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BEFORE THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS
OF FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO

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IN RE: :
Board Meeting :

- - - - -

Proceedings before Chairman William
A. Anthony, Jr., and Board members Michael
F. Colley, Kimberly E. Marinello, and
Carolyn C. Petree with Executive Director
Matthew Damschroder and Deputy Director
Dennis L. White, taken at the Franklin
County Board of Elections, 280 East Broad
Street, Columbus, Ohio, on Monday,
November 5, 2007, at 3:10 o'clock p.m.

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P R O C E E D I N G S

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CHAIRMAN ANTHONY: I would like
to call the Franklin County Board of
Elections meeting to order.

May we have roll call.

MR. DAMSCHRODER: Mr. Colley?

MR. COLLEY: Here.

MR. DAMSCHRODER: Ms. Marinello?

MS. MARINELLO: Here.

MR. DAMSCHRODER: Ms. Petree?

MS. PETREE: Here.

MR. DAMSCHRODER: Chairman
Anthony?

CHAIRMAN ANTHONY: Here.

MR. DAMSCHRODER: All members
are present.

Our first item on the agenda is
the approval of the minutes of the October
1 and the October 15 meetings of the Board
of Elections.

CHAIRMAN ANTHONY: Do I hear a
motion for approval?

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2 OF FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO

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

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4 CHAIRMAN ANTHONY: I would like
5 to call the Franklin County Board of
6 Elections meeting to order.

7 May we have roll call.

8 MR. DAMSCHRODER: Mr. Colley?

9 MR. COLLEY: Here.

10 MR. DAMSCHRODER: Ms. Marinello?

11 MS. MARINELLO: Here.

12 MR. DAMSCHRODER: Ms. Petree?

13 MS. PETREE: Here.

14 MR. DAMSCHRODER: Chairman
15 Anthony?

16 CHAIRMAN ANTHONY: Here.

17 MR. DAMSCHRODER: All members
18 are present.

19 Our first item on the agenda is
20 the approval of the minutes of the October
21 1 and the October 15 meetings of the Board
22 of Elections.

23 CHAIRMAN ANTHONY: Do I hear a
24 motion for approval?

1 MS. PETREE: I move to approve
2 the minutes.

3 CHAIRMAN ANTHONY: We need a
4 second.

5 MS. MARINELLO: Second.

6 CHAIRMAN ANTHONY: All those in
7 favor, say aye.

8 (Unanimous aye.)

9 MR. DAMSCHRODER: The motion
10 carries.

11 We do have three individuals who
12 have filed challenges of right to vote and
13 correction of registration list with the
14 Board. You recall we have done this the
15 last couple of board meetings. I think
16 they are largely a result of the
17 confirmation cards that were mailed this
18 summer under the NVRA, National Voter
19 Registration Act.

20 My guess is the problem is that
21 all registrations from 2004 are supposed
22 to be getting cleaned up. The same thing
23 as at the last board meeting, all those
24 individuals were sent letters notifying

1 them of their right to appear before the
2 Board, call witnesses, provide testimony,
3 evidence, et cetera; and no one is here to
4 answer the challenges.

5 So it would be the Staff's
6 recommendation that each of the three be
7 stricken from the Voter Registration List.

8 CHAIRMAN ANTHONY: Okay. I will
9 entertain a motion.

10 MS. MARINELLO: Mr. Chairman, I
11 move that the Board grant the Challenge of
12 Right to Vote and Correction of
13 Registration List filed by Stephen Wowk,
14 W-o-w-k, of 951 Brockwell Drive against
15 Meina Ahen purportedly of 951 Brockwell
16 Drive and order that Meina Ahen's
17 registration be immediately cancelled in
18 Franklin County and the voter's name
19 stricken from the Registration List.

20 I also move that the Board grant
21 the Challenge of Right to Vote and
22 Correction of Registration List filed by
23 Laura K. Gillilan of 1560 Oakwood Avenue
24 against Markel A. Jones purportedly of

1 1560 Oakwood Avenue and order that Markel
2 A. Jones' registration be immediately
3 cancelled in Franklin County and the
4 voter's name stricken from the
5 Registration List.

6 I move that the Board grant the
7 Challenge of Right to Vote and Correction
8 of Registration List filed by Monica J.
9 Alexander, 977 Granby Place South, against
10 Rudolph Alexander purportedly of 977
11 Granby Place South and order that Rudolph
12 Alexander's registration be immediately
13 cancelled in Franklin County and the
14 voter's name stricken from the
15 Registration List.

16 CHAIRMAN ANTHONY: Is there a
17 second?

18 MR. COLLEY: Second.

19 CHAIRMAN ANTHONY: All those in
20 favor, say aye.

21 (Unanimous aye)

22 MR. DAMSCHRODER: The motion
23 carries.

24 The only personnel item on the

1 agenda is, as everyone knows, there is a
2 Democrat vacancy in the full-time employee
3 list of the Board. The Deputy Director
4 has recommended that we hire Roland Gamino
5 as a full-time Clerk of the Board and
6 assign him to the warehouse for \$35,000 a
7 year effective December 1 of this year.

8 CHAIRMAN ANTHONY: Is everybody
9 okay with that? I will entertain a
10 motion.

11 MS. MARINELLO: Mr. Chairman, I
12 move that the Board appoint Roland Gamino
13 as a full-time Clerk of the Board assigned
14 to the warehouse effective December 1st,
15 2007 at the annual rate of \$35,000.

16 CHAIRMAN ANTHONY: Is there a
17 second?

18 MR. COLLEY: Second.

19 CHAIRMAN ANTHONY: All those in
20 favor, say aye.

21 (Unanimous aye)

22 MR. DAMSCHRODER: The motion
23 carries.

24 CHAIRMAN ANTHONY: The only

1 other item is not really an agenda item
2 for the minutes. The Board had previously
3 passed a resolution awarding a contract to
4 Dayton Legal Blank of Dayton, Ohio for the
5 purchase of secure and permanent
6 provisional ballot receptacles following
7 their competitive bid. The Board had
8 asked the County Commissioners to
9 supplement appropriations necessary to
10 purchase that equipment.

11 The commissioners indicated to
12 the Deputy Director and myself late last
13 week that they request a formal letter
14 from the Board, requesting supplemental
15 appropriations that they enter a contract
16 on behalf of the Board. I think we have
17 passed the sheet around for everyone to
18 sign. And we will send it over to the
19 commissioners this afternoon.

20 Other than that --

21 MR. WHITE: Just a word on the
22 provisional boxes, if you haven't voted
23 already and you go to the polls tomorrow,
24 you will see a cardboard provisional box

1 there. They will not last. That's why we
2 have to go to a permanent, more secure box
3 for provisional ballots. That's what this
4 letter was all about.

5 CHAIRMAN ANTHONY: There was a
6 competitive bidding process that we did
7 through the county purchasing department
8 with very general specifications. There
9 were two bidders. Dayton Legal was the
10 lowest and best bidder at \$124.30 per
11 unit.

12 In terms of preparations for
13 tomorrow's election, I think probably
14 everyone recalls seeing some publicity
15 from a couple weeks ago about the need for
16 Democratic presiding judges. We had 165
17 vacancies as of about ten days ago.

18 We are happy to report to you
19 with much satisfaction that as of late
20 last week all of those vacancies were
21 filled. We had a couple of folks cancel
22 over the weekend, but we added a couple of
23 extras as back up, so we do have all
24 presiding judge positions filled.

1 MS. MARINELLO: What did you do?

2 MR. DAMSCHRODER: The biggest
3 thing we found that worked very
4 successfully is we mailed a letter to all
5 of the individuals who were hard
6 Democrats. That is, people who voted in
7 the last Democratic primary with a plea.
8 We did target areas near the precincts
9 that we had trouble with and got a lot of
10 folks. I think the urgency of the moment
11 convinced some folks that may have been on
12 the edges to go ahead and sign up.

13 I think we are prepared for the
14 election. We have a great staff here at
15 the Board that you guys can be proud of
16 and we are ready for tomorrow.

17 CHAIRMAN ANTHONY: I had a
18 caller campaign ask me about computer
19 setup so everybody would have access to.

20 MR. DAMSCHRODER: We will have a
21 press room here with two computers.
22 Basically, what will be available here
23 will be exactly the same as will be
24 available to them at their headquarters,

1 newsroom or anywhere else. It's just our
2 Web site.

3 People are welcome to come down
4 here. There will be nothing to see here,
5 no extra reports.

6 MR. WHITE: The majority will be
7 at the warehouse.

8 MR. DAMSCHRODER: The Staff will
9 be at the warehouse.

10 MR. WHITE: We have moved
11 Computer Central out to the warehouse.
12 All the presiding judges are dropping all
13 their stuff at the warehouse, so all the
14 action will be at the warehouse.

15 MR. DAMSCHRODER: There is no
16 space to accommodate press or visitors at
17 the warehouse.

18 CHAIRMAN ANTHONY: You might be
19 getting a call.

20 MR. DAMSCHRODER: No. They'll
21 be calling Spicer.

22 CHAIRMAN ANTHONY: Mike Reece is
23 going to call you too.

24 MR. DAMSCHRODER: For the public

1 campaigns and media what they get here
2 will be just as timely as what they will
3 have at home. I would mention to the
4 Board members just so you know, we have
5 worked closely with the Franklin County
6 Auditor and the Franklin County Data
7 Center. For this election we will have a
8 data version of this on our Web site to
9 test.

10 On our Web site on election
11 night you can go to it. And in addition
12 to the scrolling of results, there is also
13 a precinct map of the county. The
14 precincts will change colors as we get the
15 results in.

16 From the home or newsroom or
17 wherever we will be able to know exactly
18 which precincts have reported and which
19 ones haven't. And next year the plan is
20 to enhance that to have poll workers be
21 calling in throughout the day so we will
22 be able to get an unofficial turnout by
23 precinct throughout the day and also then
24 on election night to go graphically in

1 addition to the scrolling result, look at
2 the map in terms of red and blue
3 precincts, which precincts are pushed,
4 which precincts are carried for the
5 contests.

6 CHAIRMAN ANTHONY: All we need
7 now is good weather.

8 MR. DAMSCHRODER: That's right.
9 That's all we have for a public agenda.

10 If you have any questions we
11 will be happy to answer them.

12 MS. MARINELLO: I would like to
13 ask about campaign finance just about
14 getting notices like those changes and all
15 that stuff.

16 MR. DAMSCHRODER: In particular
17 with the change in the Columbus campaign
18 finance reports there are still some
19 questions we have that we are going to be
20 asking the City Attorney for some guidance
21 on. The ordinance the city passes
22 actually require the Board of Elections to
23 notify candidates or parties as the state
24 law already requires us for pre- and

1 post-primary general reports. So they
2 were sent out late last week. It was kind
3 of an afterthought on our part, because we
4 figured it was a courtesy. It was
5 required, so we are going to ask the City
6 Attorney for some guidance on that issue
7 as well as the issue of whether the filing
8 is mandatory or permissive or whether
9 there's a threshold for money raised and
10 also whether it applies to entities other
11 than candidates. They just mailed it to
12 candidates.

13 MR. WHITE: That's what I think
14 the Board needs to clarify is to check
15 with the cities, not just the City of
16 Columbus but each city covered by a
17 charter, just how they deal with the
18 requirements for the candidates and on
19 these that have an interest in politics
20 that are playing the game of raising
21 money.

22 We have to clarify in terms of
23 finding out if it's the City's
24 responsibility or the Board's. If it's

1 our responsibility in the City of Columbus
2 or whatever city you have, the law has to
3 notify us also of the requirement.

4 MR. DAMSCHRODER: We asked the
5 Franklin County Prosecuting Attorney for
6 guidance, and he referred us to the City
7 Attorney because it was not a matter for
8 the County Prosecutor to apply in the
9 Columbus ordinances. We will call Rick
10 Pfeiffer after the election so he can talk
11 to Denny and me and we can figure out how
12 to proceed.

13 CHAIRMAN ANTHONY: All cities in
14 Franklin County?

15 MR. DAMSCHRODER: Each of the
16 charter cities have the authority to
17 create additional rules beyond the state
18 requirements for campaign finance. To my
19 knowledge Columbus is the only one that is
20 added onto the state requirements.

21 So in terms of campaign finance
22 Columbus is the only one we have to
23 interface with.

24 CHAIRMAN ANTHONY: Thank you.

1 Just one last thing, and it got resolved.

2 I thought I would let you know that when
3 we do make mistakes it does get resolved.

4 That lady that called me, her
5 husband lived in Gahanna and somehow got a
6 Dublin and Gahanna ballot in their
7 absentee mailing. She called back and it
8 got straightened out. I guess her husband
9 came and picked up the Gahanna ballot.
10 Somehow her husband got a Dublin ballot
11 and she got a Gahanna ballot.

12 MR. WHITE. With the new system
13 it will all be automatic. As long as the
14 data is put into the system right, that
15 should alleviate any problem other than
16 humans filling the trays that's doing the
17 sorting with the wrong ballots. The new
18 system will eliminate that human error.

19 CHAIRMAN ANTHONY: She called
20 me. I asked why she was calling me. She
21 said I got it straightened out.

22 I will entertain a motion to
23 open up the polls.

24 MS. PETREE: Mr. Chairman, I

1 move that the polls be declared open for
2 the Tuesday, November 7th, 2007 General
3 Election, beginning at 6:30 a.m. and
4 closing at 7:30 p.m.

5 CHAIRMAN ANTHONY: Is there a
6 second?

7 MS. MARINELLO: Second.

8 CHAIRMAN ANTHONY: All those in
9 favor, say aye.

10 (Unanimous aye)

11 CHAIRMAN ANTHONY: We stand in
12 recess until we reconvene. Thank you,
13 everybody.

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15 Thereupon, the proceeding was
16 concluded at 3:25 o'clock p.m.

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CERTIFICATE

I, Patricia W. White, Court Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of Ohio, do hereby certify that I reported the foregoing proceedings and that the foregoing transcript of such proceedings is a full, true and correct transcript of my stenotypy notes as so taken.

I do further certify that I was called there in the capacity of a Court Reporter, and am not otherwise interested in this proceeding.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal of office at Columbus, Ohio, on this 16th day of November, 2007.



PATRICIA W. WHITE, Notary Public -
State of Ohio.

My commission expires May 30, 2012.