see the  
22 wide fluctuations in are -- is the elections  
23 supplies total. And there again, we -- we appear  
24 to be under budget at this point in the year, but

1 there are a couple of things that create that  
2 distortion. One is that we had some excess funds  
3 at the end of 2009, and we did some purchasing from  
4 those 2009 funds for election supplies and precinct  
5 supplies used in the primary. So when we look at  
6 what we've spent so far this year in that category,  
7 it's a cash flow number, but it's not a true  
8 expense number since we had prepaid the items that  
9 we had in inventory at year end.

10 And then from a budget standpoint,  
11 there is an amount included in our budget for  
12 election supplies for some approvals of the request  
13 packages that were part of the budget process. One  
14 that we talked about were replacing our precinct  
15 supply bags. We're having size and deterioration  
16 issues with the ones that we have currently, so  
17 they did approve that. That is sitting in there to  
18 be utilized as soon as Harold can get that  
19 processed -- wrapped up with that vendor.

20 And then we included an estimate for  
21 the election day optional paper ballots. We're  
22 required to do that for this general, right? Matt  
23 says yes.

24 DEPUTY DIRECTOR DAMSCHRODER: Yes.

1 MS. UMBSTAETTER: We -- we based -- we  
2 based our estimate on 2008 quantities, and -- and  
3 grossed it up a little bit for a -- assuming there  
4 would be some cost increase in the printing cost.  
5 So that -- that may or may not provide us with a  
6 little bit of spending cushion for the fall  
7 depending on what we see those printing  
8 requirements to be.

9 We were very -- we were very cautious  
10 with the way we ordered those in 2008. We wanted  
11 to have -- we thought if -- if we were going to  
12 err, we wanted to err on the side of caution and  
13 have too many versus not enough. So we have -- we  
14 have some track record now that we can draw on,  
15 and -- and probably can be a little more efficient  
16 on that item.

17 And I think you're all aware that the  
18 existing budget does not include funds to do an  
19 application -- an absentee application mailing in  
20 the fall. So that's an item that we'll have to  
21 revisit and consider a supplement request for if we  
22 feel that that's an important decision to repeat  
23 the mailing that we did this election.

24 And as you look at the report, you'll



1 see in the supplement that we received for that  
2 absentee mailing and expected increases in absentee  
3 volume, shows as an increase in election supplies,  
4 but based on the recent analysis of the expenses  
5 from the primary, and the decision that -- the  
6 decision that you made in the previous meeting to  
7 rescind that additional supplemental request for  
8 Eddie's project.

9 I'm not sure what OMB's thinking is on  
10 whether or not they want to move that supplemental  
11 budget money, but we know that as far as our  
12 spending goes, it's not going to be election  
13 supplies. It's going to be utilized for some --  
14 the -- I believe there were three major items that  
15 we identified would be covered by the excess.

16 So, again, just something to --  
17 something to keep in mind as we move forward  
18 through the year, and depending on -- on -- you  
19 know, whether or not we change the reporting of  
20 that money affects how -- how useful the percentage  
21 calculations are for us.

22 And then the last thing I included for  
23 you is just a -- a brief overview of what's  
24 included in the capital outlays section. And,

1 again, the budget appropriation approved under  
2 capital outlays can only be used for capital  
3 outlays. I can't use it in materials and services  
4 categories. I can't use it to pay any full-time or  
5 seasonal staff.

6           And there are a couple of  
7 equipment-related requests that we included in the  
8 budget that were approved. And so when you look at  
9 the totals for the equipment lease and for  
10 machinery and equipment purchases, they do reflect  
11 some funds for the high volume ballot on demand and  
12 the ballot and counting retrieval system; that is a  
13 Pitney Bowes' product we were considering for  
14 purchase.

15           I'm not sure where we are in the  
16 decision-making process on those, if those are  
17 still priorities for spending or not, but it's  
18 helpful as these decisions come throughout the year  
19 that we know whether the -- whether the funding was  
20 there for them or if we have more reallocating to  
21 do. That's really all I have.

22           CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Well, that was a  
23 lot.

24           MS. UMBSTAETTER: And I tried to make

1 it more words than numbers.

2 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: And you did, yeah.

3 MS. UMBSTAETTER: As -- as you review  
4 reports, if you see things that look out of line or  
5 you have questions as to what might -- what might  
6 be included in different totals, I'm available  
7 anytime you would like to contact me with those  
8 kind of questions.

9 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Very well. Thank  
10 you. Are there questions or comments from the  
11 Board? Michael, we spent enough money?

12 DEPUTY DIRECTOR DAMSCHRODER: Yes.

13 MS. UMBSTAETTER: And that concludes  
14 what a friend of mine calls a short pencil in the  
15 eye experience.

16 THE BOARD: (Laughter.)

17 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: Thank you,  
18 Brenna.

19 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Thank you.

20 BOARD MEMBER MANIFOLD: Thanks.

21 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Thank you indeed.

22 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All right. There's  
23 some general announcements. Matt, you want to --

24 BOARD MEMBER MANIFOLD: Yep. Congress

1 passed a thing called the MOVE Act, which makes  
2 some changes to the timelines for delivering  
3 ballots to military personnel and overseas citizens  
4 as -- the biggest change is that for federal  
5 elections, ballots have to be available 45 days  
6 before an election to be sent to military personnel  
7 and overseas citizens. So the Ohio General  
8 Assembly adopted a law that would be effective in  
9 early July.

10 That changes all of the filing  
11 deadlines for candidates and issues and everything  
12 from 75 days until 90 days before an election, so  
13 we -- Bill and I sent letters to all the school  
14 districts, villages, city councils, everybody and  
15 their brother in the county letting them know that  
16 if they wait to file an issue this fall until 70 --  
17 the 75th day before the election, they will be 15  
18 days too late. And that is if they -- particularly  
19 for municipal charter municipalities who have a  
20 date in their charter that's earlier than 90, it  
21 would encourage them to consider moving that -- put  
22 in a charter -- you know, the ballot this fall to  
23 move that so that they don't have a problem with  
24 getting ballots to their overseas and military

1 voters from their municipality.

2           Also, we will need to have another  
3 meeting later this month, ideally, perhaps the  
4 21st. Tomorrow is anticipated that the County  
5 Commissioners are going to do supplement  
6 appropriations to county agencies for the -- a  
7 1 percent pay increase for full-time employees  
8 retroactive to the first of this year, if I'm not  
9 mistaken. And so we'll need to have approval from  
10 our Body, you, on -- on how to handle that. And we  
11 thought of doing it today, but we decided to wait.  
12 Since the Commissioners are going to do it  
13 tomorrow, we might as well just wait one more --  
14 one more meeting until after we had that in the  
15 budget. We know for sure what its -- what its  
16 going to be, so we'll do that in the subsequent  
17 meeting.

18           Also, we've distributed to you a  
19 binder -- or a binder clip of maps. We are  
20 reviewing a number of election administration  
21 issues in the office, but one that I absolutely did  
22 look at is precinct boundaries.

23           You know, identified about 70 precincts  
24 that we can merge with adjacent precincts. In many

1 cases -- or over half of the cases, these are  
2 precincts that -- two adjacent precincts that vote  
3 in the same location, so it won't even change  
4 anything for the voters' experience. The statutory  
5 limit is 1,400 active registered voters per  
6 precinct. So we had a number of precincts that had  
7 3, 4, 5, 600 voters in them that we could easily  
8 merge into adjacent precincts, so the maps show our  
9 recommended changes and a revised nomenclature for  
10 the -- for the precincts.

11 It would be our hope to vote on these  
12 at the next meeting as well, again, hopefully, June  
13 21, so that we can spend the balance of June and  
14 July keying them and keying the changes into the  
15 system; both the Voter Registration System and  
16 ES&S.

17 MS. MARINELLO: Isn't that the week of  
18 conference?

19 DEPUTY DIRECTOR DAMSCHRODER: I think  
20 that is the week of conference, yes.

21 MS. UMBSTAETTER: Yes, the OAE  
22 Conference is the 21st through the 23rd.

23 DEPUTY DIRECTOR DAMSCHRODER: Yeah. I  
24 don't think they start until the afternoon on the

1 21st. We'll -- we'll check the calendar and make  
2 sure we -- we can do it over at the Hyatt.

3 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: Okay. Over  
4 drinks.

5 DEPUTY DIRECTOR DAMSCHRODER: Do it in  
6 the hallway.

7 MS. UMBSTAETTER: Yeah, I think the  
8 opening session is usually toward the --

9 DEPUTY DIRECTOR DAMSCHRODER: The  
10 afternoon.

11 MS. UMBSTAETTER: -- the latter part of  
12 the afternoon, because the --

13 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: Yeah. No  
14 that's training all day I think.

15 BOARD MEMBER MANIFOLD: I was going to  
16 say, I think I have a training all day, too.

17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR DAMSCHRODER: Okay.  
18 New Board Members?

19 BOARD MEMBER MANIFOLD: Yeah.

20 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: Yeah.

21 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Until 3 o'clock.

22 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: It starts at  
23 nine.

24 DEPUTY DIRECTOR DAMSCHRODER: Well, we

1 can do it --

2 MS. UMBSTAETTER: I think they're  
3 professionally led classes for that day.

4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR DAMSCHRODER: -- the  
5 22nd, 23rd. We'll -- we'll coordinate calendars  
6 with -- Suzanne will coordinate calendars with  
7 everyone.

8 BOARD MEMBER MANIFOLD: He might be  
9 right. I think it ends at 3.

10 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: It -- it ends at 3.

11 BOARD MEMBER MANIFOLD: We can do it  
12 after.

13 DEPUTY DIRECTOR DAMSCHRODER: Or if --  
14 if after reviewing the maps today, tomorrow,  
15 Wednesday, there's no concerns, we could -- there's  
16 nothing magical about the 21st. We could meet next  
17 week.

18 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: What are -- what are  
19 the unforeseen consequences? Of course if they are  
20 truly unforeseen, you couldn't answer that  
21 question.

22 DEPUTY DIRECTOR DAMSCHRODER: I  
23 couldn't tell you.

24 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: But, I mean, are



1 there implications, consequences relative to  
2 options and -- I mean, in current -- that are  
3 under --

4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR DAMSCHRODER: Yeah.

5 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: -- under current,  
6 sort of--

7 DEPUTY DIRECTOR DAMSCHRODER:

8 There's -- in terms of the -- the reason we have  
9 now 854, 855 precincts is that after the -- the  
10 voting system technology that we had in 2004  
11 election, the old Dan Herfoltaz machines, that  
12 technology was limited in its -- in its capacity to  
13 service voters from multiple ballot styles, from  
14 multiple precincts in the same location, so we had  
15 situations.

16 The classic one was down in 45, I think  
17 with H, that voted at World Harvest where you had a  
18 ton of Columbus voters -- there was about 1,000  
19 voters in that precinct waiting in line for the  
20 machines for 45H, right next to it was Madison C,  
21 that just because the precinct boundaries only had  
22 200 registered voters in them, but we -- the voters  
23 for Columbus 45H couldn't vote on the Madison C  
24 machines because that was the limited technology.

1           So after the '04 election this Board at  
2 the recommendation of myself and Mike Hackett, who  
3 was then the Deputy Director, made a -- a dramatic  
4 change in the number of precincts, reducing the  
5 number to a -- being pretty consistent across the  
6 board between 700 and 800 voters per precinct. We  
7 went from 700 and I think 14 precincts in the 2004  
8 election to now the 855, 865 that we have now.

9           Because of the ES&S technology where we  
10 can put virtually any ballot style for the whole  
11 county on any machine anywhere in the county, we no  
12 longer have the functionality rationale for having  
13 low numbers of registered voters per precinct.

14           Precincts really are merely arbitrary  
15 boundaries that we use to corral voters into a  
16 location. That had to be based on pre -- they had  
17 to be based on census block ranges for  
18 reapportionate and redistricting purposes, but  
19 beyond that it's -- it's entirely arbitrary with  
20 the exception of the 1,400 active registered voter  
21 cap.

22           So there's -- at -- at this point given  
23 the technology that we have, there's no good reason  
24 to not try to maximize the number of -- of

1 registered voters that we put in a precinct.  
2 The -- the intended consequence, although it's --  
3 it's not really -- it's not really quantifiable at  
4 this point in time, is that there is a reduction of  
5 cost where we reduce approval -- when we  
6 consolidate precincts.

7 For instance, half the precincts will  
8 be closing a single precinct location and putting  
9 it in with another single precinct location. So  
10 instead of delivering to two different locations  
11 they'll be in the same building now and we'll save  
12 the delivery cost for that one location. So not --  
13 not a huge cost savings, but every penny counts.  
14 Did I say that right?

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah.

16 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: All right. Good.  
17 Thank you.

18 DEPUTY DIRECTOR DAMSCHRODER: So if --  
19 if -- and Bill and I will -- will follow up with  
20 each of you to see if there are any concerns. If  
21 there aren't any concerns about the boundary  
22 changes, the earlier we can make -- the earlier the  
23 Board can meet to make -- to resolve the issue, the  
24 better. I do know there was at least one Board

1 Member who was interested in taking a closer look,  
2 and we wholeheartedly support that.

3 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: That has to be you.

4 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: (Laughter.)

5 DEPUTY DIRECTOR DAMSCHRODER: And other  
6 than that, I think that's all of my -- all of our  
7 general announcements.

8 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: I'd leave it  
9 to the experts.

10 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: All right.

11 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: And is there a  
12 motion to adjourn?

13 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: Absolutely.

14 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All in favor?

15 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

16 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Thank you,  
17 everybody.

18 - - - - -

19 Thereupon, the proceedings were  
20 concluded at 3:57 o'clock p.m.

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CERTIFICATE

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The undersigned do hereby certify that the foregoing proceedings were digitally recorded, electronically transmitted, and transcribed via audible playback, and that the foregoing transcript of such proceedings is a full, true and correct transcript of the proceedings as so recorded.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal of office at Columbus, Ohio, on this 28<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2010.

*Jennifer L. Koontz*

JENNIFER L. KOONTZ  
Certified Digital Reporter  
Notary Public - State of Ohio  
My commission expires September 15, 2013.

*Gloria Tovar Smith*

GLORIA TOVAR SMITH  
Certified Digital Transcriber