

BEFORE THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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In Re: :
: Regular Meeting :

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PROCEEDINGS

before Chairman Douglas J. Preisse, Director William A. Anthony, Jr., Deputy Director Dana Walch, and Board Members Kimberly E. Marinello, Bradley K. Sinnott, and Gregory K. Haas at the Franklin County Board of Elections, 280 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio, called at 3:08 p.m. on Monday, May 5, 2014.

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ALSO PRESENT:

Ms. Suzanne Brown,
Executive Assistant to the Board

Mr. Ben Piscitelli,
Public Information Officer,
Franklin County Board of Elections

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P R O C E E D I N G S

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

I'll do the roll call.

Kimberly Marinello.

BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: Here.

DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Gregory Haas.

BOARD MEMBER HAAS: Here.

DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Douglas Preisse.

CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Here.

DIRECTOR ANTHONY: And Bradley Sinnott.

BOARD MEMBER SINNOTT: Here.

DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Mr. Chairman, we have
a full contingency of well-abled Board members
present.

The first item on the agenda would be the
approval of the minutes for our April 7th and
16th Board meetings.

BOARD MEMBER HAAS: I move that the Board
approve the minutes of the April 7th and
April 16th meetings of the Franklin County Board of

1 Elections as submitted.

2 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: Second.

3 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: There is a motion on
4 the floor and it's been properly moved and seconded.
5 All those in favor, say aye.

6 (All eyes heard.)

7 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Nays?

8 (No response.)

9 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Motion carries. I'll
10 pass along that for everybody to sign.

11 The next item on the agenda is the
12 withdrawal of the Jefferson Township JEDZ. Dana, did
13 you want to add something?

14 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: Much like what
15 happened in Perry Township, the Jefferson Township
16 trustees met last week or so and decided that they no
17 longer wanted to keep their JEDZ issue on the ballot.
18 So they submitted all the proper paperwork to us of
19 the resolution that they passed, asking us to remove
20 it from the ballot for May 6th.

21 So we added that to our list of other
22 candidate withdrawals or issue withdrawals that were
23 included in all the absentee ballots from that point
24 forward and will also appear on all the voting

1 machines also on Election Day.

2 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: Mr. Chairman, I
3 move the Board accept the request of the Jefferson
4 Township Trustees to withdraw the Jefferson Township
5 JEDZ issue, and that no votes cast for the issue will
6 be counted on the May 6th, 2014, Primary Election
7 ballot.

8 BOARD MEMBER HAAS: I'll second that, but
9 I have a follow-up question after resolution.

10 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Yeah, I was going to
11 ask if there's a discussion. You've seconded it. Is
12 there discussion?

13 BOARD MEMBER HAAS: I have a question.
14 Political subdivisions are assigned a certain
15 percentage of cost of a particular ballot, right?

16 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: In a special
17 election.

18 BOARD MEMBER HAAS: Only a special, but
19 not in a primary.

20 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: No.

21 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: That's right.

22 BOARD MEMBER HAAS: Okay. All right.

23 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Good question.

24 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Or the general.

1 BOARD MEMBER HAAS: Right. I thought a
2 primary --

3 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: This is a
4 regularly-scheduled primary election that would
5 appear whether the Jefferson Township issue was on
6 the ballot or not. So the subdivision doesn't get
7 charged for that.

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

10 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Anybody want to speak
11 to the issue in the audience? No? Yes? No? Any
12 other questions or comments?

13 BOARD MEMBER SINNOTT: I will call the
14 question, Mr. Chairman.

15 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All those in favor?
16 (All eyes heard.)

17 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Opposed, same sign.
18 (No response.)

19 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: The motion carries.
20 The next item on the agenda is the voter
21 registration -- there's two voter registration
22 challenges. They're pretty similar in nature.

23 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: Yeah, we had two
24 separate challenges filed by two separate people.

1 The first was filed by a Mr. Jesse Hathaway against,
2 and I'm going to do my best on this, Ashagere Wube.
3 Mr. Hathaway lives at 3382 Brooke Colony Drive, and
4 challenged Mr. Wube, saying he doesn't live here.

5 The second was a challenge filed by
6 Mr. Nicholas Wallace at 5560 Chesterview Drive in
7 Galloway, against Mr. Bryan Cochran, purportedly of
8 the same address with the same reasoning; Mr. Wallace
9 saying I live at this address and Mr. Cochran does
10 not.

11 Staff researched both of these and the
12 suggestion is -- we do have phone numbers and other
13 addresses for both of these challenged voters. Our
14 suggestion to the members of the Board is that the
15 staff try to contact these people to see if they need
16 to update their voter registration address.

17 Both of them are scheduled, per our
18 requirements in the National Voter Registration Act,
19 to be purged this summer due to inactivity. So our
20 proposal to you all is to have the staff try to
21 contact them to see if there is a means by which they
22 undate their registration and, if not, then let them
23 purge out over the summer.

24 BOARD MEMBER HAAS: I move that the Board

1 staff attempt contacting Ashagere Wube and Bryan
2 Cochran to update their voter registration addresses,
3 and that if the staff is unable to contact them that
4 these two voters be purged from the list of
5 registered voters in Franklin County.

6 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Is there a second?

7 BOARD MEMBER SINNOTT: Second.

8 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All those in favor?

9 (All ayes heard.)

10 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Motion carries.

11 The next item on the agenda is the
12 Adoption Assistance Reimbursement Program.

13 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: This is something
14 I brought to you at one of the last meetings. The
15 county does -- the County Commissioners do have a
16 program that offers adoption assistance reimbursement
17 to county employees in the case of if they adopt a
18 child or not. And I e-mailed all of you the
19 information from the county on this and you also have
20 a copy in front of you today.

21 It's something I could not find that the
22 Board, in the past, had adopted, and I was bringing
23 it before you today if the Board would consider
24 joining the County Commissioners in this program. I

1 think it's a worthy program. We do have an employee
2 that would be able to take advantage of this. So I
3 put it to the Board.

4 BOARD MEMBER SINNOTT: I move that the
5 Franklin County Board of Elections adopt the Board of
6 Commissioners Adoption Assistance Reimbursement
7 Program and allow any qualifying Board employee to
8 participate in the program.

9 BOARD MEMBER HAAS: Second.

10 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All those in favor,
11 say aye.

12 (All ayes heard.)

13 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Motion carries.

14 The next item on the agenda would be the
15 remaking of absentee ballots.

16 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: The Absentee
17 Department is busy taking care of everything for
18 tomorrow, but we do, as we have had in the past,
19 prior to the election we are permitted to open and
20 begin scanning in, not counting, but scanning in
21 absentee ballots ahead of time. We have come across,
22 at this point, four absentee paper ballots that have
23 come in through the mail that do need to be remade.

24 Per SOS directive, we are not permitted

1 to remake any of those without Board approval. So we
2 bring to you four ballots today that we ask for you
3 to give authorization for us to have our bipartisan
4 teams go through and remake those.

5 There's a variety of different reasons
6 for them. They get mangled -- I think all four of
7 these got somewhat mangled in the mail for lack of a
8 more technical term, but we can decipher what we
9 believe the votes were intended to be. So we ask for
10 your approval on allowing staff to go through and
11 remake those ballots as is standard operating
12 procedure.

13 BOARD MEMBER SINNOTT: All right. I move
14 that the Board authorize the staff to remake four
15 absentee paper ballots and that these remade ballots
16 be tabulated and included in the unofficial canvass
17 on election night.

18 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Is there a second?

19 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: Second.

20 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All those in favor,
21 say aye.

22 (All ayes heard.)

23 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Motion carries.

24 The next item on the agenda is the

1 provisional ballot process. As you know, each year
2 we come before you -- each election cycle we come
3 before you to lay out how we plan to count and verify
4 provisional ballots. Do you need additional
5 information on that?

6 BOARD MEMBER HAAS: No. I move that the
7 Board authorize the Director and the Deputy Director
8 to appoint bipartisan teams of employees to begin the
9 process of verifying provisional ballots cast at the
10 Primary Election and that no provisional ballots
11 shall be approved for counting without Board
12 approval.

13 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Is there a second?

14 BOARD MEMBER SINNOTT: There is.

15 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All those in favor,
16 say aye.

17 (All ayes heard.)

18 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Motion carries.

19 The next item is tomorrow is Election Day
20 and we need to open the polls.

21 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: I move the polls
22 be declared open for the Tuesday, May 6th, 2014,
23 Primary Election, beginning at 6:30 a.m., closing at
24 7:30 p.m., and that in accordance with Ohio Revised

1 Code Section 3501.32, any voter in line prior to the
 2 close of the polls at 7:30 p.m. shall be permitted to
 3 vote.

4 BOARD MEMBER SINNOTT: Second.

5 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All those in favor?

6 (All ayes heard.)

7 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Motion carries.

8 The next motion is because there is --
 9 you guys got to stay in recess mode until after the
 10 election, we need to recess until the Chair
 11 reconvenes.

12 BOARD MEMBER HAAS: I move that the Board
 13 recess this meeting of the Board of Elections,
 14 subject to re-call by the Chair, until after the
 15 close of the election being held on Tuesday, May 6th.

16 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Is there a second?

17 BOARD MEMBER SINNOTT: Second.

18 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All those in favor?

19 (All ayes heard.)

20 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Motion carries.

21 Thank you all. We stand in recess.

22 (Thereupon, the Board recessed at 3:18
 23 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, May 5, 2014, and carefully compared with my original stenographic notes.

Carolyn M. Burke, Registered Professional Reporter, and Notary Public in and for the State of Ohio.

My commission expires July 17, 2018.

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