

BEFORE THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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IN RE: :
: :
REGULAR MEETING :

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PROCEEDINGS

Before Chairman Doug Preisse, Director Antone White, Deputy Director David Payne, and Board Members Michael Sexton, Kimberly E. Marinello and Josh Jaffe, at the Franklin County Board of Elections, 1700 Morse Road, Columbus, Ohio called at 3:00 p.m., on Tuesday, July 5, 2023.

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APPEARANCES:

ANDREA HOFER, Esquire
Assistant Prosecuting Attorney
Franklin County Prosecutor's Office
373 South High Street, 13th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215,

On behalf of the Board of Elections.

Also present:

Matt Kelley
Jeff Gatwood
Christopher Konik
Abdul Nasir
Kathy Ferguson

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E X H I B I T S

BOARD EXHIBITS INDENTIFIED

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Tuesday Afternoon Session.
July 5, 2023.
3:00 p.m.

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DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: It appears that we have a quorum. I will go ahead and take roll. Kim Marinello.

MEMBER MARINELLO: Here.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Mike Sexton.

MEMBER SEXTON: Here.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Doug Preisse.

CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Here.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: And Josh Jaffe.

MEMBER JAFFE: Here.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: We indeed do have a quorum. First item on the agenda is the approval of the minutes from the June 6, 2023 meeting of the Franklin County Board of Elections. I believe we sent out the minutes to all the Board members.

MEMBER JAFFE: I will move that the Board approve the minutes of June 6, 2023 meeting of the Franklin County Board of Elections

1 as submitted.

2 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Second.

3 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: It's been
4 properly moved and seconded. All those in favor of
5 the motion, signify by saying aye.

6 All opposed, same sign.

7 Motion carries.

8 (Vote taken; motion passed.)

9 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: The next
10 item the on the agenda is the hiring of the earlier
11 vote center managers. We have both a republican
12 and a democrat manager scheduled to start today on
13 July 5th through August 9th, which is the day after
14 the election at a rate of \$312.50 per day, not to
15 exceed \$10,000. Abdul Nasir is our democrat
16 manager. He's been our manager for at least twice
17 before. He's done a great job for us, and then
18 Kathy Ferguson is a -- it will be her first time as
19 the republican manager, but she's been in the early
20 vote center for a number of elections, and has done
21 a great job for us and she works in the absentee
22 ballot department. Matt, I don't know if you want
23 to make any comments about our --

24 MR. KELLEY: We will hit the
25 ground running and we definitely need the two

1 managers. This election is going to be a higher
2 volume election than normal and it's going to be
3 very active, in both the parking lot outside the
4 building, and inside the building. So I really
5 appreciate having two helping hands that can help
6 with their expertise to manage the early vote
7 center.

8 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: That's good.
9 Thank you.

10 MEMBER SEXTON: Chairman, I move
11 that the Board authorize the hiring of Abdul Nasir
12 as the democrat manager of the early vote center
13 from July 5th through August 9th at the rate of
14 \$312.50 per day and not to exceed \$10,000.

15 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: I second the
16 motion.

17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: It's been
18 properly moved and seconded. All those in favor of
19 the motion, signify by saying aye.

20 All opposed, same sign.

21 Motion carries.

22 (Vote taken; motion passed.)

23 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE:
24 Congratulations Mr. Nasir. And then it would be
25 appropriate I suppose to hire our republican.

1 MEMBER JAFFE: I will move that
2 the Board authorize the hiring of Kathy Ferguson as
3 the republican manager of the early vote center
4 from July 5th through August 9th at a rate of
5 \$312.50 per day and not to exceed \$10,000.

6 MEMBER MARINELLO: Second.

7 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: It's been
8 properly moved and seconded. All those in favor of
9 the motion, signify by saying aye.

10 All opposed, same sign.

11 Motion carries.

12 (Vote taken; motion passed.)

13 Congratulations, Mr. Nasir and
14 Kathy. Kathy, do you want to just stand up for a
15 second there.

16 MR. KELLEY: All right. I'm
17 putting them back to work now.

18 MEMBER SEXTON: Thanks guys.

19 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: The next
20 item on the agenda is to hire an IT project
21 manager. Chris Konik comes to us from the
22 Department of Commerce where he was an IT project
23 manager. He's graduate of the Ohio University in
24 journalism. We're excited to have him on board,
25 and I think no one is more excited than our IT

1 manager, Jeff. So do you want to mention what
2 we're doing, Mr. Gatwood?

3 MR. GATWOOD: I'm proud to have
4 Chris join our team as, David mentioned, as our
5 project manager. We have a lot of projects on the
6 books and we need help getting our requirements
7 together and our planning put together and
8 execution put together, and we're sure Chris will
9 be able to handle that job. So we're pleased to
10 have him.

11 MEMBER JAFFE: I will move that
12 the Franklin County board of Elections hire Chris
13 Konik as a full-time IT project manager beginning
14 June 26, 2023 at a rate of 25.13 per hour.

15 MEMBER MARINELLO: Second.

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17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: It's been
18 properly moved and seconded. All those in favor of
19 the motion, signify by saying aye.

20 All opposed, same sign.

21 Motion carries.

22 (Vote taken; motion passed.)

23 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Thank you.

24 Welcome aboard. You've already been approved.

25 Welcome aboard officially.

1 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: There
2 isn't anything else formally on the agenda.
3 However I have heard that this is potentially Josh
4 Jaffe's last Board meeting. I understand that you
5 will be going to the Secretary of State and working
6 on data. I don't know if you want to elaborate on
7 that or anything or --

8 MEMBER JAFFE: Sure. I've been
9 offered a job running the Secretary of State's data
10 analytics team. I'm going to take that offer, but
11 as a consequence, I will have to stop serving on
12 the Board. I've really enjoyed serving with all of
13 you here and working on elections. Thank you for
14 the opportunity to do it.

15 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: And when do you
16 start that?

17 MEMBER JAFFE: Next week.

18 MEMBER MARINELLO: Good luck.

19 MEMBER SEXTON: Congratulations.

20 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: I think in
21 between this meeting and when Josh takes his role
22 at the SOS somewhere in between our next meeting,
23 which will be in August, I would guess that the
24 Ohio Secretary of State will make a recommendation
25 for a replacement and data point. At that point we

1 will make a new appointment and address that when
2 it occurs.

3 MEMBER JAFFE: So Josh 15 days
4 from my resignation.

5 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE:
6 Fifteen days to get it done. They are aware of
7 what we're anticipating, what we're --

8 MS. HOFER: Is today the official
9 resignation day?

10 MEMBER JAFFE: I need to talk to
11 somebody about that. I will put it in writing.

12 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Well, we've
13 enjoyed your service. You're a capable young man,
14 bright and intelligent despite what some people
15 say. You've done a great job, sounding board and
16 an active participant. You've strengthened the
17 Board because of your service. Thank you.

18 MS. HOFER: I think there's
19 probably a motion to accept the resignation to be
20 determined the date based on the resignation that
21 you will submit.

22 MEMBER JAFFE: We're to act as a
23 Board on that?

24 MS. HOFER: Because you're
25 submitting a resignation --

1 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Is he resigning
2 to us though or is he resigning to the Secretary of
3 State?

4 MS. HOFER: I think he serves this
5 Board and --

6 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: I move that the
7 Board accept the resignation of Josh Jaffe as a
8 member of the Franklin Board of Elections.

9 MS. HOFER: And according to the
10 date of the --

11 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: According to
12 the date --

13 MS. HOFER: -- submitted on his
14 letter.

15 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: -- submitted on
16 his resignation.

17 MEMBER SEXTON: I'll second the
18 motion.

19 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: It's been
20 properly moved and seconded. All those in favor of
21 the motion, signify by saying aye.

22 All opposed, same sign.

23 Motion carries.

24 (Vote taken; motion passed.)

25 MEMBER JAFFE: I'll abstain.

1 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Noted
2 there was one abstention. Again, we don't have
3 anything remaining. We do have some donuts to
4 memorialize the resignation.

5 MEMBER MARINELLO: That's
6 something new.

7 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: The
8 meeting concludes, we'll --

9 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Is that a
10 recognition or not? Talk at the next Board
11 meeting.

12 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Actually,
13 yeah, so Antone, was big -- this is about a Clarey
14 Award. Do you want to --

15 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Nice note to us
16 from Congressman Carey. I didn't know anything
17 about that.

18 DIRECTOR WHITE: We have a staff
19 committee that's been submitting to various
20 entities for awards, for all the good work that we
21 do here, and we were recently awarded with a Cleary
22 Award from the U.S. Election Assistance Commission.
23 They awarded us an award for our work in the early
24 vote center to assist and accommodate those with
25 disabilities. We've -- our staff in the early vote

1 center led by Matt Kelley, they created an area in
2 our early vote center that was accommodating to
3 those with disabilities because in our early vote
4 center, it's pretty much a big track that you have
5 to kind of walk through in order to get to a voting
6 machine. So we created an area designated with
7 staff that became very popular, and so we submitted
8 that as an award for recognition and we won. We
9 won a national award, so congratulations to that
10 staff for their hard work and we appreciate all
11 that they do and we know that they are continuing
12 to do great work here.

13 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: That's super.
14 I didn't know until the very nice letter
15 congratulating the team from Congressman Mike
16 Carey. It's nice to see. Congratulations to the
17 team. Well, nothing else before us, I move to
18 adjourn.

19 MEMBER MARINELLO: Second.

20 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: We're
21 adjourned.

22 (Meeting adjourned at 3:19 p.m.)
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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Deborah Werling, a Court Reporter and
Notary Public do hereby certify that the foregoing
is a full, true and correct transcript of my notes
taken in the above-styled case and thereafter
transcribed by me.

DEBORAH WERLING
Notary Public, State of Ohio
My Commission Expires 7-5-27