

I. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Ray Lembke called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Mr. Conrad 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

2023-141 – Mr. Grant 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 – none

****OPENING OF THE OFFICIAL CANVASS of the Nov 7, 2023 GENERAL ELECTION****

V. Absentee Ballots to be Reviewed by Board

Valid Absentees (TOTAL of 99)

97 postmarked November 6 or before
2 UOCAVA ballots with valid postmarks

Invalid Regular Absentees (TOTAL of 64)

49 ballots postmarked after November 6, 2023
6 refused by nursing home voters – requested but not voted
3 no voter signature (11-S forms sent but not returned)
2 no ID (11-S form sent but not returned)
2 no stub
2 UOCAVA ballots received after the deadline

2023-142 – Mr. Combs made the motion to reject the 64 invalid absentee ballots listed above. Mr. Grant seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

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

2023-143 – Mr. Conrad made the motion to accept the 99 additional valid absentee ballots as identified by the director and add them to the count. Mr. Grant seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

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

VI. Board to Determine the Eligibility of Provisionals Ballots Cast in the November 7, 2023 General Election (R.C. §3505.183)

PROVISIONAL BALLOTS FOR BOARD REVIEW

	<u>Invalid</u>	<u>Valid</u>
2 Absentee Ballots Returned and Counted	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>
1 Provisional Ballot Put in DS200	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>
1 Blank Envelope -- Polls	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>
2 No Signature on Envelope	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>
3 No Date of Birth on Envelope	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>
57 Did Not Have Valid ID	<u>57</u>	<u>0</u>
37 No ID Written on Envelope	<u>37</u>	<u>0</u>
6 Wrong ID on Envelope	<u>6</u>	<u>0</u>
3 Voted Wrong Precinct/Wrong Location	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>
55 Not Registered in Ohio	<u>55</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Provisional Ballots with Unresolved Issues	167	0

38	Voted Right Location/Wrong Precinct – Duplicate/Add to Good Count	<u>0</u>	<u>38</u>
621	VALID PROVISIONAL BALLOTS – NO VISIBLE PROBLEMS	<u>0</u>	<u>621</u>

826 TOTAL PROVISIONALS CAST

2023-144 – Mr. Grant made the motion to reject the 167 invalid provisional ballots for the reasons listed above. Mr. Conrad seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

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

2023-145 – Mr. Grant made the motion to accept the 659 valid provisional ballots and add them to the count for the official canvass. Mr. Combs seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

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

2023-146 – Mr. Conrad made the motion to allow the staff to open and count the valid provisional ballots as indicated. Mr. Combs seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

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

VII. Motion to Allow Board Staff to Remake Absentee Ballots that Arrived After Election Day Where the Voter Marked the Entire Ballot Contrary to the Instructions (R.C. §3506.21)

There were no ballots meeting this criteria.

****REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD****

VIII. Approval of Minutes

- October 18, 2023 – Regular Board Meeting and Public Test

2023-147 – Mr. Combs made the motion to approve the October minutes. Mr. Conrad seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

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

IX. Approval of Bills as of November 20, 2023

Mr. Combs inquired about the laptops and the staff sweatshirts. Three laptops were purchased with the August grant funds to replace the outdated/slower ballot-on-demand laptops. The sweatshirts were for the staff and rovers; we had not purchased logo apparel for the staff since 2012.

2023-148 – Mr. Grant made the motion to approve payment of the bills as of November 20, 2023. Mr. Combs seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

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

X. Directors' report

- Election Review

Director Hemmer-Haight relayed that despite a high turnout for an odd-year election, the poll workers and rovers reported a good day overall, with only minor candidate issues in Loveland and Union Township. Mr. Lembke asked about the Union Township Civic Center flooring. No issues were reported – the tarp installation was smoother and caution signs were in place.

Mr. Grant mentioned that the staff had concerns about jams and paper feed issues with the early voting printers. Deputy Director Dennison is working the issue with ES&S and expects vendor action before the primary voting starts; multiple counties reported similar issues.

Mr. Combs suggested a task force, including the commissioners, sheriff, and other county departments to plan for the 2024 presidential elections. Although the county has initiated a project to review building needs, we will again be challenged by heavier turnout, longer lines, limited space, and parking constraints for the extra voters and staff required for processing. The board members brainstormed some options to provide additional voting stations, parking options, and coverage for bad weather. Chairman Lembke will draft a letter to invite participation from other county departments.

XI. Meetings & Special Dates:

- November 23-24 – Thanksgiving holiday – office closes
- November 28 Tuesday (9:00 a.m.) – Certification of Nov 7, 2023 General Election
- December 4 Monday (9:00 a.m.) – Opening of post-election recount or audit
- December 22 Friday (10:00 a.m.) – Regular monthly board meeting – certify to ballot

XII. Motion to Adjourn

2023-149 – At 10:48 a.m., Mr. Grant made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Combs seconded the motion.

Upon roll call:

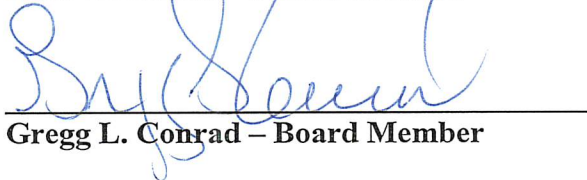
- Mr. Combs – Yes
- Mr. Conrad – Yes
- Mr. Grant – Yes
- Mr. Lembke – Yes



Raymond W. Lembke – Board Chairman



Rick W. Combs – Board Member



Gregg L. Conrad – Board Member



Rick Grant – Board Member

Date 12-22-23

Cherie Wilson

From: Cherie Wilson
Sent: Wednesday, November 15, 2023 9:08 AM
To: info@clermontsun.com
Subject: RE: November Election Day Board Meeting
Attachments: 2023 Nov General Election meetings.docx

Good morning,

Please be advised and post as a PSA (no cost) the attachment regarding the November board meetings.

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 Board Meetings

The Clermont County Board of Elections has scheduled post-election Board Meetings for the November 2023 General Election as follows:

November 20, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. – Opening of the Official Canvass, review of provisional ballots, and rescheduled monthly board meeting.

November 28, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. – Certification of the November 2023 General Election.

The meetings will be held at the Board Office, 76 S. Riverside Dr., Batavia, 45103.

Ray Lembke – Chairman
Stephanie Hemmer-Haight – Director