

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


MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON

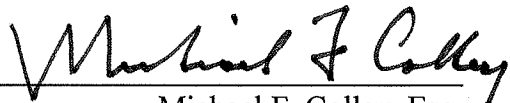
7-13-10

APPROVED ON

8-9-10

BY:

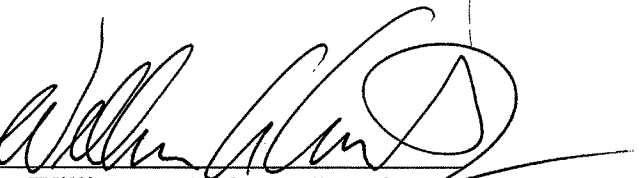
  
Douglas J. Preisse, Chairman

  
Michael F. Colley, Esq.

  
Kimberly E. Marinello

  
Zachary Manifold

ATTEST:

  
William A. Anthony, Jr., Director

1 FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

2 FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO

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4 IN RE: :

5 Special Meeting :

6 :

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8 Proceedings before Chairman Douglas J.  
9 Preisse; Director William A. Anthony,  
10 Junior; Deputy Director Matt M. Damschroder;  
11 and Board Members Michael F. Colley and  
12 Kimberly E. Marinello; taken at the Franklin  
13 County Board of Elections, 280 East Broad  
14 Street, Columbus, Ohio, on Tuesday, July 13,  
15 2010, at 4:11 o'clock p.m.

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1 ALSO PRESENT:

2 Ben Piscitelli, PIO

3 Suzanne Brown, Secretary

4 Stu Lyle, National Sales Manager,  
Meisse Productions

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6 Gunther Meisse, President,  
Meisse Productions

7 Stephen Lewis Taylor

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2 P R O C E E D I N G S

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4 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: We would like to  
5 call the Franklin County Board of Elections Special  
6 Meeting to order. I'll do the roll call.

7 Kim Marinello?

8 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: Here.

9 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Doug Preisse?

10 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Here.

11 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Michael Colley?

12 BOARD MEMBER COLLEY: Here.

13 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All -- we have three  
14 Board members here, which represents a quorum, so  
15 the meeting is called to order.

16 The first item on the agenda is to  
17 approve the meeting of the last minutes -- approve  
18 the minutes of the last meeting.

19 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: Mr. Chairman,  
20 I move the minutes of the meetings of the Board  
21 held on June 7th, 2010, and June 23rd, 2010, be  
22 approved as submitted.

23 BOARD MEMBER COLLEY: Second.

24 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All those in favor?

1 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

2 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: The ayes have it.

3 The second item on the agenda is --  
4 we're going to, I guess, bring before the Board  
5 again the matter of putting postage on the  
6 application requesting a ballot.

7 We had a 2:2 tie at the -- at the last  
8 meeting. We decided that instead of leaving it as  
9 a tie vote, that we would stop and think about it  
10 for a week or two, and so we bring it back before  
11 the Board, but we're looking at an absentee ballot  
12 application mailing schedule for August the 19th.

13 I think the total cost of that puts our  
14 estimated cost for -- to put a stamp on those would  
15 be \$84,800, so I don't know what else to say about  
16 it.

17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR DAMSCHRODER: That's  
18 pretty much all there is. Right now it's -- this  
19 is the issue we tied on last week --

20 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Right.

21 DEPUTY DIRECTOR DAMSCHRODER: -- that  
22 if -- if we don't --

23 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Break it down.

24 DEPUTY DIRECTOR DAMSCHRODER:

1 -- resolve the issue, we have to send arguments to  
2 the Secretary of State by whatever, the 14th day  
3 from last -- I think next Monday.

4 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: That would be July  
5 20th.

6 DEPUTY DIRECTOR DAMSCHRODER: And I  
7 know there's been some conversation between this --  
8 Chairman Preisse and Director Anthony about the  
9 issue. So instead of continuing on with the tie,  
10 if we move the tie of the previous vote by action  
11 today, we'll -- we won't have to resolve -- we  
12 won't have the Secretary resolve that.

13 So what we'll -- what we have here is  
14 an affirmative motion to do the mailing -- or to  
15 pay the -- the return postage on the applications,  
16 that if it -- if the -- after the -- after the  
17 motion is made and is properly seconded, if the  
18 resolution fails 2:1 or 3:0 or passes 2:1 or 3:0,  
19 then it resolves the -- the tie from last week.

20 So we're voting no.

21 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: It does go to  
22 the Secretary of State to see if it goes to the  
23 Commissioners?

24 DEPUTY DIRECTOR DAMSCHRODER: No.

1 If -- if we don't have a tie, it won't go to the  
2 Secretary of State. It does go to the  
3 Commissioners to decide whether they want to give  
4 us the supplemental appropriations to pay for it at  
5 all.

6 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: So we'll -- so will  
7 there be a motion?

8 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: Mr. Chairman,  
9 I move the Board instruct the Director and Deputy  
10 Director to provide -- to provide postage be on the  
11 return envelopes as part of the absentee ballot  
12 application mailing scheduled for August 19th,  
13 2010, and to request supplemental appropriations  
14 from the Board of Commissioners in the amount of  
15 \$84,800 for the expected necessary and proper  
16 expenses of the Board related to this motion.

17 BOARD MEMBER COLLEY: Mr. Chairman, I  
18 will second the motion.

19 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: And we'll do a roll  
20 call vote on -- on this motion.

21 Kim Marinello?

22 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: Yes.

23 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Doug Preisse?

24 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: No.

1 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Michael Colley?

2 BOARD MEMBER COLLEY: No.

3 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All right. The  
4 motion fails for a -- for a -- that resolves that  
5 issue.

6 The next issue before the Board is a --  
7 we would like to put a -- a board -- a brand  
8 before -- I mean a -- our office is bringing before  
9 the Board here the request to put a stamp on the  
10 voted ballot so that voters -- once they receive  
11 the ballot in the mail, they'll be able to have  
12 postage on it and just mail it back to -- to the  
13 Board to be counted.

14 We estimate the postage will cost a  
15 little over \$76,000. Any questions?

16 (No audible response.)

17 None?

18 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: Mr. Chairman,  
19 I move that the Board instruct the Director and  
20 Deputy Director to provide postage paid on return  
21 envelopes to voters to return their voted absentee  
22 ballots and to request supplemental appropriations  
23 from the Board of Commissioners in the amount of  
24 \$76,320 for the expected necessary and proper



1 expenses of the Board related to the motion.

2 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Is there a second?

3 BOARD MEMBER COLLEY: Second.

4 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All those in  
5 folver -- in folver -- all those in favor say aye.

6 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

7 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All right. The  
8 motion carries.

9 The next item on the agenda, we had  
10 talked about this a little at the -- at the last  
11 meeting. We're -- we plan to do voting here at  
12 Memorial Hall. As such, we need to make sure we  
13 have ample parking space, and we need to make sure  
14 that we have some type of tent or -- or a tent to  
15 cover folks in the case of inclement weather.

16 So we're looking to work with the  
17 County Commissioners and PFM, Public Facilities  
18 Management, to make sure that all the cars  
19 currently paid to park out in the parking lot will  
20 be moved to another location so we have an entire  
21 parking lot for the purpose of parking during  
22 September 28th through November the 2nd.

23 And then we're looking at -- and both  
24 folks that are parked there, you know, they'll have

1 to find off street or a parking garage or somewhere  
2 else to park, and we'll let PFM and the  
3 Commissioners deal -- you know, work that out. We  
4 don't know what that cost is.

5 And then to put a tent out there,  
6 probably the last couple weeks of the election in  
7 anticipation for crowds and bad weather, like we're  
8 having right now, so they won't get wet while  
9 they're waiting to vote.

10 Any -- any questions on that?

11 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: How many spots do we  
12 have there and how many do other county employees  
13 have outside? Do you know that offhand?

14 DEPUTY DIRECTOR DAMSCHRODER: There's  
15 about, I think, 120 parking spaces out in the  
16 Memorial Hall lot, most of -- to -- to get a  
17 monthly pass to park there, employees have to wait  
18 on a waiting list run by PFM, and then once  
19 they're -- as -- as that list ages and people get  
20 up to the top, then they can pay a monthly fee to  
21 the Commissioners to pay in this lot.

22 Several years ago, I think it was '06  
23 when Denny White was here, we made the decision to  
24 move all of our employees out of this lot and park

1 them in the school employee's retirement system  
2 garage next door, and so all -- almost all of our  
3 full-time employees park over there.

4 Our hope at the time was that by moving  
5 our staff over there, it would free up additional  
6 spaces for visitors to park, particularly during  
7 voting period. Well, when we did that then -- then  
8 PFM just sold those additional spots to other  
9 people on the waiting list, so what we had hoped to  
10 achieve wasn't achieved, and -- and they -- I think  
11 they only allow 17 visitors on the lot at a time,  
12 because they sold the other spaces.

13 So I think the -- that the Director's  
14 vision is for that period -- that period of -- of  
15 early voting, that all the full-time employees that  
16 work for the County in this building would park  
17 probably in the S -- ERS garage or elsewhere, so  
18 that all 100 or most of the 100 spaces here could  
19 be left empty for voters who would come to vote  
20 early. I think that's -- and correct me if I'm  
21 wrong, Bill, but I think that's --

22 DIRECTORY ANTHONY: Yeah. Any  
23 questions? Any other questions?

24 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: I move that

1 the Board instruct the Director and Deputy Director  
2 to coordinate with the County Commissioners' Public  
3 Facilities Management and the other impacted county  
4 agencies to arrange for off-site parking for all  
5 Memorial Hall county employees so as to provide  
6 additional parking for the person -- for in-person  
7 absentee voters from September 28th through  
8 November 2nd, and to tent a portion of the parking  
9 lot to shelter voters who may be in line to cast an  
10 in-person absentee ballot.

11 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Is there a second?

12 BOARD MEMBER COLLEY: Second.

13 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All those in favor?

14 BOARD MEMBERS: Yes.

15 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All right. The last  
16 item on the agenda, I had asked Meisse  
17 Productions -- I had a meeting with them, with  
18 Matt, awhile back, and they have the voter kiosk.

19 You may have read about them in the  
20 paper. Barbara Carmen did a pretty nice article  
21 about it. Thank you, Barb, yeah.

22 And so I thought it would be good for  
23 the Board to at least take a look at these machines  
24 to see what -- what you guys thought about it.

1 I'm also going to have the  
2 Commissioners take a look at them as well. My hope  
3 is they would use these machines at some of our  
4 Voter Outreach educational efforts in -- in the  
5 future, but I thought it would be good to have you  
6 guys take a look at it.

7 And Gunther Meisse -- Meisse --

8 MR. MEISSE: Meisse.

9 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: I always get your  
10 name wrong -- and Stu Lyle, I'll let you guys take  
11 over and do a presentation.

12 MR. LYLE: Thank you for having us. We  
13 certainly appreciate it.

14 MR. MEISSE: You ready?

15 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Yes.

16 MR. MEISSE: Okay. Basically, it's a  
17 voter-operated kiosk, and it's designed to  
18 consistently educate the voters throughout the  
19 county. And the best way to see what's going on is  
20 just to touch it.

21 KIOSK MACHINE: Hello, and welcome to  
22 your voter training touch-screen kiosk. This kiosk  
23 was designed for you, the voter, to help you to  
24 better understand the processes and procedures for

1 voting in the State of Texas.

2 To get started, simply touch any one of  
3 the buttons on the screen.

4 MR. MEISSE: The Texas part I need to  
5 change.

6 (Laughter.)

7 MR. MEISSE: Anyway, these are the  
8 topics. You know, how to register to vote,  
9 election day voting and early voting, provisional,  
10 how to become a poll worker -- if they don't even  
11 know what a poll worker does, it's kind of hard to  
12 approve -- and the hours of voting and voting  
13 rights.

14 This is actually Dallas' program. So  
15 these topics could change, but this is pretty much  
16 an overview of things going on in Dallas County.

17 So, in essence, you push any one of  
18 these buttons and it tells you information about  
19 it. If you're not a registered voter, you touch  
20 it.

21 KIOSK MACHINE: Voting is one of the  
22 most precious freedoms we have in America, but to  
23 do so, you must be registered.

24 In Texas, you must be a U.S. citizen

1 and a Texas resident that is 18 years old on  
2 election day, and at least 17 years and 10 months  
3 of age on the date you apply.

4 Convicted felons who have not completed  
5 their sentence and individuals declared mentally  
6 incompetent by a court are ineligible to register.

7 To vote in an upcoming election, you  
8 must be registered at least 30 days before the  
9 election in which you wish to vote.

10 You can pick up a voter registration  
11 application at a number of places such as --

12 MR. MEISSE: So instead of running  
13 through the entire thing, it's about at least a  
14 half an hour long, the nice thing is you can pick  
15 what you want.

16 In order to know about provisionals,  
17 you just touch the screen.

18 KIOSK MACHINE: A provisional ballot is  
19 a ballot that must be validated before it is  
20 counted instead of being counted with the other  
21 ballots.

22 After the polls close, they are checked  
23 by the Elections Department in the 10 days  
24 following the elections. They are included in the

1 official vote count only after it is determined  
2 they are valid.

3 You must vote a provisional ballot if  
4 you claim to be properly registered and eligible to  
5 vote, but your name does not appear on the list of  
6 registered voters.

7 MR. MEISSE: So, basically, you can see  
8 it's interactive and it consistently explains  
9 what's going on in your world, the elections,  
10 regardless where it is, and it works 24/7. We wait  
11 for it to go back to the main menu here.

12 It's also multi-lingual, too, so you're  
13 able to reach voters (voice fades).

14 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Where is the  
15 multi-lingual piece?

16 MR. MEISSE: Well, this is both.  
17 So this is the main menu if you only know  
18 Spanish -- if you want to hear it in Spanish you  
19 just touch --

20 KIOSK MACHINE: (Talking in Spanish.)

21 MR. MEISSE: And then the whole menu is  
22 in Spanish.

23 So -- and we consider this our Outreach  
24 Program, so this program would be used throughout



1 the year.

2           There's other programs we can develop.  
3 You can have your own. We can develop that, but  
4 some of the other ones, like for early voting,  
5 we've used just like an early voting -- we bought  
6 an early voting chip where we produced it  
7 specifically for the information for the early  
8 voting location.

9           I can show you. I've got -- actually  
10 have them with me. I can show you this and some  
11 others as well.

12           This is an early voting program, and  
13 this is designed to either be played once and stop,  
14 or be looped. So if you were in an early voting  
15 location where you had lines, you can constantly  
16 loop a message for them while they're waiting to  
17 vote.

18           KIOSK MACHINE: When voting early, you  
19 will be required to vote using the electronic  
20 touch-screen voting system.

21           The first thing you need to do when you  
22 arrive at your polling station is to check in at  
23 the registration table. A poll worker will then  
24 program your voter access card.

1           You will use this card to begin your  
2 session by inserting it into the voting unit, then  
3 separate instructions appear on the screen to walk  
4 you through the process. Read the instructions  
5 carefully, then touch next.

6           MR. MEISSE: So, anyway, that's -- that  
7 would play once and then go back to the menu.

8           If you touch up here at the top to hit  
9 the button for the poll workers, which has all the  
10 materials they were trained on during poll worker  
11 training, so if they have a problem with a printer  
12 or something like that, they're able to access this  
13 information in the polls. And you could go as far  
14 to have the set-up of the polls, the tear down of  
15 the polls, securing ballots, all that kind of stuff  
16 would be on there.

17           And then during the election you can  
18 have it educate the voter, too, as they come  
19 through. So all this is, you know, for laptop --

20           MACHINE KIOSK: There are eight  
21 components to setting up your laptop.

22           MR. MEISSE: I don't want to watch  
23 that, but you can.

24           (Laughter.)

