

VOTE CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Board Meeting
8/23/2021

THIS MEETING WAS HELD VIA TELECONFERENCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH
H.B. 197, 133rd G.A. §12 (2020)

Attending:

Jeff Hastings, Chairman
Inajo Davis Chappell, Board Member
Lisa M. Stickan, Board Member
David Wondolowski, Board Member
Anthony W. Perlatti, Director
Tony Kaloger, Deputy Director

Mark R. Musson, Assistant Prosecutor, Cuyahoga County
Mary Bejjani, Clerk to the Board
Linda Walker, 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 Hastings noted that all Board Members were in attendance.

Agenda Item 1: Authorization for bipartisan teams of employees to receive absentee ballots outside the office of the board of elections on September 11, 2021, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., September 12, 2021, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., and September 13, 2021, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Chairman Hastings moved to authorize bipartisan teams of employees to receive absentee ballots outside the office of the board of elections on September 11, 2021, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., September 12, 2021, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., and September 13, 2021, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Board Member Wondolowski seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 2: Certification of the official results of the August 3, 2021, Special Congressional Primary Election.

Brian Cleary, Ballot Department Manager, presented information from the Board packet concerning the certification of the official results from the August 3, 2021, Special Congressional Primary Election.

- Authorization to approve the remake of the optical scan ballots from the August 3, 2021, Special Congressional Primary Election.

¹ Narrative that is underlined in the CCBOE minutes relates to a motion that was acted on by the Board.

- Chairman Hastings moved to authorize to approve the remake of optical scan ballots from the August 3, 2021, Special Congressional Primary Election. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- Authorization to approve absentee ballots from the August 3, 2021, Special Congressional Primary Election
Chairman Hastings moved to approve absentee ballots from the August 27, 2021, Special Congressional Primary Election. Board Member Wondolowski seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- Authorization to approve provisional ballots from the August 3, 2021, Special Congressional Primary Election
Chairman Hastings moved to authorize approval of provisional ballots from the August 3, 2021, Special Congressional Primary Election. Board Member Wondolowski seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- Acknowledgment of the pre & post-test results of the vote tabulation system from the August 3, 2021, Special Congressional Primary Election
Chairman Hastings moved to acknowledge the pre & post-test results of the vote tabulation system from the August 3, 2021, Special Congressional Primary Election. Board Member Wondolowski seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- Acknowledgement of Official District Wide Results of the August 3, 2021, Special Congressional Primary Election for Cuyahoga and Summit Counties.
Chairman Hastings moved to acknowledge the Official District Wide Results of the August 3, 2021, Special Congressional Primary Election for Cuyahoga and Summit Counties. Board Member Wondolowski seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Hastings moved to certify the official results of the August 3, 2021, Special Congressional Primary Election. Board Member Wondolowski seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 3: Acknowledgment of the date, time, and place of the post-election audit for the August 3, 2021, Special Congressional Primary Election.

Brian Clary, Ballot Department Manager, indicated the post-election audit for the August 3, 2021, Special Congressional Primary Election is scheduled for Monday, September 6, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. There are two races eligible for the audit, and an odd roll of the di determined the August 3, 2021, Democratic race would be audited.

Chairman Hastings moved to acknowledge the date, time, and place of the post-election audit for the August 3, 2021, Special Congressional Primary Election. Board Member Wondolowski seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 4: Final approval of the ballot order for the September 14, 2021, Primary Election.

Chairman Hastings moved to approve the final ballot order for the September 14, 2021, Primary Election. Board Member Wondolowski seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Member Wondolowski asked Director Perlatti if a 15% voter turn-out is still anticipated for the September primary. Director Perlatti indicated yes.

Agenda Item 5: Protest hearing filed by Michael Goodwin against the candidacy of Cynthia Beard for Highland Hills Member of Council.

A transcript of the proceedings from this discussion is available for review by contacting Mary Bejjani, CCBOE Clerk to the Board.

Board Member Wondolowski made a motion to deny the protest. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 6: Acknowledgment of candidate withdrawal from the November 2, 2021, General Election.

Chairman Hastings moved to acknowledge the candidate withdrawal from the November 2, 2021, General Election. Board Member Wondolowski seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 7: Acknowledgment of resignation from elected office.

Chairman Hastings moved to acknowledge the resignation from elected office. Board Member Wondolowski seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 8: Authorization to pay: 138 Voting Location Managers x \$200 = \$27,600; 148 Voting Location Deputies x \$200 = \$29,600; 1,455 Precinct Election Officials x \$172.10 = \$250,405.50; 138 Sanitation Officials x \$200 = \$27,600; 70 Election Substitute Officials x \$100 = \$7,000 in the amount not-to-exceed \$342,205.50 for the September 14, 2021, Primary Election.

Chairman Hastings moved to approve the authorization to pay: 138 Voting Location Managers x \$200 = \$27,600; 148 Voting Location Deputies x \$200 = \$29,600; 1,455 Precinct Election Officials x \$172.10 = \$250,405.50; 138 Sanitation Officials x \$200 = \$27,600; 70 Election Substitute Officials x \$100 = \$7,000 in the amount not-to-exceed \$342,205.50 for the September 14, 2021, Primary Election. Board Member Wondolowski seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 9: Approval to appoint not less than two precinct election officials for each precinct pursuant to ORC §3501.22 for the November 2, 2021, General Election.

Chairman Hasting moved to approve to appoint not less than two precinct election officials for each precinct pursuant to ORC §3501.22 for the November 2, 2021, General Election. Board Member Wondolowski seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 10: Authorization to process payment in the amount not-to-exceed \$15,760.00 for 54 private voting locations and one zone station being used for the September 14, 2021, Primary Election.

Chairman Hastings moved to authorize to process payment in the amount not-to-exceed \$15,760.00 for 54 private voting locations and one zone station being used for the September 14, 2021, Primary Election. Board Member Wondolowski seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 11: Final authorization for the allocation of voting booths for the September 14, 2021, Primary Election. Allocation quantities are based on Social Distancing and room size per polling location. A total of 1,970 voting booths will be allocated + 400 DS200 precinct scanners + 138 ADA AutoMark voting units and 415 Electronic Poll books.

Chairman Hastings moved to acknowledge the final authorization of the allocation of voting booths for the September 14, 2021, Primary Election. Allocation quantities are based on Social Distancing and room size per polling location. A total of 1,970 voting booths will be allocated + 400 DS200 precinct scanners + 138 ADA AutoMark voting units and 415 Electronic Poll books. Board Member Wondolowski seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 12: Approval of the 2022-2023 Recommended Biennial Budget.

Chairman Hastings stated the Board was provided the *2022-2023 Recommended Biennial Budget* to review at the last Board meeting held on August 17, 2021 and that there have been several occasions for the Board to discuss the proposed budget. Director Perlatti and Kendra Zusy, Fiscal Services Manager, presented the *2022-2023 Recommended Biennial Budget* provided in the meeting materials. Ms. Zusy stated the *2022-2023 Recommended Biennial Budget* is comprehensive and is sufficiently funded to accomplish the CCBOE's mission of conducting elections and funding staff for the next two years. Director Perlatti addressed Chairman Hastings questions from the previous board meeting regarding wages for temporary employees and election officials at other larger Ohio county Board of Elections. Wage data was collected from Franklin, Hamilton, and Summit counties and reflected that CCBOE precinct election officials are currently paid less than Franklin and Hamilton counties. The CCBOE 2022-2023 budgets \$250.00 for precinct election officials (PEO's) and \$275.00 for voting location managers. These larger jurisdictions also pay temporary employees more, with systems in place to increase the temporary employee's pay based on elections served. The CCBOE's 2022-2023 *Recommended Biennial Budget* for temporary employees falls in line with other large county jurisdictions. The Biennial Budget emphasizes investing in the CCBOE and being efficient. Board Member Wondolowski stated that keeping up with the regular cost of living increases eliminates the possibility of going 10, 15, or 20 years without an increase and this is something he supports. Board Member Davis Chappell stated she reviewed the budget carefully, and it is very comprehensive. The format was easy to read, and the approach makes perfect sense as these are taxpayer dollars, and the CCBOE has been good stewards of the money allotted to run efficient elections. The rightsizing of the PEO's makes sense as the CCBOE cannot run a good, smooth, and transparent election without workers. The budget is very well thought out, and the approach is great while still being very good stewards of the taxpayer dollars. Board Member Stickan stated she agreed with Board Member Davis Chappell, especially regarding the maintenance budget and other adjustments that make absolute sense. Chairman Hastings asked if Director Perlatti has reached out to the County Executive, about the proposed budget. Director Perlatti stated yes, and he has also been in contact with Walter Parfejewiec, Director of the Office of Budget and Management (OBM). Director Perlatti said the CCBOE is also working with Trevor McAleer, the Cuyahoga County Legislative Budget Advisor, who communicates with County Council members and staff. Director Perlatti stated if there is an approval of the budget today, the CCBOE will submit the proposed budget to OBM, and there will be a more in-depth review with the OBM staff. Board Member Davis Chappell stated the County had been a good partner with the CCBOE regarding former budget initiatives and that the County Executive and Council have invested in the CCBOE's operations. Chairman Hastings asked when the *2022-2023 Recommended Biennial Budget* will be presented to County Council. Ms. Zusy stated sometime in October. Director Perlatti said that when it goes before County Council, the CCBOE Director, Deputy Director, and

Fiscal Manager will be asked to attend the meeting and present the budget to the council. Chairman Hastings asked Director Perlatti to keep the Board posted and if additional input or support is needed.

Chairman Hastings moved to approve the 2022-2023 Recommended Biennial Budget. Board Member Wondolowski seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 13: Personnel Agenda

Director Perlatti provided a summary of the personnel agenda, as presented in the board materials.

Chairman Hastings moved to approve the personnel agenda as set forth in the board materials. Board Member Wondolowski seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

CCBOE Letter of Support for Attorney CLE Credits

Chairman Hastings stated that Mr. Peter James, Election and Compliance Administrator, has been working with the Ohio Association of Election Officials (OAEO) to encourage the Ohio Supreme Court to provide CLE credits for those attorneys that sign-up as poll workers. A letter of support has been drafted (for Board Member's signature) in support of this initiative.

Chairman Hastings moved to adopt the letter of support for Attorney CLE Credits. Board Member Wondolowski seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

CCBOE Website update

Director Perlatti updated the Board on changes to the CCBOE website that will enhance ADA compliance and functionality. Plans are to activate the website after the September 14th Primary Election. There are plans to promote public awareness through the CCBOE website, media, and social media. Deputy Director Kaloger stated the CCBOE is conducting beta testing with staff and other CCBOE stakeholders. Chairman Hastings asked if the Board members could have access to the test site and Deputy Director Kaloger stated yes. Board Member Davis Chappell said the current site is not user-friendly as the information is there but difficult to access and that the new website will be well received.

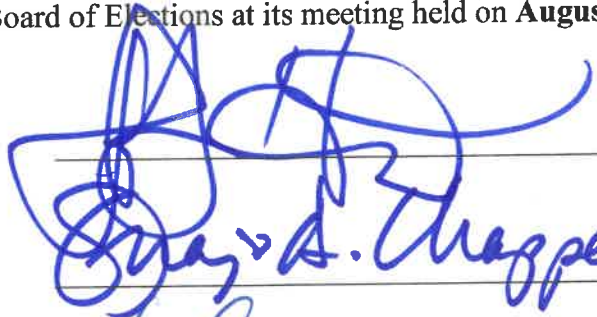
PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

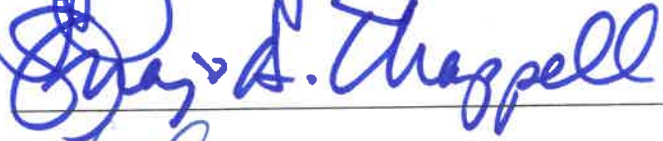
Chairman Hastings moved to adjourn at 10:56 a.m. Board Member Wondolowski seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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 **August 23, 2021**.

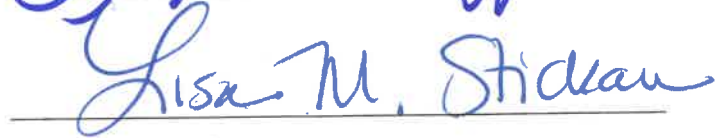
Jeff Hastings, Chairman

A large, stylized handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Inajo Davis Chappell", written over a horizontal line.

Inajo Davis Chappell, Board Member

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Lisa M. Stickan", written over a horizontal line.

Lisa M. Stickan, Board Member

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "David J. Wondolowski", written over a horizontal line.

David J. Wondolowski, Board Member

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Anthony Perlatti", written over a horizontal line.

Anthony Perlatti, Director