

BEFORE THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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In Re: :
:
Special 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, 1700 Morse Road, Columbus, Ohio, called at 3:23 p.m. on Monday, November 24, 2014.

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APPEARANCES:

Franklin County Prosecutor's Office
By Mr. Tim Lecklider
Assistant Prosecuting Attorney
373 South High Street, 13th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

On behalf of the Board.

ALSO PRESENT:

Ms. Suzanne Brown,
Executive Assistant to the Board

Mr. Jeffrey Mackey,
Manager, Election Operations
Franklin County Board of Elections

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

Ms. Carolyn Gorup
Elections Technology Manager
Franklin County Board of Elections

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INDEX

- - -

ITEM	PAGE
Certification of November 4, 2014, General Election Results	4
Post-Election Audit	5
Selection of Voting Locations for Audit	6
Selection of County-Wide Election to Include in Audit	12
Employee Holiday Days	13
Adjourn	21

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P R O C E E D I N G S

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DIRECTOR ANTHONY: I would like to call the Franklin County Board of Elections Special Meeting for November 24th to order.

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 quorum. Everyone is here.

The first item on the agenda would be the certification of the November 4th General Election results which I believe are sitting there beside you.

BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: Mr. Chairman, I move that the Board certify and declare as final the official canvass of votes cast at the November 4th, 2014, General Election as submitted by staff.

BOARD MEMBER SINNOTT: Second.

1 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All those in favor?

2 (All ayes heard.)

3 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: That motion carries.

4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: Bill, we're going
5 to pass around to everybody just a certification
6 form. If everybody would sign as such. Start with
7 you.

8 BOARD MEMBER SINNOTT: Thank you.

9 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: The next item would be
10 the post-election audit.

11 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: It is our
12 recommendation that we begin the audit on Tuesday,
13 December 2nd, at 9:00 a.m. As usual, it just goes
14 until we are done. We don't expect it to take us a
15 tremendous amount of time, but we can't usually set a
16 set time of shall begin at this point and end at this
17 point. So our traditional thing is to say that it
18 will begin on December 2nd at 9:00 a.m. until
19 completed. And, of course, we will follow Directive
20 2014-36 which is the prescribed directive from the
21 Secretary of State on the post-election audit.

22 BOARD MEMBER SINNOTT: Then I move the
23 Board set the post-election audit to begin December 2
24 at 9:00 a.m. until completed and that the audit be

1 conducted in accordance with Secretary of State
2 Directive 2014-36, and be held at the Board of
3 Elections Office at 1700 Morse Road.

4 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Is there a second?

5 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: Second.

6 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All those in favor?

7 (All ayes heard.)

8 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: The motion carries.

9 The next part of that, now we have the
10 date set, we have to select the voting locations.

11 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: We traditionally
12 in the past have done this, since we combine our
13 precincts in multi-precinct voting locations, we have
14 pulled the locations to use for the audit instead of
15 individual precincts which is permitted by the
16 Secretary of State's directive on this. It's just
17 the way we do things. It makes it far easier for us
18 to conduct the audit if we do it by voting location
19 instead of by precinct. So we ask for a motion to
20 use the voting location identification number.

21 BOARD MEMBER HAAS: I move that the Board
22 conduct the post-election audit by voting locations,
23 using the Location Identification Number for each of
24 our 404 voting locations.

1 BOARD MEMBER SINNOTT: Second.

2 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All those in favor?

3 (All ayes heard.)

4 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Motion carries.

5 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: And now what we
6 will do, we will briefly turn it over to Mr. Mackey,
7 if we can. We have traditionally rolled dice to come
8 up with a random selection of voting locations. Jeff
9 has 10-sided dice over here. Red will signify the
10 hundreds column, white will signify the tens column,
11 blue will signify the ones column; is that correct?

12 MR. MACKEY: Correct.

13 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: Up here on our
14 screen you can see to keep us from having to roll
15 over and over and over and over again if we don't get
16 a zero through four, you see that we've also put up
17 here that if it's a five that would equal zero in the
18 hundreds column, a six equals one, et cetera, in
19 addition if it comes up a zero or a one. This allows
20 us to not have to continually roll over and over
21 again until we get a zero through four on the first
22 -- on the red die.

23 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: That is an innovation.

24 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: Trying to save

1 time, Mr. Chairman. And every number works this
2 time. We figured it out that every number works.

3 MR. MACKEY: Except zero.

4 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: As the front number.

5 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: We set "1" as --

6 MR. MACKEY: "1" is the first one here.

7 So each voting location has a No. 1 through 404.

8 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: What's the lowest
9 numeric voting location?

10 MR. MACKEY: "1."

11 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: For the purposes
12 of this exercise. We're using the column number on
13 the spreadsheet, not the actual voting location,
14 because those have four digits in them.

15 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: That's what I mean.
16 What is the lowest numerical --

17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: 002.

18 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: -- that is a voting
19 location.

20 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: 001.

21 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: I don't think that's
22 what he's asking. So if we rolled a 000, we don't
23 have a corresponding.

24 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: What if we did a 001?

1 MR. MACKEY: That's LID 1005.

2 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: It's LID 1005.

3 MR. MACKEY: This will be the die number
4 here. 001, 002, 003. Correspond to the LIDs here.

5 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: You all ready to roll?

6 BOARD MEMBER SINNOTT: Uh-huh.

7 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: Who wants to roll
8 the dice?

9 BOARD MEMBER SINNOTT: Kim.

10 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Get you practicing for
11 Vegas. Which one you going to roll first? All of
12 them. All right.

13 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: Roll them all.

14 MR. MACKEY: Read them red, white, and
15 blue.

16 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: 024.

17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: 042. Red, white,
18 and blue.

19 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: Oh, heck.

20 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: 042.

21 MR. MACKEY: Okay.

22 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: What we have to
23 do is get to five percent of the vote. Once we get
24 to 5 percent of the vote, we can stop.

1 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: 953.

2 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: 953.

3 MR. MACKEY: That's going to be an
4 invalid one.

5 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: That will be a
6 bad one for us.

7 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: 338.

8 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: Okay.

9 MR. MACKEY: We're at half a percent.

10 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Why was the other one
11 invalid, Jeff?

12 MR. MACKEY: We only go to 404. That was
13 453.

14 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Oh.

15 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: 651.

16 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: Okay.

17 BOARD MEMBER HAAS: This is the quietest
18 dice game ever seen.

19 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: That's because
20 I'm sober.

21 (Laughter.)

22 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: 518.

23 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: And no one is
24 winning or losing any money here either, so.

1 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: 206.

2 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: 260.

3 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: 260. 388. 528.

4 MS. BROWN: 528.

5 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: You got it.

6 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: 126. 328. 246.

7 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Who do we appreciate.

8 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: 251. 306.

9 Want to do some?

10 BOARD MEMBER HAAS: No, it's okay. You
11 haven't rolled a seven yet.

12 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: You're right.

13 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: 253. That is
14 weird. 054. 679.

15 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Wait a minute. Why
16 isn't the -- she just said 679.

17 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Yeah. 6 is the one.

18 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: 6 is the one.

19 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: Why isn't the
20 percentage not working? The percent quit working on
21 us.

22 MS. GORUP: I didn't expect you to do
23 that many.

24 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Oh. There you go.

1 MR. MACKEY: That's why Carolyn came in
2 today.

3 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: 453.

4 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: You got to roll again.

5 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: 194. 507. 352.
6 272. 359. 625. 826.

7 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Yay.

8 BOARD MEMBER SINNOTT: Smallest polling
9 place in the county.

10 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Good work.

11 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: All right. Now we
12 have to do it for county-wide.

13 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: Per the directive
14 of the Secretary of State, they picked the top of the
15 ticket being the Gubernatorial race, to audit, and
16 also the State Treasurer's race, but the directive
17 requires us to pick one county-wide race that had
18 competition. We can't pick an uncontested race.

19 There were nine races in the county,
20 candidate races, that included competition. Jeff has
21 numbered them one through nine on this sheet here.
22 So, Kim, if you would -- unless we get a zero, we
23 shouldn't have to roll again. So if you roll it and
24 we'll let that determine which county race.

1 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: Five.

2 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Five.

3 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: Five. We will
4 include the Court of Common Pleas race that was
5 between Jenifer French and Thomas Hayes.

6 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: The next item on the
7 agenda will be the employee holiday days. I don't
8 know if we really talked to you guys much about that,
9 but I think we have.

10 In the past we have done it several ways.
11 We're talking about the period between Christmas and
12 New Year's. So right now we're off on December 25th
13 and 26th, that Thursday and Friday, and then we're
14 off on January the 1st which is a Thursday. And so,
15 that leaves the rest of November -- that week between
16 Christmas and New Year's.

17 So we had a couple of proposals out there
18 that we wanted you guys to consider and one would be
19 to actually close the offices from Christmas until
20 December the 5th --

21 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: January.

22 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: January, I'm sorry,
23 through January the 5th, and that would mean our
24 offices would be closed that week between Christmas

1 and New Year's.

2 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: What day of the week
3 is --

4 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: New Year's?

5 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Yeah.

6 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Thursday.

7 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: So the proposal would
8 also be off Friday the 2nd, and Saturday and Sunday,
9 and Monday the 5th.

10 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: Coming back
11 Monday the 5th.

12 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: So not off Monday.

13 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Yeah. So that means
14 you would have that -- that last week of November.

15 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: December.

16 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: December.

17 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Boy, I'm just, let me
18 get my calendar up because I messed up on it every
19 time I do this. What that means, we actually, our
20 offices would be closed November 29th, November
21 30th --

22 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: December.

23 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Make that December.
24 December 29th, December 30th, December 31st, we

1 already get January 1 off, and then January 2nd, we
2 would be closed, and we would open the offices back
3 up on January the 5th. Did I do it right that time?

4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: I think you got
5 it right that time.

6 From a historical perspective, in 2012,
7 we closed Christmas Eve and then gave each employee
8 24 hours of personal leave to use however they wanted
9 between Christmas and the end of January is what we
10 did in 2012.

11 BOARD MEMBER SINNOTT: What did you do
12 last year?

13 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: Nothing.

14 BOARD MEMBER SINNOTT: What's the
15 schedule for the rest of county government during the
16 holidays?

17 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: I have no idea.

18 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: I think it is
19 just closing Christmas and New Year's.

20 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Right.

21 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: We're closed the
22 day after Christmas for Veteran's Day which was
23 preapproved by this Board because the employees all
24 had to work on Veteran's Day, so we moved that to the

1 day after Christmas.

2 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: So really what -- so
3 we've already determined we're not opened on the
4 26th because we swapped those days.

5 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: That's correct.

6 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: That's correct.

7 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: So what you're saying
8 is Monday the 29th, Tuesday the 30th, Wednesday the
9 31st, and Friday the 2nd.

10 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: That's correct.

11 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: I think it would be
12 nice to know what the other agencies are doing.

13 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: I'm not familiar
14 with that.

15 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: I'm not either. We
16 could find out. Now, we have no -- there's no
17 February special, so there's no filing deadlines that
18 would fall within that time frame. The only thing
19 that would fall within that time frame is that, on
20 January 1st, folks could request an absentee
21 application for the entire year.

22 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: How many do you think
23 will?

24 (Laughter.)

1 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: How many do you
2 think?

3 (Laughter.)

4 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Zero.

5 (Laughter.)

6 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: But that's the only
7 thing.

8 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: Not to be
9 determinative, Mr. Chairman, but I think you're
10 probably about right.

11 BOARD MEMBER HAAS: Give or take zero.

12 BOARD MEMBER SINNOTT: That would -- if
13 we did that, that would be four days of paid holiday?

14 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Yes. It would be paid
15 leave. It would be four days; 32 hours.

16 BOARD MEMBER SINNOTT: And it's not as
17 though that's coming from some other holiday or a
18 personal pay bank or anything of that sort?

19 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: No. Other than
20 the 26th which was already arranged for Veteran's
21 Day.

22 BOARD MEMBER SINNOTT: Yeah.

23 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: And it would be our
24 gift to our employees or our desire because we had a

1 pretty flawless election this cycle, so.

2 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Well, I would like to
3 know what the other agencies do. You already said
4 you think you know.

5 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: I said I don't
6 know.

7 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: I don't know either.

8 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: I don't know,
9 Mr. Chairman.

10 BOARD MEMBER HAAS: I think it varies
11 pretty dramatically.

12 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: I know everybody
13 has Christmas and New Year's off because those are
14 state-recognized holidays. In addition to that, I
15 don't know.

16 BOARD MEMBER SINNOTT: I think I'd want
17 to know. I don't think we want to get too far
18 removed from where the rest of county government is.

19 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: I would concur with
20 that.

21 BOARD MEMBER HAAS: Well, I mean, just --
22 I mean, I think that, you know, a lot of times it is
23 event driven, work driven with the number of the
24 agencies. Obviously, the sheriff's department

1 wouldn't take any additional time off.

2 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Good point.

3 BOARD MEMBER HAAS: But I think you have
4 other administrative offices and, you know, I mean, I
5 know some take all of Christmas Eve day off,
6 historically.

7 What's the Prosecutor's Office do?

8 MR. LECKLIDER: Christmas and New Year's.

9 BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: He's tough.

10 BOARD MEMBER SINNOTT: It wouldn't be
11 hard to survey the rest of county government. We
12 have a regularly-scheduled meeting on December the
13 1st anyway, right?

14 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: Uh-huh. We can
15 do that. Get you some feedback.

16 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: We'll get some
17 feedback for you guys.

18 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: If we -- okay.

19 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: You know, in the past,
20 we have given the hours, I think it was up to, how
21 many hours, 24 hours?

22 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: 2012, we closed
23 Christmas Eve, I looked back on the motion on that
24 one, it was closed Christmas Eve, and give 24 hours

1 of personal leave to use during about a month block

2 --

3 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Right.

4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: -- at the
5 employee and their manager's discretion, obviously to
6 keep coverage and things of that sort, get clearance
7 of the manager to use that time, but that was the
8 motion that was passed.

9 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: What did we do? We
10 closed on Christmas Eve?

11 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: And awarded each
12 employee 24 hours of personal leave, three days of
13 personal leave, to use between, I think it was the
14 day after Christmas, the 26th, and January 25th, if
15 memory serves.

16 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: That they had to use
17 it within 30 days.

18 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: We gave them 30
19 days to use it.

20 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Well, why don't you
21 look into what the others are doing and let us know.

22 DEPUTY DIRECTOR WALCH: Fair enough. We
23 can do that.

24 DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Absolutely can.

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CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Thank you.

DIRECTOR ANTHONY: The next item on the agenda is adjournment.

BOARD MEMBER MARINELLO: I move to adjourn.

DIRECTOR ANTHONY: Is there a second?

BOARD MEMBER SINNOTT: Second.

DIRECTOR ANTHONY: We stand adjourned.

(Thereupon, the meeting concluded at 3:43 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, November 24, 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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