

THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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In Re: :
:
Special Meeting. :

- - -

December 8, 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 Kim Marinello, on Friday, December 8, 2023,
beginning at approximately 10:13 a.m., and
concluding at approximately 10:17 a.m.

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ALSO PRESENT:

Erin Gibbons
Jeanine Hummer, Esq., First Assistant/
Chief Counsel
Carla Patton
Audience

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I N D E X

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E X H I B I T S

EXHIBITS

MARKED

Exhibit 1 - Summary Results
GN For Member of Council at Large
City of Gahanna

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Friday Morning Session
December 8, 2023
10:13 a.m.

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Thereupon, Exhibit 1 was marked for purposes of identification.

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DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: It looks like we have a quorum, but I will go ahead and take roll. Make sure that you identify yourself prior to speaking so that our court reporter can take that down.

I'm David Payne.

Roll call. Kim Marinello.

MEMBER MARINELLO: Here.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Mike Sexton.

MEMBER SEXTON: Here.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Doug Preisse.

CHAIR PREISSE: Here.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: And Meredith Freedhoff.

(No response.)

DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: We have a

1 quorum.

2 The first item on the agenda is the
3 approval of the minutes from the November 17th,
4 2023, meeting of the Franklin County Board of
5 Elections. And I believe Erin sent everybody
6 those. Hopefully, you had a chance to look at
7 them.

8 MEMBER MARINELLO: Oh, sure. Kim
9 Marinello. I move that the board approve the
10 minutes of the November 17th, 2023, meeting of the
11 Franklin County Board of Elections as submitted.

12 CHAIR PREISSE: Doug Preisse.
13 Second the motion.

14 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: It's been
15 properly moved and seconded. All those in favor of
16 the motion, signify by saying "aye."

17 (Ayes heard.)

18 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: All opposed,
19 same sign.

20 (No response.)

21 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Motion
22 carries.

23 I will call on Carla Patton to talk
24 about recertification of one race. We -- as you

1 remember, we did five recounts, and there is a --
2 I'll let Carla explain.

3 MS. PATTON: Good morning.

4 BOARD MEMBERS: Good morning.

5 MS. PATTON: Carla Patton.

6 So over the course of month and
7 Tuesday this week, we conducted five recounts.
8 Four of those five recounts resulted in no changes
9 in the results as certified previously, but there
10 was a total of 34,216 ballots in all five races
11 that were recounted. And also to affirm that the
12 Canal Winchester race, which overlaps into
13 Fairfield County, the results in the Canal
14 Winchester race did not change in Fairfield County
15 as well.

16 The one race that did result in a
17 change was the Gahanna City Council at Large race.
18 There was one less ballot that was tabulated in the
19 recount than was in the official. The result of
20 that one less ballot was a loss of a vote for
21 Marisa Bowers, Ross Goldsmith, and Jamille Jones.

22 So we would ask that you recertify
23 the results for the Gahanna City Council race with
24 the results that I've presented before you today as

1 a result of the recount.

2 CHAIR PREISSE: But that did not
3 change --

4 MS. PATTON: It does not change the
5 outcome of the race.

6 CHAIR PREISSE: -- the three -- the
7 three --

8 MS. PATTON: That is correct.

9 CHAIR PREISSE: -- winners?

10 MS. PATTON: The winners that were
11 declared in the official still remain the winners
12 as a result of the recount.

13 CHAIR PREISSE: Okay.

14 MEMBER MARINELLO: Mr. Chairman.
15 Kim Marinello here. After recounting the five
16 races that fell within the recount margin, we found
17 a one-vote difference in the race for Gahanna City
18 Council. I move that the board recertify the
19 results in the race for Gahanna City Council and
20 declare the vote final.

21 CHAIR PREISSE: Doug Preisse.
22 Second the motion.

23 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: It's been
24 properly moved and seconded. All those in favor of

1 the motion, signify by saying "aye."

2 (Ayes heard.)

3 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: All opposed,
4 same sign.

5 (No response.)

6 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Motion
7 carries.

8 The next item on the agenda, we have
9 a --

10 MR. WHITE: Thank you, Carla.

11 MS. PATTON: Yeah.

12 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Yeah. Thank
13 you, Carla.

14 We have an additional recount that
15 was requested in the Worthington City School Board
16 race. And it requires the board to authorize the
17 recount.

18 CHAIR PREISSE: Is this -- is this
19 one of those situations where the applicant has to
20 pay for it or is it --

21 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: That is
22 correct.

23 CHAIR PREISSE: This is outside half
24 of --

1 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Yes. If
2 it's outside half a percent, they have to pay. I
3 believe it's \$65 per precinct.

4 MR. WHITE: They put a deposit down.

5 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: They put a
6 deposit down, and that's been taken care of.

7 CHAIR PREISSE: Okay.

8 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: So we're
9 ready to start the recount.

10 I believe they're here, and we have
11 some observers, so --

12 CHAIR PREISSE: So we can do it --
13 we can start right now?

14 FROM THE FLOOR: Yeah, we're ready.

15 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: We're going
16 to start.

17 CHAIR PREISSE: All right. Sounds
18 good.

19 MEMBER SEXTON: All right.
20 Mr. Chairman, Michael Sexton. I move that the
21 Franklin County Board of Elections begin the
22 recount today at 10:00 a.m. in the race for
23 Worthington City School Board.

24 CHAIR PREISSE: Doug Preisse.

1 Second the motion.

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

5 (Ayes heard.)

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

8 (No response.)

9 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Motion
10 carries.

11 We will have a bipartisan team back
12 in the area we call "the vault," and we'll start
13 the -- start the recount.

14 CHAIR PREISSE: Sounds good.

15 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: And I
16 believe we've sworn in two of the observers, and I
17 need to swear in one more observer. And after this
18 meeting, I'll take care of that in my office.

19 CHAIR PREISSE: Very well. Move to
20 adjourn.

21 MEMBER MARINELLO: Second.

22 CHAIR PREISSE: Adjourned.

23 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: It's been
24 properly moved and seconded, and you're out of

1 here. All right. We're adjourned.

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3 Thereupon, the special meeting
4 concluded at approximately 10:17 a.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, Linda D Riffle, Registered Diplomate Reporter, Certified Realtime Reporter, Certified Realtime Captioner, 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 either party and have no interest whatsoever in the event of this litigation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal of office at Columbus, Ohio, this 15th day of December, 2023.

/s/Linda D. Riffle _____
Registered Diplomate Reporter,
Certified Realtime Reporter,
Certified Realtime Captioner, and
Notary Public, State of Ohio

My Commission Expires: July 26, 2026

A	11:18 care 8:6 9:18 Carla 1:19 4:23 5:2,5 7:10,13 carries 4:22 7:7 9:10 certified 5:9 11:7 11:7,18,18 certify 11:8 CHAIR 3:20 4:12 6:2,6,9,13 6:21 7:18,23 8:7,12,17,24 9:14,19,22 Chairman 1:11 6:14 8:20 chance 4:6 change 5:14,17 6:3,4 changes 5:8 Chief 1:18 City 2:6 5:17,23 6:17,19 7:15 8:23 Columbus 1:23 11:14 Commission 11:21	day 11:14 December 1:8,12 3:2 11:14 declare 6:20 declared 6:11 deposit 8:4,6 Deputy 1:11 3:8 3:16,18,21,24 4:14,18,21 6:23 7:3,6,12,21 8:1 8:5,8,15 9:2,6,9 9:15,23 difference 6:17 Diplomate 11:6 11:17 Director 1:11,11 3:8,16,18,21,24 4:14,18,21 6:23 7:3,6,12,21 8:1 8:5,8,15 9:2,6,9 9:15,23 Doug 3:18 4:12 6:21 8:24 Douglas 1:11	6:15 FLOOR 8:14 foregoing 11:8,9 11:11 found 6:16 Four 5:8 Franklin 1:1,10 4:4,11 8:21 11:4 Freedhoff 3:22 Friday 1:12 3:1	Kim 1:12 3:14 4:8 6:15
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