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THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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In Re: :  
:  
Special Meeting. :

- - -

AUGUST 16, 2023

PROCEEDINGS OF THE

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

before Chairman Douglas J. Preisse,  
Director Antone White, Deputy Director  
David Payne, Board Members Michael Sexton and  
Meredith Freedhoff, on Wednesday, August 16, 2023,  
beginning at approximately 3:04 p.m., and  
concluding at approximately 3:50 p.m.

- - -

ALSO PRESENT:

Erin Gibbons  
Jeanine Hummer, First Assistant/Chief Counsel  
Brian Zagrocki  
Audience

- - -

*Higgins & Associates*  
*Court Reporting - Legal Video - Videoconference*  
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I N D E X

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E X H I B I T S

**EXHIBITS**

Exhibit A - August 8, 2023, Special  
Election Provisional Totals  
Recommended for Board Approval,  
Rejection, and Consideration

- - -

1 Wednesday Afternoon Session  
2 August 16, 2023  
3 3:04 p.m.

4 - - -

5 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: I think we  
6 understand that there are only going to be three of  
7 us here, because Kim doesn't have a walking boot  
8 yet, to which I rather rudely said, Why didn't you  
9 run? I -- I shouldn't have said --

10 (Contemporaneous crosstalk.)

11 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: But we're here.  
12 Okay. We're ready to go.

13 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Kim  
14 Marinello?

15 (No response.)

16 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Mike Sexton?

17 MEMBER SEXTON: Here.

18 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Doug  
19 Priesse?

20 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Here.

21 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: And  
22 Meredith Freedhoff?

23 MEMBER FREEDHOFF: Here.

24 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: We do have a  
quorum, Mr. Chairman.

1           The first item on the agenda are  
2 provisional ballots, and I'm going to call on  
3 Travis Simmons and Sara Ziemba of Voter Services to  
4 walk us through that. Today is the Travis and Sara  
5 show.

6           MR. TRAVIS SIMMONS: It is.

7           Good afternoon. I'm Travis Simmons.  
8 I'm the manager of the Voter Services Department.  
9 And since we have a new board member,  
10 Ms. Freedhoff --

11           MEMBER FREEDHOFF: Hi.

12           MR. TRAVIS SIMMONS: -- I thought I  
13 would walk through our internal processes to give  
14 you an idea of what we do with provisional -- with  
15 provisional ballots.

16           After that, Sara is going -- our  
17 supervisor of the Voter Services Department will  
18 present our exhibits for this election,  
19 August the 8th -- the August 8th Special Election.

20           So we begin processing provisional  
21 ballots when early voting begins. So for this  
22 election, early voting began on Tuesday, July 11th.  
23 And so we try to daily process those provisional  
24 ballots the next day when they're proc- -- voted in

1 the early vote center. So that's when we began  
2 processing the provisional ballots with the early  
3 vote provisionals.

4 On election night, we -- and for  
5 this election, we had processed all the early vote  
6 provisionals by election day, so that means that we  
7 can start working on the election day provisional  
8 ballots on Wednesday.

9 So we didn't -- 'Cause we were under  
10 the assumption that we only had a week to do these  
11 provisional ballots with the new law, but we  
12 learned out -- we found out later that we had a  
13 little more time. But we made so much progress in  
14 the time that we had, we decided to -- and we had  
15 already scheduled this meeting with you all, that  
16 we decided that we would push through and get all  
17 of the provisional ballots done in the time frame  
18 that we had set forth before knowing that  
19 the -- we had a little more time than that.

20 So on election night, we -- election  
21 night, the Voter Services staff intakes the --  
22 intakes provisional ballots from the 282 locations  
23 that we have in this election. And after that, we  
24 count those provisional ballots on election night

1 to get a preliminary number of provisional ballots.

2 The next morning, we recount the  
3 provisional ballots to confirm -- or to confirm the  
4 election night count or to -- or to change the  
5 number based on the new count that we get on the  
6 morning after.

7 After that -- Uhm, for this  
8 election, we had 15 bipartisan teams that processed  
9 the provisional ballots for this election. That  
10 staff that helped work on provisional ballots was  
11 Board services full-time staff, our core group of  
12 seasonal staff members; we also have PEO trainers  
13 that helped us with this, voting location managers,  
14 and -- and other staff from the Board of Elections  
15 that helped us process the provisional ballots for  
16 this election.

17 We also had a team of -- a team that  
18 helped us check the pollbooks. We have to  
19 determine -- we have to determine if for  
20 provisional voters that they didn't vote in their  
21 own -- vote in their own location and also cast a  
22 provisional ballot in their new location. So we  
23 have a staff -- a group of that staff that does  
24 that with the provisional ballots.

1                   And finally we had a group that is  
2 still working right now assigning voting history  
3 for this election. I think we had approximately  
4 250,000 election day votes. So we are manually --  
5 Because we didn't use -- we used paper pollbooks  
6 and not electronic pollbooks, we have to  
7 manually -- manually assign the voting history.

8                   So we are -- When I last checked, we  
9 have assigned, uhm, a little over a hundred  
10 thousand of the 200,000 voters who voted on  
11 election day, their voting history for this  
12 election.

13                   So we worked, we started on  
14 Wednesday; uhm, Wednesday -- uhm, Wednesday, August  
15 the 9th, and we worked 10 to 12 days -- 10 to  
16 12 hours, I should say, the staff worked to make  
17 sure we processed these provisional ballots.

18                   We actually had finished processing  
19 all the provisional ballots by Sunday. And we  
20 worked yesterday and today, just the cleanup of the  
21 provisional ballots and verifying our counts to  
22 present to you today.

23                   So that's just a brief overview of  
24 what happened before -- what happened in the

1 process of what we do to prepare and get ready for  
2 processing provisional ballots.

3 So now I'm going to turn it over to  
4 our supervisor, Sara Ziemba, who will present our  
5 exhibit in this election.

6 MEMBER FREEDHOFF: Thank you.

7 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Thank you, Travis.

8 And good afternoon, Board and  
9 everyone here today.

10 Again, I'm Sara Ziemba, the  
11 supervisor in the Voter Services Department.

12 And, again, I just want to reiterate  
13 everything Travis said. He's got a great team  
14 working on three different operations consecutively  
15 to make sure that we get to this point where we're  
16 at day.

17 Like you said, they're still back in  
18 the other room working hard trying to get all those  
19 250-some-thousand election day votes scanned in by  
20 hand.

21 So with the paper pollbooks, it does  
22 add more manual labor time in for us; but we do as  
23 we always do: We make sure everything's accurate  
24 and correct for -- for you and for the voters of



1 Franklin County for our results here.

2           So, again, I just wanted to say that  
3 Travis did an excellent job. This was his -- like,  
4 one of his first big elections as a manager of our  
5 department, getting all the extra staff that we  
6 needed to make sure we could run these three  
7 separate operations that we have going on. He did  
8 a fantastic job. And all of the teams that we have  
9 from all areas of the board, different departments  
10 loaned us people to help out. We've got voting  
11 location managers and deputies who this was their  
12 first time doing, like, behind-the-scenes  
13 post-election work. They're doing a great job.  
14 And we asked a lot of them -- Like Travis said, we  
15 had people working 10- to 12-hour days for the last  
16 week, all weekend. We had them come in earlier the  
17 week before election for training and practice.  
18 And they're still -- still working now.

19           So just want to make sure, give them  
20 all a shout-out and let them know how much we  
21 appreciate how awesome they are doing for this  
22 post-election reconciliation and verification  
23 process.

24           I want to give a couple special

1 thank-yous to some of our Voter Services full-time  
2 seasonal staff.

3 Debbie Curry sort of oversaw the  
4 quality control pollbook checking operation. She  
5 does great job for our department every election,  
6 and we really appreciated her sort of talking  
7 ownership of that area so that Travis and I could  
8 focus on provisional processing.

9 And I also want to recognize  
10 Becky Merusak (phonetic) and Shelly Oxenrider  
11 (phonetic), who our -- headed up our  
12 county-to-county team. And this is just another  
13 part of our operation when we're validating  
14 provisional ballots.

15 Since voters can be registered  
16 anywhere in the state of Ohio, we had over 900  
17 voters who cast a ballot here in Franklin County on  
18 election day that were registered in some -- one of  
19 the other 87 counties. So Becky and Shelly  
20 communicated expertly with the other counties over  
21 the past week, even right down till this morning,  
22 getting answers to make sure that the voter was,  
23 indeed, registered in the other county and that  
24 they didn't cast a ballot in the former county

1 before we decided to ask you to accept their ballot  
2 here today that they cast in Franklin County.

3           So just great work all around from  
4 our people. And I say it every time, every  
5 election, and every day to people that I know, that  
6 Franklin County, in my opinion, has the best Board  
7 of Elections in the state of Ohio. And during  
8 provisional week, our team really shines. They  
9 shine all year, but especially during provisional  
10 week. When you're already tired from the election  
11 season and then we ask you to stay, keep going  
12 these 12-hour days and the weekends and everything,  
13 and we still get accurate, valid results every  
14 time. And we're thorough, and we do everything in  
15 a bipartisan team. And so it's just really great  
16 to see that dedication from our staff, and I just  
17 want them to know on record that we appreciate them  
18 so much.

19           So having said all that, Voter  
20 Services recommends today that the Board move to  
21 accept 5,350 provisional ballots and to reject  
22 1,132 provisional ballots.

23           We also have an additional 28  
24 ballots today that will require Board review before

1 we can approve or reject them.

2 And so you can refer to Exhibit A  
3 for the totals for each category, and I'll give a  
4 brief overview.

5 And I'll start with the accepted  
6 provisionals; which, the total, again, is 5,350  
7 that we are recommending that the Board accept  
8 today.

9 And so for every provisional ballot,  
10 we have a bipartisan team that will complete a  
11 thorough research and validation process to make  
12 sure that the voter has met the qualifications that  
13 Ohio Revised Code 3505.183 sets out before we  
14 recommend that the Board would accept or reject any  
15 ballot.

16 And so for a provisional ballot to  
17 be accepted by the Board, the voter must meet the  
18 following two conditions:

19 One is that the voter must be  
20 registered to vote somewhere in the state of Ohio  
21 within the previous 30 days to any given election;  
22 and that two is that the voter cannot have cast  
23 another ballot for that given election.

24 If those two conditions are met,

1 then the voter must provide the following five  
2 pieces of information on their provisional  
3 affirmation statement: That means, the voter's  
4 name, date of birth, valid photo ID, uhm, current  
5 residential address in Franklin County, and a  
6 signature.

7                   And for -- With the in- -- or  
8 institution, I guess, of House Bill 458 earlier  
9 this year, voters, both provisional and  
10 election-day regular voters, need to show valid,  
11 acceptable photo identification, which is an  
12 unexpired State of Ohio driver's license or state  
13 ID card, U.S. Passport or Passport card; and  
14 military ID that has to have a photo; and the  
15 voter's name on the ID has to match what we have in  
16 the voter registration system.

17                   So for provisional voters, if they  
18 don't have that on election day, they'll have an  
19 additional four days to bring that valid photo ID  
20 here to the Board of Elections. And I'll talk a  
21 little bit about that more later on.

22                   But we are happy to confirm that  
23 these 5,350 provisional voters that we recommend  
24 for you to accept today were all cast by

1 individuals who were registered to vote in the  
2 state of Ohio, did not cast any other ballot for  
3 this election, and that they all supplied all of  
4 the five required identification items on their  
5 affirmation statement.

6 And so now we would ask the Board  
7 for a motion approve the 5,350 provisional ballots  
8 that we recommend to accept.

9 MEMBER FREEDHOFF: Thank you, Sara,  
10 for your presentation.

11 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Uh-huh.

12 MEMBER FREEDHOFF: My son was one of  
13 these provisional ballot voters on election day  
14 because he recently moved.

15 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Oh.

16 MEMBER FREEDHOFF: And he had a  
17 fabulous experience in Gahanna, so.

18 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Great. Good to  
19 hear.

20 MEMBER FREEDHOFF: Yes.

21 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: And he's  
22 part of the 5,350.

23 (Laughter and contemporaneous  
24 crosstalk.)

1                   MEMBER FREEDHOFF: It was his first  
2 time ever doing that. It was a great experience.  
3 So thank you very much.

4                   And I move that the Board the  
5 approve the counting of the 5,350 provisional  
6 ballots and that all provisional ballots deemed  
7 valid will be counted and included in the official  
8 canvas results for the August 8, 2023, Special  
9 Election.

10                  MEMBER SEXTON: And before I second,  
11 I just had a couple questions.

12                  MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Sure.

13                  MEMBER SEXTON: One is, is this the  
14 first -- I believe this is the first county-wide,  
15 like, full-blown election we've had --

16                  MS. SARA ZIEMBA: With the new law,  
17 that's correct.

18                  MEMBER SEXTON: -- with the -- the  
19 missing or mismatched IDs?

20                  MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Correct.

21                  CHAIRMAN SEXTON: With the what?

22                  MS. SARA ZIEMBA: With the new ID  
23 law in effect.

24                  MEMBER SEXTON: When we had the

1 primaries, it wasn't --

2 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Yeah, it wasn't  
3 county-wide.

4 MEMBER SEXTON: It looks -- Okay.  
5 So in the -- with the date of  
6 births, --

7 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Uh-huh.

8 MEMBER SEXTON: -- I see two things  
9 here. It says, Date of Births -- Birth Missing,  
10 42.

11 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Uh-huh.

12 MEMBER SEXTON: And then below it,  
13 for Board review, it said, DOB issued, 28.

14 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Yeah, so there --  
15 Revised Code allows for the Board an exception if  
16 all of the -- if the voter has provided some type  
17 of date of birth. There is an exception that will  
18 allow the Board to approve the ballot if all other  
19 information is correct with the vote of three or  
20 more members if the voter attempted to put a  
21 birthday.

22 However, if the voter just skipped  
23 that field and it's blank, that exception doesn't  
24 exist for those voters. That's just a missing



1 required item.

2 So for the -- the 42 where the date  
3 of birth is missing, there isn't an opportunity for  
4 you as a Board to approve that under the law. But  
5 for the 28 where they attempted to put a birthday,  
6 you can approve it with the vote of three or more  
7 members.

8 MEMBER SEXTON: And is that what we  
9 do at this meeting or at the next --

10 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: For this meeting.

11 MEMBER SEXTON: -- meeting for  
12 certification?

13 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Yes, for this one  
14 here.

15 MEMBER SEXTON: Okay. Okay. I'll  
16 vote to second.

17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: It's been  
18 properly moved and seconded.

19 All those in favor of the motion,  
20 signify by saying "Aye."

21 (Vote taken.)

22 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: All of  
23 opposed, same sign.

24 (No response.)

1                   DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Motion  
2 carries.

3                   MS. SARA ZIEMBA: All right. Next  
4 on the agenda, we'll go over the 1,132 provisional  
5 ballots that Voter Services is recommending that  
6 the Board reject. And I'll go through each  
7 rejection category individually to explain why  
8 Voter Services recommends these ballots for  
9 rejection. And, again, you can follow along on  
10 Exhibit A under "Reasons for Rejection."

11                   So the first category is, Not  
12 Registered to Vote in the State, and this is 599  
13 ballots. So for -- of these 599 people, when our  
14 teams -- our bipartisan teams are evaluating each  
15 ballot, there are several searches that they do to  
16 try to find the voter if they are registered in  
17 Franklin County or the State of Ohio.

18                   The first three searches that our  
19 teams will do will be within the Franklin County  
20 voter registration database, so all of the voters  
21 that are registered in Franklin County.

22                   And if our team doesn't find the  
23 voter there, the Secretary of State has a  
24 state-wide voter registration database that

1 includes voters from across the whole state, every  
2 county, and we'll go and do three more searches  
3 there. And if they are not found after --

4 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: What does that  
5 mean, "three more searches there"?

6 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: So we'll search  
7 three times in the Franklin County database, and  
8 then we'll search again three times in the  
9 state-wide database.

10 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: What does that  
11 mean, you searching three times? Meaning you  
12 search once and you don't find it, so --

13 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: You research -- So  
14 you'll do three different searches. So you might  
15 search by, like, first name and date of birth, or  
16 you might search by driver's license, --

17 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Okay.

18 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: -- or first name  
19 and last name, different types of searches. So if  
20 there is --

21 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Okay.

22 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: -- mismatched  
23 information or a name change, you would be able to  
24 find them some other way.

1                   CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Okay. Thank you.

2                   MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Yep. Yep.

3                   So after those six searches, it  
4 then -- the directive and Ohio Revised Code say  
5 that the person is -- or directs us to record  
6 the -- the provisional voter is not registered in  
7 the state.

8                   In addition to those six searches  
9 that are done by our initial bipartisan processing  
10 team, we do a rejection review on every provisional  
11 ballot that is up for rejection in our county. And  
12 so after that, we'll have a rejection review  
13 specialist team go through and does another six  
14 searches. So just to be 100 percent sure that we  
15 can't find this voter anywhere in the state or in  
16 the county.

17                   And so of -- after all of those 12  
18 searches, these 599 provisional ballots were cast  
19 by voters who we could not find as registered  
20 anywhere in the state of Ohio 30 days before the  
21 election. And so therefore, we recommend that  
22 those be rejected for not being registered in the  
23 state.

24                   Any other question on that one?

1 Okay.

2           The next category that we have is  
3 voters who cast their ballot in the wrong precinct  
4 and the wrong location. And there are 118  
5 provisional ballots that fall into that category.  
6 And these, uhm, are rejected based on the Revised  
7 Code 3503.01, which says, When an individual  
8 registers to vote in Ohio, they are placed within a  
9 precinct based upon their residential address and  
10 is eligible to vote in that precinct. Because Ohio  
11 law requires a voter to be a resident of the  
12 precinct in which they offer to vote, a provisional  
13 ballot cast in the wrong location/precinct cannot  
14 be counted.

15           So these voters, typically we find  
16 this happens, it would be a voter comes in to check  
17 in at the -- the front table, the roster check-in  
18 table at a polling location. They provide their  
19 name and address. If they're not found in the  
20 pollbook, the voter gets sent to the paper table  
21 where another election official will ask them to  
22 again state their name and current address. The  
23 election official at the paper table will look up  
24 their -- that address in the street guide for the

1 county. And if that address does not fall within  
2 the voting location where they presented to vote,  
3 the precinct election official will give them  
4 directions to the location where they should vote  
5 based on their current address.

6           So at that point, when -- when our  
7 election official tells the voter, You're here, but  
8 you need to go vote here because that's where your  
9 address is, in -- that's where you should be  
10 voting, the voter then has a choice. It could be  
11 the end of the night and maybe they're not going to  
12 get there in time, they don't want to drive ten  
13 minutes, you know, away or however many miles away;  
14 and so at that point they say, Just give me a  
15 ballot; let me vote here. And so that's -- that's  
16 the case with these 118 voters. They had cast  
17 their ballot in a wrong location; they're not in  
18 the correct precinct for their current residential  
19 address; and so that's why we recommend that the  
20 Board reject those.

21           Any questions?

22           MEMBER FREEDHOFF: When you -- When  
23 a person gives you that ballot there, --

24           MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Uh-huh.

1                   MEMBER FREEDHOFF:  -- do -- are they  
2 told that their vote will not count?

3                   MS. SARA ZIEMBA:  Uhm, that is an  
4 issue of training.  I don't know that they would  
5 ev- -- I don't know that the -- the election  
6 official would ever say the ballot's not going to  
7 count.  I think they would probably stress to them  
8 that, You need to go to vote in this location.  
9 Uhm, I -- I don't know as far as how they're  
10 trained.

11                   MS. HUMMER:  I don't think you're  
12 per- -- you're permitted to tell them that --

13                   MS. SARA ZIEMBA:  Yeah.

14                   MS. HUMMER:  -- because it's only  
15 this body that actually makes the final  
16 determination.

17                   MS. SARA ZIEMBA:  Yeah.

18                   MEMBER FREEDHOFF:  Wow.

19                   MS. SARA ZIEMBA:  So they would --  
20 they would stress to them, they would give them all  
21 the information that they need to go to vote in the  
22 right location; but if a person says, No, I don't  
23 have time, just let me vote now, our election  
24 officials are trained to just give them a ballot

1 for that location.

2 All right. So there was 118 of  
3 those.

4 And then our next category on here  
5 is Wrong Precinct and Correct Location, and we  
6 didn't have any voters that --

7 (Discussion held off the record.)

8 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Sara, --

9 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Yes.

10 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: -- this is, as  
11 usual, thorough and informative --

12 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Yeah.

13 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: -- and also so  
14 rapid --

15 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: I'm sorry.

16 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: -- that not only  
17 does the stenographer have a hard time keeping up,  
18 I'm having a hard time keeping up.

19 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Okay.

20 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: So just slow down  
21 a tiny bit.

22 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Okay. Gotcha.

23 Okay. So the next category is  
24 voters who voted in the wrong precinct and correct



1 location. We had no voters that fell under that  
2 category.

3 MEMBER FREEDHOFF: Good job.

4 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: So the next  
5 category is pretty straightforward. It is no  
6 signature on the affirmation statement. And that  
7 is one of the required items that is -- needs to be  
8 on the front of the ballot. It's one of the five  
9 required items by law. We had 25 voters that did  
10 not sign the provisional affirmation statement.

11 And so we would recommend that the  
12 Board reject those 25, because the voter failed to  
13 sign it.

14 The next category is No Printed  
15 Name. There were zero voters that did not put  
16 their name on the ballot, so that is also s zero  
17 there.

18 The next category on there is Failed  
19 to Provide Valid Current Address. We had 32 voters  
20 that fell into that category. And these 32 voters  
21 that failed to provide a current address or an  
22 address that was invalid because it was either a  
23 nonresidential or outside of Franklin County,  
24 again, I go back to the Revised Code where it says

1 that you must vote in the precinct where you have  
2 registered to vote. So these voters, the majority  
3 of these 32 actually came from voters that gave a  
4 current address from some other county.

5 So after the election, we will send  
6 copies of the front of the provisional affirmation  
7 statement to the county where the voter said they  
8 live, uhm, so that that other county can use the  
9 affirmation statement to register them in their  
10 correct county; but because it's not a valid  
11 Franklin County address --

12 Like, we would have people that said  
13 they lived at 25 Main Street in Delaware County.  
14 Obviously, the poll worker would have told them  
15 they need to go to Delaware County to vote; but if  
16 they still decided they wanted to vote in Franklin  
17 County, our -- our election official would give  
18 them a ballot.

19 So those 32 provisional ballots, we  
20 recommend that you reject for failing to provide a  
21 valid current residential address.

22 The next item on the list is Missing  
23 or Mismatched ID. We have 287 provisional ballots  
24 that fall in this category. These are voters who

1 failed to provide any acceptable form of photo  
2 identification to election officials at the time  
3 that they cast their ballot, and they also failed  
4 to appear here at the Board of Elections within the  
5 four-day cure period following election day.

6           So with the new House Bill 458 ID  
7 law, voters -- all voters now have to show valid  
8 photo ID; which, again, is a U.S. Passport or  
9 Passport card, State of Ohio driver's license or  
10 state ID, or military ID. And so, again, if you  
11 don't have that on election day even as a  
12 provisional voter, which is different before -- you  
13 used to be able to put the last four of your  
14 social. You can no longer do that. So now voters,  
15 all voters have to show photo ID, and provisional  
16 voters, as well, they get that four extra day grace  
17 period, where if they needed to go -- if their  
18 driver's license expired and they needed to go get  
19 an updated one, they have four days to do that.  
20 They also have that extra four days after the  
21 election to go get one of the three state IDs that  
22 the state government allows for now under that new  
23 ID law for voting.

24           Uhm, after that time period elapsed

1 on Saturday, we still had these 287 voters who  
2 failed to provide a valid -- valid photo ID for  
3 their provisional vote.

4 And, again, when voters cast a  
5 provisional ballot, they are given a flyer that's  
6 the provisional ballot notice. It has on there  
7 this information that says, You have four days to  
8 get valid photo ID and present it at the Board of  
9 Elections if you did not do so today.

10 There's also a provisional hotline  
11 phone number on there that they can call, which  
12 will also give them more information, reiterating  
13 the four-day time period to cure their ballot.

14 So voters are given this information  
15 when they cast their ballot. And after -- again,  
16 after that time period, because these 287 voters  
17 did not show any valid photo ID either at the time  
18 of voting or during the cure period, we would  
19 recommend that the Board reject those ballots, as  
20 well.

21 All right.

22 MEMBER SEXTON: So of the -- How  
23 many -- Do we have an idea how many voters did cure  
24 their ballots?

1 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: We did. We  
2 probably got somewhere in, like, the forties --  
3 forties range of people coming in to bring us a  
4 cure sheet; and of those 40, not all of them needed  
5 to bring it. Some people kind of freak out, and  
6 they just come -- Even though they showed it on  
7 election day or in the early vote center, they'll  
8 still come and show it to us again just to be safe.

9 So I think probably overall, we had  
10 about maybe 20, 22 who actually needed to bring in  
11 valid photo ID because of it lacking on their  
12 affirmation and have it cured within that four-day  
13 period.

14 MR. TRAVIS SIMMONS: Which is  
15 high- -- which is higher than normal.

16 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: It's still higher  
17 than normal, but it's still not high in comparison  
18 to the number that didn't show it, honestly.

19 MEMBER SEXTON: Okay. Thank you.

20 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Yep.

21 Okay. And then the next item we  
22 have here is Signature Mismatch, and we had two of  
23 these signature mismatches. Both of them in this  
24 case were from voters who, uhm, had a -- a POA, a

1 power of attorney sign for them on the ballot;  
2 however, the -- the two voters didn't have what we  
3 call attorney-in-fact paperwork, which is specific  
4 for allowing someone to sign for you on -- for  
5 purposes for voting. They didn't have that  
6 paperwork on file with us; and so, therefore, the  
7 signature didn't match with what we had on file for  
8 the voters. So we recommend the Board reject those  
9 two for a signature mismatch.

10 I will say after the election, we  
11 will reach out to those two voters that had a power  
12 of attorney sign for the voter to make sure that  
13 they get the correct paperwork on file with us so  
14 in the future they can have the power of  
15 attorney -- or attorney-in-fact sign them.

16 All right. That was two.

17 The next category we have are Voter  
18 Already Voted, and we have 24 provisional ballots  
19 that fall under this category. These are voters  
20 who some -- some cast some other ballot during the  
21 early vote or election day period. That could be  
22 they voted in the early vote center, they voted  
23 absentee by mail, or they signed the pollbook on  
24 election day. But either way, the provisional

1 ballot would have been the second vote for that  
2 person. So we recommend that the Board reject  
3 these 24 for that reason so that every voter only  
4 gets one vote.

5                   The -- the likely case on these is  
6 that the voter had requested an absentee, mailed it  
7 back to us maybe that Monday and didn't think it  
8 would get here by the Saturday deadline, so they  
9 went to their poll on election day and voted a  
10 provisional and, like, a safeguard to make sure  
11 that they had their vote counted.

12                   CHAIRMAN PREISSE: So are we  
13 checking that the -- the mail-in vote was received  
14 or that it was requested, they are to reject these  
15 24?

16                   MS. SARA ZIEMBA: That it was  
17 received and accepted.

18                   CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Okay.

19                   MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Yeah. So if we  
20 never got the ballot back, then we would count the  
21 provisional; but if we have an -- an approved  
22 absentee ballot by mail, we will reject the  
23 provisional, which was the voter's, like,  
24 safeguard --

1                   CHAIRMAN PREISSE:   Okay.

2                   MS. SARA ZIEMBA:   -- to make sure  
3 their vote got in.

4                   CHAIRMAN PREISSE:   Okay.

5                   MS. SARA ZIEMBA:   And then in all of  
6 these 24 cases, we will do more thorough research  
7 on the back end just to make sure.  We'll have our,  
8 uhm, fraud investigator call the voter or just  
9 research it a little bit more to make sure that,  
10 like, they weren't trying to do something  
11 duplicitous.  They were just really trying to  
12 safeguard votes.  We don't know that for sure right  
13 now, but it's just our guess.

14                  CHAIRMAN PREISSE:   Okay.

15                  MS. SARA ZIEMBA:   But, again, if  
16 there's anything that comes out of that -- uhm,  
17 those investigations, we will let directors and the  
18 Board know.

19                  MS. HUMMER:    Sara?

20                  MS. SARA ZIEMBA:   Yes.

21                  MS. HUMMER:    I think the Board may  
22 be interested in what -- what you do, the Board of  
23 Elections does with regard to notification to -- of  
24 cure periods.



1 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Sure. Yeah.

2 So for the notification of the cure  
3 period for both absentee and provisional, but with  
4 res- -- you know, more concern for provisional,  
5 because that's my expertise area, we do give  
6 that flyer out with every person that votes  
7 provisional -- provisionally. We will hand out the  
8 note. It has the cure period on there, the -- all  
9 of the important notices. It's a Secretary of  
10 State official form that they prescribe to us to  
11 give out to voters.

12 Again, we've got that provisional  
13 hotline that will reiterate to the voter, If you  
14 did not show valid photo identification on election  
15 day, you have four days or until Saturday at noon  
16 to bring the unexpired valid photo ID here to the  
17 Board of Elections, 1700 Morse Road.

18 And then we also, uhm, did several,  
19 like, social media posts and, like, tweets,  
20 Facebook, Instagram, things like that, to make sure  
21 voters were aware of the timeline, because it is  
22 shorter than previous. With the -- the new House  
23 Bill rules, the deadline was pushed from Tuesday,  
24 the seventh day, till Saturday, the fourth day.

1                   So voters were made aware several  
2 different ways and could get the information  
3 several different places: on our social media,  
4 website, by calling the board, and on the -- the  
5 notice that they received.

6                   Is that good? Okay.

7                   MS. HUMMER: I just know that you're  
8 always concerned with making sure people understand  
9 those rules.

10                  MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Yep.

11                  CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Thank you.

12                  MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Yeah. Uh-huh.

13                  All right. And then the next  
14 category we have is Challenge Upheld, and we didn't  
15 have any challenge voters who showed up and voted  
16 provisional. So that category is zero.

17                  The next category is Date of Birth  
18 Missing. And like I mentioned earlier, there is an  
19 exception for voters who attempted to put a date of  
20 birth on their provisional affirmation; but these  
21 42 voters left that field blank.

22                  So, again, as that is one of the  
23 five critical required pieces of information that  
24 must appear on the front of the provisional

1 envelope, the fact that these 42 voters did not put  
2 anything down means that they are ineligible to go  
3 under the Board review category where you might be  
4 able to approve the ballot with a mismatched  
5 birthday. If it's missing, there is there is no  
6 exception, unfortunately, to save those 42 voters.

7           So, again, because they lacked that  
8 critical piece of information, the Voter Services  
9 Department would recommend the Board reject those  
10 42 for date of birth missing.

11           And then the last category on here,  
12 which seems -- might seem strange, but it does  
13 happen, there were three voters that filled out a  
14 provisional affirmation envelope, but they didn't  
15 actually put a ballot in it.

16           So I think most -- most of the  
17 times this happens if people, uhm -- they -- maybe  
18 they -- they realized they weren't registered  
19 and -- or they were in the wrong place and they  
20 realized, you know, My vote might not count, so I'm  
21 just going to fill this out as a registration form,  
22 uhm, I think that's why people do it. Again,  
23 that's just my best guess. But there were three of  
24 those where we had no ballot in the envelope.

1           So there's really nothing to approve  
2 there, so we will ask that the Board reject those  
3 three for having no ballot in the envelope.

4           DIRECTOR WHITE: Sara --

5           MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Yeah.

6           DIRECTOR WHITE: -- just for  
7 clarification, we haven't had a -- the Board hasn't  
8 authorized to extract the ballots. So can you  
9 explain how you know it's not -- the ballot's not  
10 in those envelopes?

11           MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Sure. So how we  
12 know there's not one in there is that there are,  
13 uhm -- there are -- first of all, there are little  
14 holes in the ballot -- or in the envelope so you  
15 can see through, like, to see if there's a paper in  
16 there. Also, we use a -- a light table. It's  
17 probably, like, half the size of one of the office  
18 tables here. And you can turn the light up really  
19 bright; and if you have a question of is there a  
20 ballot in there, you can turn that up; and if you  
21 see nothing in there, you'll know that there's not  
22 a ballot in it.

23           DIRECTOR WHITE: I wanted that noted  
24 for the record.

1 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Okay. Yeah. We  
2 didn't op- -- Yeah, we did not open it up just to  
3 see if there was a ballot. You could tell that  
4 there was not one in it. Thank you.

5 Okay. So in conclusion, if there  
6 are no more questions on the rejected categories,  
7 we have -- we -- Voter Services would recommend  
8 that the board move to reject a grand total of  
9 1,132 provisional ballots for the critical  
10 deficiencies that are detailed under the Reasons  
11 for Rejection on Exhibit A.

12 MEMBER SEXTON: Okay. I move that  
13 the Board reject the counting of 1,132 provisional  
14 ballots as identified by category in Exhibit A and  
15 that all the provisional ballots rejected will not  
16 be counted or included in the official canvas  
17 results of the August 8th, 2023, Special Election.

18 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Doug Preisse.  
19 Second the motion.

20 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: It's been  
21 properly moved and seconded.

22 All those in favor of the motion,  
23 signify by saying "Aye."

24 (Vote counted.)

1 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: All opposed,  
2 same sign.

3 (No response.)

4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Motion  
5 carries.

6 The next item would be the 28  
7 ballots for Board consideration.

8 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: All right. So the  
9 28 items that we have for Board consideration are  
10 all issues where the voter has attempted to provide  
11 a date of birth to us. So they fall under the  
12 exception, which I'll read here for the record.

13 The Board has the power to vote --

14 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: What are you  
15 reading from, please?

16 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Oh, I'll --  
17 I'll -- Okay. It's -- Yeah. So this is just me  
18 talking.

19 The Board has the power to vote or  
20 to accept or reject these provisional ballots as a  
21 group or individually in accordance with the  
22 following direction from Ohio Revised Code  
23 3505.183; Exceptions: If the affirmation statement  
24 contains the voter's date of birth but the month

1 and day are different from the month and day in the  
2 statewide voter registration database, the Board  
3 must reject the provisional ballot unless, one, the  
4 voter's date of birth in the database is  
5 one-one-eighteen hundred; or, two, the Board of  
6 Elections finds by a vote of at least three of at  
7 its members that the voter has met all of the other  
8 requirements of the division.

9           And so the important part here is  
10 that the voter's date of birth are different than  
11 what it is in the statewide database; but the  
12 affirmation con- -- statement contains all of the  
13 other required information and they meet the two  
14 conditions, that they have to be registered to vote  
15 and cannot have cast another ballot for this  
16 election.

17           So after our review, we saw two main  
18 issues here. We had 19 of those 28 that wrote 2023  
19 as their birth year, and some of them put election  
20 day as the birth year. And then we had nine of  
21 them that transposed or put a different day, month,  
22 or year in some combination on there.

23           But in all cases, all of these  
24 voters, while the birth date does not match what's

1 on the statewide database, they do meet all of the  
2 other requirements in order to be accepted.

3 So under Section 2 of this exception  
4 from Revised Code 3505.183, the Board of Elections  
5 can find by a vote of at least three of its members  
6 that the voter has met all other requirements, the  
7 ballot may be approved.

8 DIRECTOR WHITE: So the provisional  
9 ballots Mr. Sexton has are the ones where they put  
10 2023 as their year of birth.

11 These are the ballots that -- where  
12 the birth date was transposed, as she just  
13 described in her report.

14 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Does counsel wish  
15 to counsel?

16 MS. HUMMER: Well, it's obvious when  
17 they are putting the 2023. It's one of those slips  
18 of your mind where you're just not thinking. But  
19 since -- I think that's the -- that it's within  
20 your discretion, of course, to reject these; but  
21 given the fact that they have met all the other  
22 requirements, it's clearly, uhm, and what has -- we  
23 have found traditionally, you have approved those.

24 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: As I recall, we



1 traditionally have.

2 But, Sara, if you would go back to  
3 the first provision on the --

4 Is it -- is the prohibition there in  
5 the first paragraph of the code you cited the month  
6 and day or month or day are incongruent with the  
7 record that triggers the second consideration?

8 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Yeah. So the  
9 affirmation statement contains the voter's date of  
10 birth, but the month and day are different --

11 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Month and day.  
12 Okay.

13 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: -- month and day  
14 in the statewide voter registration database.

15 MEMBER SEXTON: It looks like those  
16 19 were almost all the date of the election --

17 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Yeah.

18 MEMBER SEXTON: -- 8-8, 2023; and  
19 there's a couple, like, the 2nd, the 7th of August,  
20 2023.

21 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Yeah.

22 MEMBER SEXTON: It looks like some  
23 of those were just putting -- most of those were  
24 just putting down the date of the election rather

1 than the birth date; which, it's my understanding  
2 would be acceptable as long as they fulfilled all  
3 the other requirements.

4 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: That's correct.

5 MEMBER SEXTON: So what you're  
6 saying on the -- of these 19, that those are --  
7 they have fulfilled the requirements.

8 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Yes, everything --  
9 yes, everything else is --

10 MEMBER SEXTON: It's within our  
11 discretion to --

12 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Yes.

13 MEMBER SEXTON: -- approve those  
14 based on the wrong date.

15 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: That's correct.

16 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: And then there's  
17 nine more?

18 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Yeah. They're  
19 right there that have -- There are various issues.  
20 They're -- Some of them, the month -- you know,  
21 they might have transposed the month and the day.  
22 The -- the day could be off by a couple of days.  
23 Uhm, I think that --

24 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: So in each of

1 those additional nine, --

2 MS. SARA ZIEMBA:

3 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: -- month and/or  
4 date are incongruent with the record, but they have  
5 satisfied the other four --

6 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Requirements.  
7 Yes, and then they're registered and didn't cast  
8 any other ballot.

9 MEMBER SEXTON: These nine are the  
10 same things. It's all either 8-8, 8-2. One of  
11 them's, I think, 8-7.

12 MEMBER FREEDHOFF: Can I ask you a  
13 question?

14 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Sure.

15 MEMBER FREEDHOFF: This one says  
16 Fairfield County.

17 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Yep. So that one,  
18 uhm, was one of our county-to-county voters. So  
19 they were registered in Fairfield County, but they  
20 now live and voted here.

21 MEMBER FREEDHOFF: Okay.

22 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: So they are  
23 registered to vote in Fair- -- well, yeah, the  
24 county. So we checked with Fairfield to see if

1 they voted there, and they did not.

2 MEMBER FREEDHOFF: And then these  
3 two had different last names?

4 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Yeah. So they  
5 would have had a name change. That's probably why  
6 they voted provisionally and didn't have their  
7 marriage license.

8 MEMBER FREEDHOFF: Oh.

9 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: So if you -- if  
10 you bring your marriage license or a court document  
11 for --- of your name change, you can show that to  
12 the election officials on election day. It's  
13 allowed a name change form to vote regularly on the  
14 machine. If don't have your court documents, then  
15 you have to vote on provisional.

16 MEMBER FREEDHOFF: Gotcha. Thank  
17 you.

18 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Yep. Uh-huh.

19 MEMBER SEXTON: So it looks like all  
20 28 of these are -- they've fulfilled all the other  
21 requirements?

22 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: They have.

23 MEMBER SEXTON: And it's just up to  
24 all three -- It's got to be all three of us that --

1 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: It's got to be all  
2 three of you today, yes.

3 MEMBER SEXTON: On the 28.

4 (Discussion held off the record.)

5 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Let Meredith have  
6 a minute to look at those.

7 What's your recommendation?

8 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: I recommend that  
9 the Board approve them, as the historical practice  
10 of the Board is as long as all the other  
11 requirements are met, the voter's registered and  
12 didn't vote any other ballot, we historically  
13 approve; or you historically approve, not me.

14 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Okay. I don't  
15 have any more questions.

16 Do you?

17 MEMBER SEXTON: (Shook head  
18 negatively.)

19 MS. FREEDHOFF: I do not.

20 MEMBER SEXTON: Mr. Chairman, I move  
21 Board approve the counting of the 28 additional  
22 provisional ballots and the rejection of zero  
23 additional provisional ballots and that all  
24 provisional ballots be deemed valid and will be

1 counted and included in the official canvas results  
2 for the August 8th, 2023, Special Election.

3 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Doug Preisse.

4 Second the motion.

5 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: It's been  
6 properly moved and seconded.

7 All those in favor of the motion,  
8 signify by saying "Aye."

9 (Vote taken.)

10 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: All opposed,  
11 same sign.

12 (No response.)

13 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Motion  
14 carries.

15 The next item on the agenda would be  
16 giving the Voter Services team the ability to  
17 extract those provisional ballots --

18 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Correct.

19 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: -- from  
20 their envelopes.

21 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: I move that the  
22 Board authorize the staff to extract the approved  
23 provisional ballots.

24 MEMBER SEXTON: Second.

1 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: It's been  
2 properly moved and seconded.

3 All those in favor, signify by  
4 saying "Aye."

5 (Vote taken.)

6 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: All opposed,  
7 same sign.

8 (No response.)

9 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Motion  
10 carries.

11 The next item on the agenda is the  
12 remaking of provisional ballots.

13 Do you want to explain that? I  
14 mean --

15 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Sure. Yes.

16 So there are a couple different  
17 types of remake provisional ballots. There are  
18 some where the -- they're -- the voter was in the  
19 right location, went to the right place where they  
20 should have voted, filled everything on their  
21 affirmation statement out correctly, and the poll  
22 worker or the election official gave them the wrong  
23 ballot for their address, uhm, by human error.

24 In those cases, we would ask to

1 remake the ballot to the voter's correct precinct,  
2 so that when we get our precinct level results,  
3 that they are correct, of course.

4           The other type of remake would be  
5 when we open up and extract the ballots here  
6 shortly, uhm, if there is an issue of where the  
7 voter might have marked outside of the bubble or  
8 made some stray mark on there and it can't be read  
9 by the ballot scanner, we would ask for -- that  
10 this permission to remake ballots would also -- or  
11 authorization to remake provisional ballots would  
12 also fall under that category, as well.

13           DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: And can you  
14 explain process that would be? I mean, a  
15 bipartisan team if there's --

16           MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Of course. Yep.

17           So once the ballots are open,  
18 anytime there is a -- a need to remake a ballot, we  
19 have a bipartisan team led by Adam Slane back in  
20 the absentee department who will take the -- take  
21 the ballot that needs to be remade, work with a  
22 Democrat and a Republican together to make sure  
23 that the vote is correctly remade on the correct  
24 ballot for the voter's precinct. And then once the



1 ballot is correctly remade, that will be scanned in  
2 and included with the official results that you  
3 will get on Monday.

4 MS. FREEDHOFF: But we have no idea  
5 how many that will be?

6 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Like, with the  
7 total? Oh, how many will be remade?

8 No, we don't know yet until we open  
9 them up and see what's going on in there.

10 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: And the  
11 other possibility would be that the bipartisan team  
12 couldn't decipher, and then those --

13 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Those would have  
14 to come back to you all on Monday.

15 So if we open up and maybe the  
16 person has bubbled in "yes" and crossed -- made an  
17 X through "no" or some- -- you know, something  
18 like -- or vice versa, uhm, and we can't -- the  
19 bipartisan team and the directors can't determine  
20 what it is, we would bring those to you next Monday  
21 where you'll have a -- you'll have the actual  
22 ballot in front of you, and it will be up to the  
23 three, hopefully four of you to determine how to  
24 count the vote, uhm, and which -- which -- what

1 to -- how to remake that ballot, rather.

2 MS. FREEDHOFF: Historically, do you  
3 have a lot of those?

4 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Uhm, I think  
5 typically the bipartisan teams -- and maybe Adam  
6 can correct me if I'm wrong or David or Antoine  
7 can; but I think that -- that typically we don't  
8 have too many where the bipartisan team can't come  
9 up with a decision on it.

10 (Discussion held off the record.)

11 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: But you might --  
12 you might -- you might see some -- You know, you  
13 might see some on Monday. I think there is one on  
14 Monday.

15 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: They -- And  
16 for sure there's absentee ballots that came in that  
17 we're bringing before -- at least two that we know  
18 of that we're bringing in before the Board.

19 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Very often, it  
20 appears to be an infirm hand and an eyesight issue.

21 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Uh-huh.

22 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: It just appears  
23 that way.

24 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Yeah.

1                   CHAIRMAN PREISSE: So usually we  
2 can -- we can agree, especially if it's a  
3 Republican ballot.

4                   DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: I would say  
5 what's -- what's unique about this election is  
6 sometimes you can look at the previous races to see  
7 how they did; and you can then determine, Okay,  
8 this is what they meant on this last race.

9                   You don't have that this time. You  
10 only have one race, so you can't look at previous  
11 races to get an idea.

12                  CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Yeah, that's  
13 right. You're right, because you're usually --  
14 Often you can see the -- kind of the bubble --

15                  DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: There's a  
16 pattern.

17                  CHAIRMAN PREISSE: There's a pattern  
18 and in this case --

19                  MEMBER FREEDHOFF: Do you typically  
20 find a lot of ballots needing to be remade?

21                  MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Uhm, the most  
22 common we find in provisional is where the -- the  
23 voter has been given an incorrect ballot by an  
24 election official.

1 MEMBER FREEDHOFF: Right.

2 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: And so we -- we  
3 remake those to give the --

4 Because the voter did everything  
5 right. It wasn't their fault. So we will remake  
6 those for the benefit of the voter.

7 MEMBER FREEDHOFF: Yes.

8 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: Those are --  
9 That's the typical ones we see.

10 I -- And, again, I -- Once they're  
11 being opened, Adam sort of takes over with his team  
12 on the scanning issue, so he -- he'll -- he'll --  
13 I'm sure he'll tell you way more about that on  
14 Monday --

15 MEMBER FREEDHOFF: Great.

16 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: -- when you see  
17 the actual ones for you guys to talk about.

18 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Sometimes  
19 you can actually tell what the voter was eating at  
20 the time that they were filling out the ballot.

21 MS. SARA ZIEMBA: The coffee stained  
22 ballot, yeah, everyone's favorite.

23 (Contemporaneous crosstalk.)

24 MS. FREEDHOFF: Well, then, I move

1 that the Board authorize the staff to make --  
2 remake provisional ballots and that these remade  
3 ballots shall be tabulated and included in the  
4 official canvas of the results for the August 8th  
5 election and with a report to be made to the Board  
6 later.

7 MEMBER SEXTON: Second.

8 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: It's been  
9 properly moved and seconded.

10 All those in favor of the motion,  
11 signify by saying "Aye."

12 (Vote taken.)

13 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: All opposed,  
14 same sign.

15 (No response.)

16 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Motion  
17 carries.

18 I don't show anything else on the  
19 agenda.

20 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Move to adjourn.

21 MEMBER SEXTON: Second.

22 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: No  
23 objections. We're adjourned.

24 (Thereupon, the meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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THE STATE OF OHIO:

SS:

COUNTY OF FRANKLIN:

I, Beth A. Higgins, a Professional Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of Ohio, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true, correct, and complete written transcript of the proceedings in this matter;

That the foregoing was taken by me stenographically and transcribed by me with computer-aided transcription;

That the foregoing occurred at the aforementioned time and place;

That I am not an attorney for or relative of any of the parties and have no interest whatsoever in the event of this matter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal of office at Columbus, Ohio, this 4th day of September, 2023.

/s/Beth A. Higgins  
Notary Public, State of Ohio

My Commission Expires: July 16, 2025.

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BOARD MEMBERS: Douglas J. Preisse, Chairman ★ Meredith Freedhoff ★ Kimberly E. Marinello ★ Michael E. Sexton

Antone White, DIRECTOR      David R. Payne, DEPUTY DIRECTOR

<b>EXHIBIT A</b>	
August 8, 2023 Special Election Provisional Totals Recommended for Board Approval, Rejection, and Consideration	
<b>GRAND TOTAL RECOMMENDED TO ACCEPT</b>	<b>5350</b>
<b>REASONS FOR REJECTION</b>	
Not Registered in the State	599
Wrong Precinct and Location	118
Wrong Precinct and Correct Location	0
No Signature	25
No Printed Name	0
Failed to Provide Valid Current Address	32
Missing or Mismatched ID	287
Signature Mismatch	2
Voter Already Voted	24
Challenge Upheld	0
DOB Missing	42
No Ballot In Envelope	3
<b>GRAND TOTAL RECOMMENDED TO REJECT</b>	<b>1132</b>
<b>FOR BOARD REVIEW</b>	<b>28</b>
DOB Issues	28
<b>GRAND TOTAL ALL PROVISIONALS CAST</b>	<b>6510</b>