

# VOTE CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Board Meeting  
9/12/2022

**Attending:**

Jeff Hastings, Chairman  
Inajo Davis Chappell, Board Member  
Terence M. McCafferty, Board Member  
Lisa M. Stickan, Board Member  
Anthony Perlatti, Director  
Tony Kaloger, Deputy Director

Mary Bejjani, Clerk to the Board  
Skip White, Clerk to the Board

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The Cuyahoga County Board of Elections Meeting began at 9:30 a.m. Hereinafter referred to as the CCBOE/Board.

Chairman Hastings noted that all Board Members were in attendance.

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**Agenda Item 1: Approval of the minutes from the August 15, 2022, Board Meeting**

Chairman Hastings moved to approve the minutes from the August 15, 2022, Board Meeting. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Agenda Item 2: Acknowledgment of Post-Election Audit Summary for the August 2, 2022, Primary Election**

Brian Cleary, Ballot Department Manager, presented information from the Board Packet regarding the Post-Election Audit Summary from the August 2, 2022, Primary Election.

Chairman Hastings moved to acknowledge the Post-Election Audit Summary for the August 2, 2022, Primary Election. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Agenda Item 3: Acknowledgment of the Early In-Person Voting PEO Performance Report from the August 2, 2022, Primary Election**

Steve Doell, Candidate and Petition Services Supervisor, presented a summary regarding the Early In-Person Voting PEO Performance Report from the board packet.

Chairman Hastings moved to acknowledge the Early In-Person Voting PEO Performance Report from the August 2, 2022, Primary Election. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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Narrative that is underlined in the CCBOE minutes relates to a motion that was acted on by the Board.

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#### **Agenda Item 4: Discussion regarding Brandon King's recall affidavit**

The Board discussed Brandon King's September 2, 2022, recall affidavit challenging the number of words on the East Cleveland Mayoral Recall petition.

*A transcript of this hearing can be obtained by contacting Mary Bejjani, CCBOE Clerk to the Board at [216-443-6430/mbejjani@cuyahogacounty.gov](mailto:216-443-6430/mbejjani@cuyahogacounty.gov)*

Chairman Hastings stated it is his position that the CCBOE does not have jurisdiction regarding the matter. The Board did not make any motions or take any actions regarding Brandon King's recall affidavit.

#### **Agenda Item 5: Certification of the East Cleveland Member of Council Ward 04 Recall election issue and establishing said recall election at the November 8, 2022, General Election**

Korean Stevenson, East Cleveland Councilwoman, Ward 4, addressed the Board objecting to the certification of the East Cleveland Member of Council Ward 04 Recall Election issue. Ms. Stevenson provided documentation to the Board on September 9, 2022, relating to the petitions' legitimacy.

*A transcript of this hearing can be obtained by contacting Mary Bejjani, CCBOE Clerk to the Board at [216-443-6430/mbejjani@cuyahogacounty.gov](mailto:216-443-6430/mbejjani@cuyahogacounty.gov)*

Board Member Davis Chappell moved to reject the certification of the East Cleveland Member of Council Ward 04 Recall election issue based on the fact that additional evidence provided at the hearing suggested that there are not the minimum required signatures to certify this matter to the ballot. Chairman Hastings seconded the motion and added that in the voluminous documents Ms. Stevenson submitted to the Board on Friday, September 9, 2022, part of the documents submitted, specifically Exhibit E, indicates that Mr. Darryl G. Moore circulated petitions for the recall of Ms. Stevenson. Mr. Moore was convicted of a federal felony in federal criminal Case Number 107-CR-319 and sentenced to 53 months in prison. There are no indications that Mr. Moore has had his federal disability removed. Therefore, under state law, the petitions he circulated are invalid. There are also documents from the CCBOE staff showing there were 50 valid signatures Mr. Moore collected. Those signatures are now invalid due to the federal conviction of the circulator. The petition to recall East Cleveland Member of Council Ward 04 no longer meets the minimum number of valid signatures required. Board Member Stickan abstained due to a relative being part of the federal court prosecution team against Mr. Moore. Board Members Hastings, Davis Chappell, and McCafferty voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed.

Chairman Hastings noted that there were several public comment requests in support of Councilwoman Stevenson. There were no public comments contra.

#### **Walk-on Agenda Item: Acknowledgment of Secretary of State LaRose's tie vote letter dated September 9, 2022, upholding the protest of Shalira Taylor against Shayla Davis**

Chairman Hastings moved to acknowledge Secretary of State LaRose's tie vote letter dated September 9, 2022, upholding the protest of Shalira Taylor against Shayla Davis. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **Agenda Item 6: Certification of issues for the November 8, 2022, General election**

Chairman Hastings moved to certify the issues for the November 8, 2022, General Election as set forth in the agenda, with the exception of East Cleveland Member of Council Ward 04 Recall Election based on the Board's previous action today. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **Agenda Item 7: Acknowledgment of the PEO Performance Report from the August 2, 2022, Primary Election**

Marlene Robinson Statler, Election Officials Assistant Manager, presented information from the board packet regarding the Precinct Election Official (PEO) Performance Report.

Chairman Hastings moved to acknowledge the PEO Performance Report from the August 2, 2022, Primary Election. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **Agenda Item 8: Recommendation of voting equipment ancillary items and funding request**

Director Perlatti stated during the August 22, 2022, presentation for voting equipment, CCBOE staff indicated in addition to the core voting equipment, there is equipment that does not qualify for State funding. The additional ancillary equipment will need to be funded through Cuyahoga County Council. The ancillary equipment includes items such as tables for the scanners, Ballot-on-Demand, ballot joggers, which prepare the ballots for scanning, etc. Additionally, items are included related to the new SOS Cyber Security and Fiscal Security Directive which requires the purchase of new equipment to increase the security and integrity of the elections. CCBOE management staff has been working together to identify the key ancillary equipment needed.

Board Member Davis Chappell stated there is a September 28, 2022, deadline with County Council and asked if the list is comprehensive enough. Director Perlatti stated the list is comprehensive. The list does not include additional labor required in 2023 for unpacking and additional training. County Council will be advised of the additional labor costs for 2023.

Shaunquitta Walker, Fiscal Services Manager, stated the CCBOE met last week with the Office of Budget Benefits Specialist to inform the County of the upcoming requests. The County specialist has advised the County Director of Budget and County Council of the upcoming requests, and provided the CCBOE a timeline of the required deadlines.

Director Perlatti stated once the appropriation is approved, the CCBOE will begin the official procurement process. Board Member Davis Chappell asked if the CCBOE worked with other Ohio counties that recently purchased voting equipment. Deputy Director Kaloger stated that other counties did provide ancillary equipment information during the voting equipment selection process.

Chairman Hastings moved to recommend the budgeting monies for the purchase of voting equipment ancillary items, and funding request as set forth in the board materials. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Confidential SOS Directive 2022-38 Update**

Director Perlatti stated the CCBOE is meeting all the requirements concerning confidential SOS Directive 2022-38. Chairman Hastings stated the SOS Directive concerns cyber security and preventing any attacks on boards of elections software and hardware. Under the public records law, the Directive is considered confidential. Board Members are aware of the updates, and the CCBOE staff is working to ensure compliance with the Directive.

Chairman Hastings moved to acknowledge the confidential SOS Directive 2022-38 Update. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **November 8, 2022, General Election Update**

Director Perlatti provided a November 8, 2022, General Election update. Director Perlatti stated that the Election Officials Department has placed and trained approximately 2,600 poll workers, which is 70% of what is needed. Poll worker training began last Friday. The Election Officials Department has sent out about 800 messages to poll workers who previously worked and have not confirmed for November. Additionally, the Election Officials Department continues to process new applications for poll workers.

The Election Support Department has locked in all of the November polling locations. Between August 2<sup>nd</sup> and November, there will be nine locations that will change. The voters impacted by the changes will receive a letter detailing where and why the location change is necessary. In addition, the Voter Information Guide for those locations will notate the changes.

In even-year elections, the SOS typically sends out Vote-by-Mail (VBM) ballot application request forms. The SOS recently mailed out the first of three planned mailings. Prior to the SOS mailing, the Ballot Department had received around 15,000 VBM ballot application request forms. Since the SOS mailing, the CCBOE has received approximately 85,000 VBM applications. The Ballot Department has processed about 15,000 applications. The Ballot Department is primarily focused on proofing the ballot information as UOVACA begins on September 23, 2022, and the priority is making sure the ballot is ready. The CCBOE is moving forward accordingly in preparing for the November 8, 2022, General Election.

### **September 13, 2022, Berea Ward 01 Recall Election**

On Tuesday, September 13, 2022, there is a Berea Ward 01 Recall Election. Early in-person voting closes at 2:00 p.m. today. The CCBOE was open over the weekend and received many early voters. The CCBOE has received 44 VBM ballot applications, and eight ballots have been returned. CCBOE staff will deliver the Election Day equipment on Tuesday at 5:00 a.m., and polls will open at 6:30 a.m. After the polls close at 7:30 p.m., the CCBOE staff will bring back the voting equipment, ballots, and memory sticks. Election night duties are anticipated to be finalized by 9:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 13, 2022.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Willa Hemmons, East Cleveland Law Director, provided public comment regarding Brandon King's recall affidavit.

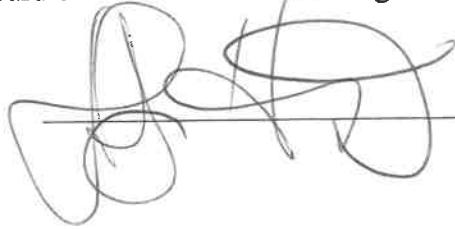
William Fambrough provided public comment regarding Brandon King's recall affidavit.

Patricia Blochowiak provided public comment regarding Brandon King's recall affidavit,

Chairman Hastings moved to recess the meeting at 10:55 a.m. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Certification: I have reviewed the above minutes and certify that they are an accurate summary of the actions taken by the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections at its meeting held on September 12, 2022.

Jeff Hastings, Chairman



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Inajo Davis Chappell, Board Member

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Terence M. McCafferty, Board Member



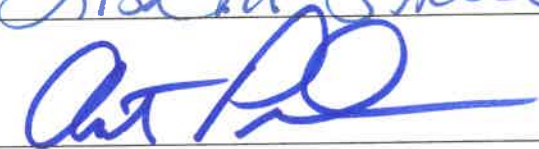
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Lisa M. Stickan, Board Member



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Anthony Perlatti, Director



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