

**I. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairman Ray Lembke called the meeting to order at 10:04 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 as Presented**

**2023-126** – Mr. Combs made the motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Mr. Conrad seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

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

**IV. Other attendees** – Julia Carney (Assistant County Prosecutor). Kenny Henning (SOS Liaison) joined the meeting at 10:32 a.m.

**V. Public Test for Special Election – November 7, 2023**

Pursuant to R.C. §3506.14(B), the board recessed at 10:05 a.m. while Mr. Grant and Mr. Conrad observed the director, deputy director and Dan Shebesta (ES&S) run the test deck through the DS-850 ballot scanner.

At 10:16 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 ballot scanner was counting accurately. The board signed and dated the reports.

**2023-127** – Mr. Grant made the motion to accept the results of the Public Test for the November 7, 2023 general election. Mr. Combs seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

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

**VI. Public participation** – none

**VII. Approval of Minutes**

- September 6 & 8, 2023 – Open and Certify Post-Election Audit
- September 20, 2023 – Regular Monthly Board Meeting

**2023-128** – Mr. Conrad made the motion to approve the two sets of September 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 October 18, 2023**

Mr. Conrad asked if the advertising expenses were chargeback items; Director Hemmer-Haight confirmed that advertising is charged back to the subdivisions for each election. In odd years, other election costs are prorated among the subdivisions as well.

**2023-129** – Mr. Grant made the motion to approve payment of the bills as of October 18, 2023. Mr. Combs seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

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

### IX. Campaign Finance Referrals

Director Hemmer-Haight shared the attached list of late filings for the board to consider for campaign finance referrals.

2023-130 – Mr. Conrad made the motion to refer the four committees on the attached list provided by the director to the Ohio Elections Commission. Mr. Combs seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

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

### X. Directors' report

- New Balotar printers and server laptops  
Director Hemmer-Haight reported that the new ballot-on-demand printers and servers are much faster. Upon advice of Dan Shebesta, we have adjusted the printer settings for the thicker ballot paper to try to reduce the multi-picks.
- Absentee report  
Director Hemmer-Haight reported that 32 UOCAVA ballots have been issued to date. We have processed 1491 in-person voters and mailed 3275 regular absentee ballots, which are beginning to come back in the mail this week.
- PEO Update  
There are still 35 to 40 Democratic PEO openings. The Republican spots are filled, with backups lined up for some locations.
- Election Day Ballot Delivery  
We expect ballots to be delivered tomorrow (10/19); logic and accuracy testing is scheduled today through Friday.
- Montgomery County Media Event  
The directors travelled to Montgomery County for a roundtable meeting with six other county BOE personnel and Kenny Henning (SOS Liaison). A lunch brainstorming session was followed by a session with local news outlets. Each county had a turn to discuss voter demographics and specific information for their county, then reporters were permitted to ask a few questions.
- Equipment trade with Montgomery County  
Montgomery County has extra DS-200s, but needs more Express Vote machines. We are currently only using one Express Vote per polling location, but need more DS-200s for rovers and backup purposes. Mr. Combs asked about the age of the Express Vote machines we would potentially trade to the other county; they were purchased in 2019 with a grant that would have expired. Some of them are unused.
- Union Township Civic Center Issues  
The directors met with Susan Ayres at Union Township Civic Center; the tarp that covers the floor on Election Day caused two PEOs to fall during the August election. They discussed how to fasten the tarp more securely to prevent a trip hazard; the township maintenance crew has some suggestions. The directors plan to revisit the site on Monday (11/6) for a final pre-election inspection of the tarp and of the site ADA compliance
- Loveland City Hall Repair  
Director Hemmer-Haight reported that the door has been repaired – it was \$100 for the paint. PEOs have been reminded to use tape that will not damage the door.
- 2023 SOS Virtual Conference (7 credits)  
Director Hemmer-Haight reminded the board that the virtual sessions from the summer SOS conference are available online for board members who need credits. The board members who attended the conference in person should not need additional credits.

Deputy Director Dennison noted that the House Bill 33 changed the ballot retention requirements from 60 to 81 days for non-federal election. It also increased the percentage of signatures required for some township zoning petitions.

**XI. Upcoming Board Meetings & Important Dates**


- November 7 – Election Day – polls open 6:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
- Nov 8-10 and Nov 13 (8:00-5:00 daily) – provisional cure period. Closed Saturday (Veterans' Day)
- **November 20 – Regular board meeting and open canvass – time TBD**
- **November 28 – Certification of the November 7, 2023 general election meeting TBD**
  - Board must begin the official canvass no earlier than the 11th day after the election (Sat., Nov. 18, 2023) nor later than the 15th day after the election (Wed., Nov. 22, 2023).
  - Board must complete its Official Canvass and certify no later than the 21st day after the election (Tue., Nov. 28, 2023)
- **December 4 (Monday) – start of recount or audit – time TBD**
- **December 8 (Friday) – certify audit – time TBD**
- **December 22 (Friday) – Monthly Board Meeting / certify petitions / holiday lunch – time TBD**

**XII. Motion to Adjourn**

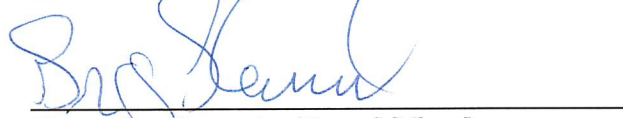
2023-131 – At 10:42 a.m., Mr. Grant made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Combs seconded the motion.

Upon roll call:

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

  
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Raymond W. Lembke – Board Chairman

  
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Rick W. Combs – Board Member

  
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Gregg L. Conrad – Board Member

  
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Rick Grant – Board Member

Date 11/20/23



**Cherie Wilson**

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**From:** Cherie Wilson  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 27, 2023 2:22 PM  
**To:** legals@clermontsun.com  
**Cc:** Stephanie Haight  
**Subject:** October Board Meeting and testing schedule  
**Attachments:** 2023 Oct 18 PUBLIC TEST LnA notice.docx

Jamie,

Please be advised and post as a PSA (no cost) the attachment regarding the October board 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 November 7, 2023 General Election will be held during the next monthly board meeting, scheduled for Wednesday, October 18, 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 November 2023 General Election will be October 18-20 during business hours at 299 Haskell Lane, Batavia, Ohio 45103.

Ray Lembke – Chairman  
Stephanie Hemmer-Haight – Director