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ALSO PRESENT:

Ms. Suzanne Brown,  
Executive Assistant to the Board.

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Monday Afternoon Session,  
October 7, 2013.

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DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Good afternoon,  
everyone. I would like to call the Franklin County  
Board of Elections meeting to order.

I will do a roll-call. Kimberly  
Marinello.

MEMBER MARINELLO: Here.

DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Zachary Manifold.

MEMBER MANIFOLD: Here.

DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Douglas.

CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Preisse.

DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Preisse.

CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Here.

DIRECTOR ANTHONY: And Bradley Sinnott.

MEMBER SINNOTT: Here.

CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Gone a long time.

DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Mr. Chairman, we have  
a quorum, a full presence.

The first item on the agenda would be the  
approval of the Board minutes from September 3.

MEMBER MANIFOLD: Mr. Chairman, I move  
that the Board approve the minutes of the

1 September 3, 2013, meeting of the Franklin County  
2 Board of Elections as submitted.

3 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Is there a second?

4 MEMBER MARINELLO: Second.

5 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All those in favor.

6 I'm going to pass around the sheet for  
7 everybody to sign.

8 The second item on the agenda are some  
9 withdrawals.

10 Mr. Mackey.

11 MR. MACKEY: I received letters  
12 indicating that candidates wish to withdraw in  
13 Worthington, Rob Schmidt for Worthington City  
14 Council; and also in the Groveport-Madison School  
15 District, Becky Martin Vanest was a candidate for  
16 Board of Education. And they indicated they would  
17 like to withdraw so we will post notices at those  
18 precincts that we will not count any of those votes.

19 MEMBER SINNOTT: All right. I move that  
20 the Board accept the withdrawals of Rob Schmidt as a  
21 City Council candidate for the City of Worthington  
22 and Becky Martin Vanest as a candidate for Board  
23 Member of Groveport-Madison School District, and that  
24 any votes cast for these candidates for the

1 November 5, 2013, General Election shall not be  
2 counted.

3 MEMBER MANIFOLD: Second.

4 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All those in favor.

5 Motion carries.

6 Mr. Chair, the next item of business is  
7 we had a death of a candidate for this past election.

8 Mr. Mackey.

9 MR. MACKEY: Mr. John Bender, candidate  
10 and current Canal Winchester City Council Member,  
11 passed away three or four weeks ago. Not Judge  
12 Bender, John Bender. So we will also not be counting  
13 any votes cast for him.

14 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: If I might just  
15 say as a resident of Canal Winchester, Dr. Bender, I  
16 think Suzanne will attest to this also, Dr. Bender  
17 had done a lot of great things in the former Village  
18 of Canal Winchester, now City of Canal Winchester,  
19 long-time teacher there, coach of the track teams,  
20 cross-country teams, really impacted not only -- in  
21 addition to his civic service as a member of Council  
22 for a number of years and really a positive impact on  
23 a lot of young people, especially in Canal  
24 Winchester. So he was just a really -- really neat

1       guy, for lack of a better way to put it.

2                   MEMBER MARINELLO: Mr. Chairman, I move  
3       that the Board place notices at each polling location  
4       and in absentee ballots that inform voters of the  
5       death of Canal Winchester City Council candidate John  
6       Bender stating that any votes cast for Mr. Bender  
7       will not be counted.

8                   DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Is there a second?

9                   MEMBER SINNOTT: There is.

10                  DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All those in favor.

11                  Motion carries.

12                  The next item on the agenda would be  
13       the --

14                  CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Could I ask for a  
15       pause?

16                  I don't know how that looks in the -- how  
17       that notice looks in the ballot. So you have a  
18       personal relationship with that family. Maybe there  
19       is a way to let them know that's happening so that it  
20       isn't a distressing appearance when they receive  
21       their ballots or they go to vote.

22                  DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: I don't know the  
23       family personally, but we certainly can get word to  
24       them about that.

1           Has it been communicated to them at all,  
2 Jeff? Do you know? I mean, we talked with the City  
3 of Canal Winchester about it and let them know.

4           But we can certainly, Mr. Chairman, touch  
5 base with the family just to let them know, standard  
6 protocol.

7           CHAIRMAN PREISSE: I don't know what it  
8 would look like, but it might appear sterile and  
9 impersonal and, you know, insensitive so thanks for  
10 taking a look at it.

11          DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: And it does for  
12 obvious --

13          CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Necessary reasons but.

14          DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: It's a very  
15 generic-type thing, so we will find a way to contact  
16 the family about that.

17          CHAIRMAN PREISSE: That's a nice thought.  
18 Thank you.

19          DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Okay. The next item  
20 on the agenda is we have to get out our paper ballot  
21 allocation for each General Election, and the Exhibit  
22 A will be our allocation for paper ballots for this  
23 election.

24          DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: These formulas

1 take into account per the Secretary of State  
2 directive the number of paper ballots cast in those  
3 precincts in past elections, like elections, so we  
4 use 2009, 2013, take the highest number that were  
5 cast in that precinct between those two elections and  
6 then allocate at least 5 percent more.

7 MEMBER MARINELLO: 25 is the minimum.

8 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: 25 is the  
9 minimum. Every ballot style in the county will get  
10 at least 25 paper ballots on election day so then  
11 obviously due to past high numbers of provisionals  
12 might get some more. We feel this formula and then  
13 adding a few extras on here and there where we think  
14 it necessary will be more than enough ballots for  
15 Election Day, paper ballots for Election Day.

16 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Do we have any  
17 questions on that?

18 MEMBER SINNOTT: What's true about that  
19 precinct in 61?

20 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Yeah, 61C.

21 MEMBER SINNOTT: It has the spike. We're  
22 projecting perhaps a need for 150 ballots there and  
23 that's a few times more than any other precinct in  
24 the county.

1           DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: Jeff, I don't  
2 know if you remember what the deal was with that one.  
3 We did have one as you pointed out here. I would  
4 need to check on that to see, Mr. Sinnott. As you  
5 can see, the two columns did have a relatively  
6 high -- we think -- if I remember right from talking  
7 to Carol about this, we thought in one of the  
8 elections there might have been a potential poll  
9 worker issue in that area in one of the elections  
10 that did send that number higher.

11           We did correct that issue with the poll  
12 worker, but just to be safe in this case we decided  
13 to put -- follow the formula and not reduce it down  
14 tremendously or anything like that as a precautionary  
15 measure. Better to have too many than not enough.

16           MEMBER SINNOTT: I move that the Board  
17 adopt the paper ballot allocation formula found on  
18 Exhibit A for the November 5, 2013, General Election.

19           MEMBER MANIFOLD: Second.

20           DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All those in favor.

21           Motion carries.

22           As we do the paper ballot allocation, we  
23 have the machine allocation and that will be Exhibit  
24 B and that will be our machine allocation for each

1 polling precinct.

2 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: This also is done  
3 off of the Secretary of State directive. The minimum  
4 number we are permitted to put out is one machine for  
5 every 175 registered voters. This formula in front  
6 of you, if I remember right when I did it, took the  
7 formula actually down to one machine for every 160  
8 registered voters. And that's actually even before  
9 we take out any absentee requests as we are permitted  
10 to do by Secretary of State directive. So if  
11 anything, that number will actually get better from a  
12 ratio perspective and will be even further under the  
13 175, better than the one for 175 requirement in State  
14 law.

15 These numbers are very similar to the  
16 numbers we used at the Presidential Election last  
17 year obviously because the voter registration numbers  
18 don't change that much so very, very similar to the  
19 formula we used in November.

20 MEMBER MARINELLO: Mr. Chairman, I move  
21 that the Board adopt the voting machine allocation  
22 formula found on Exhibit B for the November 5, 2013,  
23 General Election.

24 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Is there a second?

1 MEMBER SINNOTT: Second.

2 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All those in favor say  
3 aye.

4 And that motion carries.

5 The next item on the agenda has to do  
6 with provisional ballot approval. This is the  
7 provisional ballot envelopes for the November 5,  
8 2013, Election.

9 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: A motion here  
10 would allow us to have staff go ahead and categorize  
11 the provisional ballots that are cast in November as  
12 we usually do but also state specifically that none  
13 of them are to be counted until the four of you give  
14 approval to them. So per Secretary of State  
15 directive it does allow us to go through and have  
16 staff categorize them, put the reasons together for  
17 any recommendation we might make for a ballot not to  
18 be counted and certainly those that should be counted  
19 to bring to your -- for your approval.

20 MEMBER MANIFOLD: Mr. Chairman, I move  
21 that the Board allow the staff to examine and  
22 categorize provisional ballot envelopes for the  
23 November 5, 2013, General Election before bringing  
24 them to the Board for final approval and that the

1 staff may only begin to count the provision ballots  
2 after the Board officially votes to determine the  
3 validity of the ballots.

4 MEMBER MARINELLO: Second.

5 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All those in favor.

6 And then before you is Exhibit C. And  
7 this is we are going to look at splitting some  
8 precincts for next year. Secretary of State wanted  
9 us to take a look at precincts and these are some of  
10 the proposed precincts in Exhibit C that we are  
11 looking at.

12 Some of them had too many registered  
13 voters so we had to bring it down to the amount of  
14 registered voters per precinct. You guys should have  
15 had a copy of this a while back to take a look at it.

16 Any questions or concerns?

17 MEMBER SINNOTT: Precinct boundaries are  
18 changing, but Board boundaries are not.

19 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: That's correct.

20 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: Board boundaries  
21 are sent by the municipality in each case. We do  
22 have Matt Rushay from our operations department, Jeff  
23 Mackey here too if the Members of the Board do have  
24 any questions about this.

1           DIRECTOR ANTHONY: None of these -- we  
2 are not changing any of these for this election  
3 cycle. This will be next year.

4           MEMBER SINNOTT: How many precincts will  
5 we have in the county then?

6           DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: 814, this would  
7 add 10.

8           MEMBER MANIFOLD: What's the maximum  
9 number? 1,400?

10          DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: State law you can  
11 have no more than 1,400 registered voters in any  
12 precinct. It doesn't allow us -- unfortunately it  
13 doesn't allow us to take out folks who are inactive  
14 or things like that.

15                 The law does specifically say registered  
16 voters so we have to abide by that so. We do just so  
17 the Board -- Members of the Board do know there are  
18 two of them, one -- if they gain your approval, we do  
19 have to submit to the Secretary of State's Office for  
20 waiver requests. Those are in 41B which the reason  
21 we need a waiver request there is that is all on  
22 campus and these are dormitories up there, resident  
23 halls, and they are all within the same census block  
24 and, thus, we have to split the census block.

1           As you know, precinct boundaries must  
2 conform to census geography and being that this is  
3 one self-contained block, it has to be split.  
4 There's no other way to do this so we will be  
5 requesting a waiver on that. The other one, Matt, is  
6 69I; is that correct?

7           MR. RUSHAY: Yes.

8           DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: There is not a  
9 real natural boundary there to make the split so we  
10 will be asking for a waiver on that one also.

11          MS. WOODS: May I ask a question? Will  
12 changing these precincts change a person's polling  
13 location?

14          DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: We are not going  
15 to make these effective until after the election. We  
16 will certainly try not to. I don't know that it  
17 would. I don't see why it would in any way. But we  
18 will take a look at that and see. I don't -- I don't  
19 think it would. We haven't set those for next -- for  
20 the May Primary yet or any Special Election we might  
21 have in February, but we certainly will try our best  
22 not to impact anybody's polling location if we don't  
23 have to.

24          MEMBER MANIFOLD: That was going to be my

1 concern.

2 MEMBER SINNOTT: There is a second.

3 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Is there a motion?

4 MEMBER MARINELLO: Mr. Chairman, I move  
5 that the Board approve the precinct boundary changes  
6 recommended by staff in Exhibit C and that these  
7 precinct boundaries take effect on December 1, 2013.

8 MEMBER SINNOTT: There is still a second.

9 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: There is still a  
10 second. All those in favor say aye.

11 Opposed same sign.

12 The motion carries.

13 Dana, do you have an item?

14 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: Just real quick  
15 for the Members of the Board and our visitors here, I  
16 wanted to take just a moment, if I could, to  
17 introduce Selma Ennin who is a high school senior at  
18 Reynoldsburg High School. We are going -- she is  
19 going to be joining us as an intern for a few hours a  
20 week.

21 Selma, if you will wave to everything.

22 And with her is Miss Jane Ensign who is  
23 the coordinator of this program. It's a unique  
24 program out in Reynoldsburg High School where they

1 try and place high school seniors into real world  
2 experience to get them some experience as they move  
3 through high school.

4 And we tried to make this happen last  
5 year and just for one reason or another didn't work  
6 here at the Board, but we are happy this year that  
7 Selma is going to be able to join us. Today is her  
8 first day. She is going to do three days a week, a  
9 couple hours a day.

10 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: How long will this go  
11 on?

12 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: Throughout the  
13 entire academic school year, correct, Jane?

14 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: So until next spring.  
15 Well, welcome. We are glad that you are here. Hope  
16 it will be a meaningful experience for you.

17 MEMBER SINNOTT: That provides me with  
18 another reason to be proud of being an alumnus of  
19 Reynoldsburg High School.

20 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: That's all I  
21 have, Mr. Director.

22 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Mr. Zach Manifold.

23 MEMBER MANIFOLD: Well, I have an  
24 announcement. It's a happy and sad one. You know, I

1 have been thinking a lot lately because my term is up  
2 in February, and I kind of decided recently that I  
3 wasn't going to run for another four-year term.

4 And with the large amount of things going  
5 on, with the Board having a permanent location move,  
6 you know, next year is going to be a very busy year,  
7 and as an OAEO Trustee, I've been a big advocate for  
8 moving the Election Board Members to odd number of  
9 years. There is a House Bill that's going to switch  
10 the Board appointments to odd number of years so you  
11 don't have these appointments going on during  
12 Presidential or gubernatorial elections.

13 With that kind of consistency and things  
14 I have been thinking about, I think it's time for me  
15 to move along, and it's time to resign my Board  
16 position. It's been a great four years. It's been a  
17 great honor to serve the citizens of Franklin County.  
18 We have the best -- some of the best election staff  
19 in the country. Our election officials are amazing.  
20 I've really enjoyed our time. I think the  
21 professional commitment that our staff has is just  
22 amazing. It's been a great four years.

23 You know, part of my letter I'll submit  
24 after the meeting I talk about how in these times of

1 partisan gridlock, you know, the staff of the Board  
2 of Elections is a shining example of how both parties  
3 can work together in a common purpose to accomplish  
4 great goals. I think it's one of the only places you  
5 see government working, you know, everything is  
6 working, both parties working together for one goal.  
7 I think this place is a great example of how it can  
8 work.

9 I have got to thank all my Board Members  
10 for their mentorship and support for the last four  
11 years. They have been great to me since I came on.  
12 We have a great working relationship, and I think it  
13 makes the Board one of the best functioning boards in  
14 this entire State. You know, we have had tie votes.  
15 We have had disagreements. But it's always been  
16 about policy; it's never been about personal or  
17 anything. And for that I'm grateful.

18 It's been really great us working  
19 together, and I think, you know, last year we were  
20 one of the only counties in the State that had the,  
21 you know, voter turnout. Out of all the counties I  
22 think that's a great testament to the planning and  
23 vision of this Board. And I wish you guys all the  
24 best of luck in your new permanent location, wherever

1 it is.

2 So with that it's time to move on, and I  
3 will see you all around. I know I will be around a  
4 lot so you can always call me.

5 MEMBER MARINELLO: I'll miss you, Zach.

6 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: And for the record we  
7 have enjoyed working with you very, very much. And I  
8 think I speak for us and our predecessors and our  
9 professional staff, and all of the professional staff  
10 enjoy working together with you. And we talked  
11 earlier today so I'm good for buying you that drink,  
12 but also I know you are going to stay involved in the  
13 community and political affairs and that's a  
14 strength -- that's an added strength to the community  
15 that you have and you will so congratulations.

16 MEMBER SINNOTT: On that note I will move  
17 we adjourn.

18 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: We can't adjourn yet.  
19 I have to say a few words.

20 MEMBER SINNOTT: On the record, Bill?

21 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: I will do it on the  
22 record.

23 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: Everybody get  
24 comfortable. Just joking.

1           DIRECTOR ANTHONY: I'll make it real  
2 quick. I've probably known you, Zach, longer than  
3 anybody on the Board has. Back when I was party  
4 chairman, Zach was my executive director. And in  
5 that capacity, you know, he, you know, I found to be  
6 very thoughtful, well organized and, you know,  
7 forward thinking.

8           And when the Board seat came open, it was  
9 a no-brainer to ask Zach to step in and take a  
10 leadership role on this Board. And he's shown --  
11 he's shown that kind of enthusiasm and leadership  
12 ability his four plus years on the Board -- almost  
13 four years, and I certainly appreciate that. I mean,  
14 he's gone on and he's -- he's gotten his certificate  
15 for SERA. It took me 9 years or 10 years to do it;  
16 it took Zach less than 3 so that's another testament  
17 to his commitment to the things that he gets involved  
18 in.

19           Zach is very committed to elections and  
20 fair elections and the whole electoral process and  
21 just bringing a great wealth of knowledge, and I am  
22 going to miss Zach.

23           MEMBER MANIFOLD: Thank you.

24           DIRECTOR ANTHONY: You have been a mentor

1 of mine in more ways than you probably know. So with  
2 that I am going to say thank you, sir.

3 MEMBER MANIFOLD: Thank you.

4 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: And you're welcome.  
5 With that adjourn unless somebody else wants to say  
6 something good about Zach.

7 We stand adjourned. Thank you.

8 (Thereupon, the meeting was adjourned at  
9 3:35 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the proceedings taken by me in this matter on Monday, October 7, 2013, and carefully compared with my original stenographic notes.

---

Karen Sue Gibson, Registered  
Merit Reporter.

(KSG-5766)

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