

# VOTE CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

**Board Meeting**  
**7/17/2023**

**Attending:**

Henry F Curtis, IV, 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

---

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

Chairman Curtis noted that all Board Members were in attendance.

---

**Agenda Item 1: Approval of the minutes from the June 8, 2023, and June 21, 2023, Board Meetings**

Chairman Curtis moved to approve the minutes from the June 8, 2023, and June 21, 2023, Board Meetings. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Agenda Item 2: Acknowledgment of Secretary of State Directives and Memorandum: Directive 2023-12: Instructions Regarding the Review, Examination, and Verification of the Petition Proposing a Constitutional Amendment (The Right to Reproductive Freedom with Protections for Health and Safety Amendment); Directive 2023-13: August 8, 2023, Special Election Canvass Instructions; Directive 2023-14: Instructions Regarding the Review, Examination, and Verification of the Supplementary Petition Proposing an Initiated Statute (An Act to Control and Regulate Adult Use Cannabis); Memorandum 2023-02: Responsibilities of Sheriffs and Police in the August 8, 2023 Election (confidential – not for disclosure)**

Chairman Curtis moved to acknowledge Secretary of State Directives and Memorandum: Directive 2023-12: Instructions Regarding the Review, Examination, and Verification of the Petition Proposing a Constitutional Amendment (The Right to Reproductive Freedom with Protections for Health and Safety Amendment); Directive 2023-13: August 8, 2023, Special Election Canvass Instructions; Directive 2023-14: Instructions Regarding the Review, Examination, and Verification of the Supplementary Petition Proposing an Initiated Statute (An Act to Control and Regulate Adult Use Cannabis); Memorandum 2023-02: Responsibilities of Sheriffs and Police in the August 8, 2023 Election (confidential – not for disclosure). Board Member Davis Chappell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

---

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

### **Agenda Item 3: Discussion to refer Norma King, Norman King, and Cecil King to the SOS Public Integrity Division**

*A transcript of the hearings can be obtained by contacting Mary Bejjani, CCBOE Clerk to the Board at 216-443-6430/mbejjani@cuyahogacounty.gov.*

Chairman Curtis stated the Board would have a discussion based on the May 23, 2023, voter residency challenges in East Cleveland for Norma King, Norman King, and Cecil King. Board Member Davis Chappell requested a written explanation for the record regarding why Stephanie McCarroll-King was not recommended for referral to the Secretary of State (SOS) Public Integrity Division. Director Perlatti stated that the CCBOE staff will provide the requested information at the next board meeting. Deputy Director Kaloger then provided a summary of East Cleveland Challenge of Voter Residency regarding Norma King, Norman King, and Cecil King, recommending the three individuals be referred to the SOS Public Integrity Division for further investigation. Board Member McCafferty asked if a referral to the Public Integrity Division would then be followed up by the State or would the case directly be sent to the CCPO. Director Perlatti stated he would inquire about the subsequent process and advise the Board.

The Board requested a status update on any other outstanding voter irregularity referrals to the Cuyahoga County Prosecutors Office (CCPO). Board Member Davis Chappell asked if there was any update on a current case of a voter being prosecuted for voting in both Florida and Cuyahoga County. Director Perlatti stated that Deputy Director Kaloger was called to testify at the trial on Wednesday, July 12, 2023. Deputy Director Kaloger said the Registration Department did the initial research and provided the documents to the SOS as part of the investigation. Deputy Director Kaloger appeared at the bench trial to explain the CCBOE processes, transaction logs, and voter history documents. Assistant Prosecutor Musson stated he only knew what was publically reported, and the trial closed on Friday, July 14, 2023, and all the evidence had been submitted. Mr. Musson stated Judge Santoli is taking it under advisement and will issue an opinion around August 8, 2023.

Board Member Davis Chappell motioned that the CCBOE move the matter of the East Cleveland Challenges of voter residency forward to the Public Integrity body in the Secretary of States Office. Board Member Stickan seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Agenda Item 4: Discussion to refer Black Fork Strategies to the SOS Public Integrity Division**

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

Deputy Director Kaloger provided a summary of the CCBOE investigations into 18 irregular irregularities in voter registration cards and address updates Black Fork Strategies submitted to the CCBOE. The CCBOE staff recommendation was to refer Black Fork Strategies to the SOS Public Integrity Division.

Board Member Davis Chappell motioned to make the referral and support the recommendation of Black Fork Strategies issues to the SOS Public Integrity Division. Chairman Curtis seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Agenda Item 5: Acknowledgment of the Ballot Proofs for the August 8, 2023, Special Election in accordance with the Ballot Proofing Policy approved by the Board at the March 12, 2021, Board Meeting**

Chairman Curtis moved to acknowledge the Ballot Proofs for the August 8, 2023, Special Election in accordance with the Ballot Proofing Policy approved by the Board at the March 12, 2021, Board Meeting. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Agenda Item 6: Final approval of the ballot order for the August 8, 2023, Special Election**

Chairman Curtis moved to approve the final ballot order for the August 8, 2023, Special Election, as set forth in the board materials. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Agenda Item 7: Acknowledgment of resignations from, and appointments to elected office**

Chairman Curtis moved to acknowledge the resignations from, and appointments to elected office, as set forth in the board materials. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Agenda Item 8: Acknowledgment of candidate withdrawals**

Chairman Curtis moved to acknowledge the candidate withdrawals, as set forth in the board materials. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Agenda Item 9: Final authorization for the allocation of voting booths for the August 8, 2023, Special Election. Allocation quantities are based on one voting booth for every 175 registered voters per polling location. A total of 4,941 voting booths will be allocated + 706 ClearCast Go scanners + 291 ADA ClearAccess voting units and 1,074 Electronic Poll Books**

Chairman Curtis moved to authorize the final allocation of voting booths for the August 8, 2023, Special Election. Allocation quantities are based on one voting booth for every 175 registered voters per polling location. A total of 4,941 voting booths will be allocated + 706 ClearCast Go scanners + 291 ADA ClearAccess voting units and 1,074 Electronic Poll Books. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Agenda Item 10: Approval of contract and resolution a)Enterprise Contract for Election Van rentals**

Shaunquitta Walker, Fiscal Services Manager, presented information regarding the contract and resolution for the Enterprise Contract for election van rentals.

Chairman Curtis moved to approve the contract and resolution for the Enterprise Contract for election van rentals. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Agenda Item 11: Approval of vouchers and resolutions for a) Election IQ for provisional envelope printing b) Willo Security for Election Day Drivers**

Shaunquitta Walker, Fiscal Services Manager, presented information on the vouchers and resolutions summary from the Board Materials.

Chairman Curtis moved to approve the voucher and resolution for a) Election IQ for provisional envelope printing. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Curtis moved to approve the voucher and resolution for b) Willo Security for Election Day Drivers. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Agenda Item 12: Approval of the personnel agenda**

Chairman Curtis moved to approve the personnel agenda, as set forth in the board materials. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**August 8, 2023, Special Election Update**

Director Perlatti provided an update on the August 8, 2023, Special Election. He stated there is no comparable election to this Statewide August special election. The CCBOE has received over 50,000 Vote-by-Mail (VBM) ballot applications which have been processed and sent out. Compared to the same number of days into the August 2022 Statewide Primary Election, the CCBOE had processed 21,000 VBM applications. The CCBOE is also receiving approximately 3,000 VBM ballot applications per day. The projection is the CCBOE will process around 80,000 VBM ballot applications for the August 8, 2023, Special Election. Board Member Davis Chappell requested the Track Your VBM Ballot feature be more publicized through various media outlets. Director Perlatti said yes and will include the feature in his upcoming FaceBook Live feature. Early In-Person (EIP) voting is using the new voting equipment, including the ballot on-demand printers, and the new equipment is a positive game changer making the voting process quicker. The CCBOE is averaging 702 In-Person voters per day. Compared to the November 2022 Gubernatorial General Election, the average was 506 voters a day, and over 20,000 EIP voters voted. If the EIP turnout continues at the same level, there will be over 20,000 voters for the August Special Election. The CCBOE is receiving positive comments about the process and experience. Voters were expecting to see long lines, but because of the Ballot-on-Demand printers, people can get through the voting process faster. The Election Officials Department recruitment for Precinct Election Officials (PEO) is at about 73% of poll workers trained, which is a good place to be at this point in the cycle. There are enough open training seats to get workers into the classes. Board Member Davis Chappell confirmed the poll worker training is on the new equipment and asked if there were any comments from poll workers about the new equipment or if there were any difficulties. Director Perlatti stated the feedback has been positive and confident. The ballot scanner equipment is easier to use because it identifies where to place the ballot for scanning. People also like the new ADA units. Director Perlatti thanked Rocky River Mayor Bobst and Richmond Heights Mayor Thomas for making their government facilities available to hold numerous training classes and store the training equipment. Director Perlatti added that the Community Outreach Department will begin the library tour featuring the new equipment next week and discuss House Bill 458. There will also be an ADA training session on the new equipment at the RTA Harvard Garage Training Center. Several ADA groups have been invited to attend. The CCBOE was behind on the Logic and Accuracy testing due to the ballot language changes that came from the

Secretary of State's Office. L&A testing will be completed on Monday, July 17, 2023. The Ballot Department has been working overtime to catch up, so the Election Support Department can receive the information to get the election equipment and supplies ready to send to the voting locations. The Halle Building received nineteen pallets of ballots on Friday, July 14, 2023. The ballot intake process is currently being completed, and Election Support will be working overtime to prepare the ballots for the voting locations. The departments have been working together to prioritize the delivery schedule with Berman's. The first equipment shipment is ready for Berman's to pick up on Wednesday, July 19, 2023. Election Support is working with the new transport cages, which are more secure and easier to move around. The units are being loaded according to templates to ensure maximum efficiency. The Registration Department has accomplished its goals in completing the Statewide petitions and a City of Cleveland petition with over 6,000 valid signatures. The City of Cleveland, Clerk of Council, will determine if the Cleveland petition meets the City Charter requirements to be placed on the November ballot. Deputy Director Kaloger added that the Human Resources Department was able to recruit good seasonal workers for the CCBOE. Director Perlatti stated the CCBOE is moving along and hitting all its goals.

### **TeamDynamix Issue Tracker Update**

Director Perlatti stated the CCBOE currently uses an issue tracker program for the CCBOE call center on Election Day. When poll workers or voters call in with an issue, the item is input into a software program, which is then dispatched to the various areas, including the Hughes and Halle buildings and the Command Center, which then focus on a resolution. A former employee created the current program, and it has seen its life expectancy. The CCBOE is now negotiating with TeamDynamix to purchase a program used by hospitals and municipalities and is a secure program that can handle large volumes. The CCBOE is working with staff, County Assistant Prosecutor Musson, and TeamDynamix's team and their attorneys to work through a software agreement. The Board then discussed the matter. Director Perlatti stated the contract may or may not appear at the next Board Meeting.

### **Walk on Agenda Item:**

Director Perlatti stated that on Friday, July 14, 2023, late afternoon, the CCBOE was notified by Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD) that Mary Bethune School, which is a voting location for Cleveland Ward 9, would not be available for the August 8, 2023, Special Election. The School is currently undergoing construction updates, which will not be completed before the Election. The CCBOE will be reaching out to Cleveland City Councilman Kevin Conwell to discuss the alternative locations. Director Perlatti stated the Board needs to acknowledge that the Mary Bethune School will not be a polling location for the August 8, 2023, Special Election, and an alternate location deemed appropriate is to be determined by CCBOE staff. Board Member Davis Chappell asked if the Election Officials Manual requires identifying an actual place. Peter James, Election Compliance Administrator, confirmed just the change from the original location and not the new polling location needs to be acknowledged. Board Member Stickan stated that proximity, traffic, parking, and accessibility need to be considered for the alternate location. Chairman Curtis moved to acknowledge the change of location from Mary Bethune School to an alternate location to be named soon, as deemed appropriate by staff. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board presented a Resolution Upon the Retirement to Dane Thomas, Election Support Assistant Manager, for his twenty-three years of service at the CCBOE.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Dontez Taylor provided public comment on ballot boxes.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was no executive session

Chairman Curtis moved to recess the meeting at 10:45 a.m. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

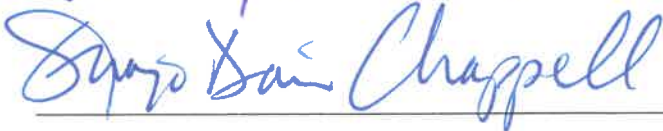
Certification: I have reviewed the above minutes and certify that they are an accurate summary of the actions taken by the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections at its meeting held on July 17, 2023.

Henry F Curtis, IV, Chairman



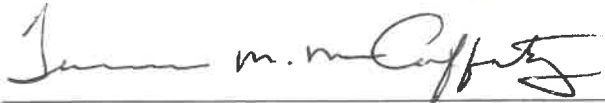
---

Inajo Davis Chappell, Board Member



---

Terence M. McCafferty, Board Member



---

Lisa M. Stickan, Board Member



---

Anthony Perlatti, Director



---