

I. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Ray Lembke called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. Mr. Grant led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Roll Call

Ray Lembke – Chair – Yes

Rick Combs – Yes

Gregg Conrad – Yes

Richard Grant – Yes

Also present were Director Stephanie Hemmer-Haight, Deputy Director Chris Dennison and Administrative Assistant Cherie Wilson.

III. Motion to Adopt the Agenda

Mr. Lembke suggested that the Public Participation be moved before the Public Test.

2023-71 – Mr. Grant made the motion to adopt the agenda as revised. Mr. Conrad seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

Mr. Combs – Yes

Mr. Conrad – Yes

Mr. Grant – Yes

Mr. Lembke – Yes

IV. Other attendees – Assistant County Prosecutor Julia Carney; Wayne Township residents Teresa Hinnners (Trustee), James Kidwell, Rebecca Moore

V. Public participation – Each speaker limited to maximum five minutes to address the board.

Mr. Kidwell, Ms. Hinnners, and Ms. Moore expressed concerns about moving the WE-B and WE-C polling location from the Wayne Township Admin Building (Newtownville Community Center) to the Wayne Township Firehouse (three miles away). Ms. Moore also presented signatures from 26 voters who opposed the move, including voters who were accustomed to walking to the polls. Based on the discussion, the fire chief also has concerns about the move; he would need to block part of the parking lot to allow Fire/EMS access for emergency runs. The move was initiated based on correspondence from Scott Nause, and concerns about equipment security and roof leaks, which will not be resolved before the August election. Mr. Conrad commented that absentee voting is an option; voters do not need to leave their house or use a computer; a phone call can initiate the process. The common goal is to make voting as easy as possible in the context of keeping the equipment secure. The board will work with the Wayne Township trustees and fire chief to see if there is a way to balance all of the concerns, and will assess the issues and polling location selection again before the November 2023 general election and/or the March 2024 primary.

VI. Public Test for Special Election – August 8, 2023

At 10:31 a.m., the board recessed while Mr. Grant and Mr. Conrad observed the director, deputy director and assistant run the test deck through the DS-850 ballot scanner.

At 10:43 a.m., the board returned from recess. Deputy Director Dennison read the results from the newly run report while Mr. Combs compared them to the control sheet. The board found that the results matched and that the DS-850 was tabulating accurately. The board signed and dated the reports.

2023-72 – Mr. Combs made the motion to accept the results of the Public Test for the August 8, 2023 special election. Mr. Conrad seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

Mr. Combs – Yes

Mr. Conrad – Yes

Mr. Grant – Yes

Mr. Lembke – Yes

VII. Approval of Minutes

- June 22, 2023 – Regular Monthly Board Meeting

2023-73 – Mr. Conrad made the motion to approve the June 2023 meeting minutes. Mr. Grant seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

Mr. Combs – Yes

Mr. Conrad – Yes

Mr. Grant – Yes

Mr. Lembke – Yes

VIII. Approval of Bills as of July 19, 2023

Mr. Conrad asked about the ES&S Election Support item (Dan Shebesta); there was additional cost because Dan had to come back after SOS corrected the ballot language. Deputy Director Dennison indicated that the state grant money would cover the expense. Mr. Conrad also inquired about the

disposition of the old voting booths; we will examine the booths that were replaced to determine if any can be used as spares.

2023-74 – Mr. Combs made the motion to approve payment of the bills as of July 19, 2023. Mr. Grant seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

Mr. Combs – Yes
Mr. Conrad – Yes
Mr. Grant – Yes
Mr. Lembke – Yes

IX. Review of Election Equipment Allocation – RC 3506.12(A)

2023-75 – Mr. Grant made the motion to allocate one DS-200 optical scanner per precinct and one Express Vote per polling location pursuant to RC 3506.12(A). Mr. Conrad seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

Mr. Combs – Yes
Mr. Conrad – Yes
Mr. Grant – Yes
Mr. Lembke – Yes

Mr. Conrad inquired about grant money for the Electronic Poll Books; Deputy Director Dennison relayed information from the SOS conference that the state expects to release funds soon. However, timing is problematic with the multiple back-to-back elections. Director Hemmer-Haight indicated that the county has allocated the matching money when the state is ready to proceed and we have an appropriate window between elections.

X. Appointment of precinct election officials (PEOs) by September 15, 2023

Chairman Lembke pointed out that the Deborah Cook on the Democratic PEO list is not his wife.

2023-76 – Mr. Combs made the motion to appoint the list of Democrat and Republican election officials as required by September 15, 2023. Mr. Conrad seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

Mr. Combs – Yes
Mr. Conrad – Yes
Mr. Grant – Yes
Mr. Lembke – Yes

XI. Directors' report

- Absentee report (Statistics as of end of day 7/18):
1356 voted in office
2577 ballots mailed, 1717 returned
16 UOCAVA ballots issued
- Petition update
Director Hemmer-Haight reported that we had received cannabis and reproductive freedom petitions from the Secretary of State last week. The staff, including a few part-time employees, worked overtime during the week and weekend to review approximately 15,000 signatures; the overtime and part-time costs will be paid by August grant funds.
- Candidate filings for Nov 2023 general election
A list of candidates who have already filed is posted on our website. However, the list changes multiple times per day as candidates file.
- PEO update
Director Hemmer-Haight indicated that most of the positions for the August election have been filled, as noted in the list that the board approved earlier in the meeting.
- Equipment moved to new polling locations
The directors picked up voting booths and other election items from their previous polling locations and moved them to the new locations for the August election.
- Mail tracking county communication portal (outgoing and incoming) text notifications for mailings to voter – Graphic Village program

Tom Cooper from Graphic Village had planned to attend the meeting to discuss a proposal for additional tracking of mailed ballots. Deputy Director Dennison proposed tabling the topic until a future meeting when Mr. Cooper is available.

Deputy Director Dennison discussed issues with the early voting equipment. In 2019, we switched the early voting area to ballot-on-demand printing and paid approximately \$34,000 for the entire configuration, including printers, laptops and support. After heavy use in several past elections, we have had multiple printer breakdowns, including two that are beyond repair, and others that are

slowing down and causing voter delays. After reviewing the equipment, our ISD contact (Kevin) recommended that we replace the outdated laptops with upgraded models that use higher-performance solid-state drives. ES&S also has faster ballot printers to replace the ones that are breaking down. We have requested that SOS approve using the August grant funds to replace the worn-out equipment and reduce the voter delays before the last week of early voting, which usually has the longest lines.

2023-77 – Mr. Grant made the motion to buy six replacement printers and the three laptops required to support ballot-on-demand printing for a total cost not to exceed \$24,000, and to apply for grant funding for the equipment. Mr. Combs seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

- Mr. Combs – Yes
- Mr. Conrad – Yes
- Mr. Grant – Yes
- Mr. Lembke – Yes

XII. Upcoming Board Meetings & Important Dates

- July 11 – Early in-person / absentee by mail voting began

EARLY IN-PERSON VOTING HOURS	
July 19-21: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	July 24-28: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
July 31 7:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.	August 1: 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.
August 2-4: 7:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.	August 5 (Sat): 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
August 6 (Sun): 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m..	NO EARLY VOTING MONDAY (8/7)


- August 8 – Election Day – polls open 6:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
- Aug 9-12 (8:00-5:00 daily) – provisional cure period.
- August 16 at 9:00 a.m. – mandatory provisional meeting and monthly board meeting
- August 21 at 9:00 a.m. – Open official canvass for August election and certify petitions for November election
- **Certification of the August 8, 2023 special election meeting TBD**
 - Board must begin the official canvass no earlier than the 11th day after the election (Sat., Aug. 19, 2023) nor later than the 15th day after the election (Wed., Aug. 23, 2023).
 - Board must complete its Official Canvass and certify no later than the 21st day after the election (Tue., Aug. 29, 2023).
- September 11 & 12 – DIMS conference Put-In-Bay

XIII. Motion to Adjourn

2023-78 – At 11:19 a.m., Mr. Grant made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Combs seconded the motion.

Upon roll call:

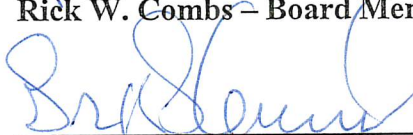
- Mr. Combs – Yes
- Mr. Conrad – Yes
- Mr. Grant – Yes
- Mr. Lembke – Yes



 Raymond W. Lembke – Board Chairman



 Rick W. Combs – Board Member



 Gregg L. Conrad – Board Member



 Rick Grant – Board Member

Date 8-16-23

**APPROVAL OF BILLS FOR BOARD MEETING
JULY 19, 2023**

VENDOR	DESCRIPTION OF PAYMENT	AMOUNT
INVOICES APPROVED BY BOARD MEMBERS:		
CHAMPION MEDIA	ADVERTISING - CLOSE OF REGISTRATION - AUG. SPECIAL	\$ 110.25
GREGG CONRAD	REIMBURSEMENT - SUMMER CONFERENCE - COLUMBUS	\$ 67.24
CULLIGAN	BOTTLED WATER - 7-1-23 TO 7-31-23	\$ 14.50
E. S. & S.	ELECTION SUPPORT - DAN SHEBESTA - JUNE 16TH & 23RD	\$ 3,950.00
ELECTIONSOURCE	VOTING BOOTHS - 30 DUO'S - GRANT MONEY	\$ 8,742.97
RICH GRANT	REIMBURSEMENT - SUMMER CONFERENCE - COLUMBUS	\$ 264.70
GRAPHIC VILLAGE	PROVISIONAL ENVELOPES - 10,000	\$ 5,957.11
STEPHANIE HAIGHT	REIMBURSEMENT - SUMMER CONFERENCE - COLUMBUS	\$ 107.51
ALESHA HANNA	REIMBURSEMENT - SUMMER CONFERENCE - COLUMBUS	\$ 201.80
INTAB	RED SPLIT LOCKS - 1,200	\$ 333.27
RAY LEMBKE	REIMBURSEMENT - SUMMER CONFERENCE - COLUMBUS	\$ 247.89
ODP	OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$ 63.43
OHIO SEC. OF STATE	SUMMER CONFERENCE REGISTRATION	\$ 910.00
RUEBEL FAMILY PARTNERSHIP	OFF SITE STORAGE - RED BARN - AUGUST	\$ 3,800.00
US BANK	PCARD - GO DADDY WEBSITE	\$ 99.99
US BANK	PCARD - KIM - STYLUS	\$ 89.94
US POST OFFICE - BATAVIA	DEPOSITS FOR BRM AND BULK MAIL ACCOUNTS	\$ 23,560.00
CRYSTAL WHITE	REIMBURSEMENT - SUMMER CONFERENCE - COLUMBUS	236.04
STAFF SALARIES	PAY PERIOD 6-12-23 TO 6-25-23	\$ 20,113.41
BOARD MEMBERS SALARIES	PAY PERIOD 6-12-23 TO 6-25-23	\$ 2,572.48
PART TIME SALARIES	PAY PERIOD 6-12-23 TO 6-25-23	\$ 462.00
STAFF SALARIES	PAY PERIOD 6-26-23 TO 7-9-23	\$ 20,753.40
BOARD MEMBERS SALARIES	PAY PERIOD 6-26-23 TO 7-9-23	\$ 2,572.48
PART TIME SALARIES	PAY PERIOD 6-26-23 TO 7-9-23	\$ 1,110.00
OVERTIME	PAY PERIOD 6-26-23 TO 7-9-23	\$ 22.50
	TOTAL:	\$ 96,362.91

Cherie Wilson

From: Cherie Wilson
Sent: Monday, June 26, 2023 8:44 AM
To: 'legals@clermontsun.com'
Cc: Stephanie Haight
Subject: July Board Meeting and testing schedule
Attachments: 2023 Jul 19 PUBLIC TEST LnA notice.docx

Jamie,

Please be advised and post as a PSA (no cost) the attachment regarding the July meeting and public testing schedule.

My direct phone number is 732-7485 if you have any questions.

Thank you!

Cherie Wilson, Administrative Support Specialist
Clermont County Board of Elections
76 S. Riverside Dr.
Batavia, OH 45103

**Clermont County Board of Elections
Notice of Date for Public Test/L&A**

The Public Test for the August 8, 2023 Special Election will be held during the July Monthly Board Meeting, scheduled for Wednesday, July 19, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. at the Board office: 76 S. Riverside Dr., Batavia, Ohio 45103.

The monthly meetings are for general purposes, including review of minutes and finances, election status, and any and all other matters that may come before the board.

Logic and accuracy testing for the August 2023 Special Election will be done July 5-7 during business hours at 299 Haskell Lane, Batavia, Ohio 45103.

Ray Lembke – Chairman
Stephanie Hemmer-Haight – Director