

**Opening of Official Canvass  
of the November 3, 2020 General Election**

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

Chairman Ray Lembke called the meeting to order at 9:08 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 Julia Carney, Deputy Director Chris Dennison and Administrative Assistant Cherie Wilson.

**III. Approval of agenda**

Director Carney requested that the board move the approval of valid provisional ballots earlier on the agenda so the staff could start remaking the valid ballots.

**2020-148** – With the proposed revision to move up agenda item VIII.B., Mr. Combs made the motion to approve the agenda as presented and revised. Mr. Grant seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

Mr. Combs – Yes

Mr. Conrad – Yes

Mr. Grant – Yes

Mr. Lembke – Yes

**IV. Other attendees – none**

**V. Board to instruct the Director and Deputy Director and Office Staff to proceed with the Official Canvass**

**2020-149** – Mr. Conrad made the motion to instruct the Director, Deputy Director and staff to proceed with the official canvass of the 2020 General Election. Mr. Grant seconded the motion.

Upon roll call:

Mr. Combs – Yes

Mr. Conrad – Yes

Mr. Grant – Yes

Mr. Lembke – Yes

There were 65 provisional voters that were given the wrong precinct ballot but were in the right polling location; we need to remake those ballots for the correct precinct. The board asked if the ballots would have been different. Director Carney responded that there were few local issues and the affected ballots were within the same township, so the candidates and issues on the ballots would be the same.

**2020-150** – Mr. Combs made the motion to instruct the staff to remake and count the 65 provisional ballots. Mr. Conrad seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

Mr. Combs – Yes

Mr. Conrad – Yes

Mr. Grant – Yes

Mr. Lembke – Yes

**VI. Absentee Ballots**

**A. Regular (Domestic Civilian) Absentee ballots to be reviewed by the Board**

3	not received on time – no postmark – ( <i>board found one postmark during the meeting</i> )
60	not received on time – postmarked Election Day or after but received before 10 <sup>th</sup> day
TBD	not received on time – postmarked Election Day or before but received after 10 <sup>th</sup> day
17	no voter signature (11-S forms were sent)
13	non-matching signature ( <i>board accepted one of these signatures</i> )
13	returned without ID envelope
10	voter's ID envelope contains insufficient information – (11-S form sent)
11	voter deceased prior to date ballot was sent
4	stub detached (including one with no envelope, no stub)
7	refused by nursing home voters – requested but not voted
1	absentee returned to polls
20	returned as undeliverable – Director Carney will check on flagging in DIMS
4	no ballot – empty envelope
4	moved out of county (and re-registered) – returned ballots to BOE to void
1	voter submitted voted 2020 primary ballot

- 115 spoiled / reissued by mail
- 323 spoiled mail-in ballot / voted in-person early (There were almost 4,000 that voted in person after being mailed a ballot. At \$4 each, this cost taxpayers approximately \$16,000.)

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**606 total to be reviewed**

The board discussed signature comparison for the ID envelopes with non-matching signatures. Per the statute, the board compared the voter's signature to their registration signature.

Director Carney informed the board that ballots were mailed to the nursing home voters and were held in their office until our staff arrived to help the patients vote. This process was more efficient than having multiple applications and ID envelopes to be completed while our staff was on-site at the nursing homes.

After reviewing the ballots, the board accepted one of the signatures and found a postmark on one of the envelopes that had been magnified on the projector screen. These two ballots will be counted. **2020-151** – Mr. Conrad made the motion to reject the 604 regular domestic civilian absentees that should not be counted. Mr. Combs seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

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

**B. Valid Regular Absentees**

79 postmarked before Election Day & received within 10 day period  
The total valid ballots is 81, including the two the board accepted from the above list to be reviewed. **2020-152** – Mr. Conrad made the motion to accept 81 additional valid regular absentee ballots and add them to the count. Mr. Combs seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

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

The board recessed at 10:22 a.m. to give the valid ballots to the staff to process.  
The board reconvened at 10:46 a.m.

**VII. Additional UOCAVAs**

**A. UOCAVAs to be Reviewed by the board**

- 8 FWAB (Federal Write-In Ballot) – not registered
- 1 FWAB – did not send absentee request (not eligible to submit a ballot)
- 2 returned ballot but did not include ID statement of voter (re-sent & no return)
- 7 postmarked after November 2
- 1 no postmark

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**19 total to be reviewed**

Director Carney also reported that there were several invalid FPCA requests (late or not-registered or voted in person), but they did not include ballots to be reviewed by the board.

After reviewing the ballots, the board accepted 3 of the ballots with postmark issues. When magnified on the projector screen, the board found timely original (overseas) postmarks on these envelopes, in addition to a U.S. postmark on the date the ballots entered the country.

**2020-153** – Mr. Combs made the motion to reject the 16 UOCAVA absentee ballots that should not be counted. Mr. Conrad seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

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

**B. VALID UOCAVAs**

- 8 FPCA – Properly Registered and Absentee Request Timely Submitted
- 2 FWAB – Properly Registered and received prior to the deadline

The total valid ballots is 13, including the three the board accepted from the above list.

**2020-154** – Mr. Grant made the motion to accept the 13 valid UOCAVA and FWAB ballots and add them to the count. Mr. Conrad seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

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

### VIII Provisional Ballots

#### A. Ballots for Review by Board

PROVISIONAL BALLOTS FOR BOARD REVIEW		Invalid	Valid
3	Voted Absentee (Sent 11-S but did not return 11-S)	3	0
3	Voted Twice – 1 Voted Hamilton Cty Regular-Prov. In Clermont	3	0
1	Blank Envelope	1	0
1	No Printed Name on Envelope	1	0
1	No Signature	1	0
1	Signature Does Not Match	1	0
18	No ID on Envelope	18	0
5	No Date of Birth	1	4
7	No Current Address	7	0
8	New Address in Another County	8	0
36	Voted Wrong Precinct/Wrong Location	36	0
221	Not Registered in Ohio	221	0
<b>Total Reviewed</b>		<b>301</b>	<b>4</b>

2 No Ballot in Envelope (voters put in DS200 at the polls, so already counted)  
75 Voted Right Location/Wrong Precinct – Duplicate/Add to Good Count  
1897 VALID PROVISIONAL BALLOTS – NO VISIBLE PROBLEMS

#### 2279 TOTAL PROVISIONALS CAST

Director Carney reviewed the provisional ballots with the board. The ballots for this election had only one stub, so PEOs pulled some of the provisional ballots from the pads without stubs; two of them went through the DS200 and were included in the Election Day total, instead of being put in provisional envelopes.

Three provisional voters were sent an 11-S form due to an issue with their absentee ballots. They did not return the 11-S form but wanted to vote on Election Day instead and received provisional ballots. When Director Carney called the SOS, she was told a provisional ballot could not cure an invalid absentee ballot that was not a signature issue. Therefore those three provisional ballots must be ruled invalid.

For the provisional ballots that were missing a date of birth, the board (at least 3 members) can vote to accept the ballot if all the other requirements are met. The board accepted 4 of the 5 ballots that had no DOB. The fifth voter was not registered with the information provided.

The board decided to refer the three voters who voted twice to the Prosecutor.

**2020-155** – Mr. Conrad made the motion to reject the 301 provisional ballots that should not be counted. Mr. Combs seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

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

#### B. Valid Provisionals

Director Carney reported that we had just received notice on 10 provisional ballots, verifying that the voters did not vote in Hamilton County; they should be added to the count of valid ballots to be duplicated, making a total of 75.

**2020-156** – Mr. Combs made the motion to amend the accepted valid provisional ballots from 65 to 75 that should be remade by the staff. Mr. Grant seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

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

**2020-157** – Mr. Grant made the motion to accept the 1976 valid provisional ballots and add them to the count. Mr. Combs seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

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

**IX. Personnel Matter**

**2020-158** – At 12:05 p.m., Mr. Conrad made the motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to §121.22(G)(1) to consider the compensation of a public official and §121.22(G)(5) matters required to be kept confidential by federal or state law. Mr. Combs seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

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

**2020-159** – At 12:59 p.m., Mr. Conrad made the motion to come out of Executive Session. Mr. Combs seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

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

The board reviewed two additional provisional ballots that had been brought to the attention of the Director: One was voted in the wrong location/wrong building and one had an invalid ID (not a driver's license number).

**2020-160** – Mr. Conrad made a motion to exclude the two additional provisional ballots identified by the Director. Mr. Grant seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

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

The board reviewed four additional absentee ballots that had not been included in the earlier review: a partial ballot with no stub, one with a missing signature, and two that were signed but missing ID.


**2020-161** – Mr. Conrad made a motion that we do not accept the four absentee ballots identified by the Director for the reasons that she presented. Mr. Grant seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

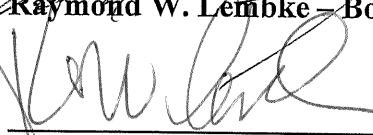
Mr. Combs – Yes  
Mr. Conrad – Yes  
Mr. Grant – Yes  
Mr. Lembke – Yes

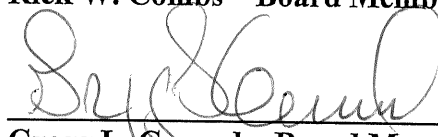
**X. Motion for Board to Reconvene Monday, November 16, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. to Certify Election**

**2020-162** – At 1:10 p.m., Mr. Grant made the motion to recess until 4:00 p.m. on Monday, November 16, 2020. Mr. Conrad 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 12-18-2020

**Cherie Wilson**

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**From:** Cherie Wilson  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 12, 2020 5:16 PM  
**To:** legals@clermontsun.com  
**Cc:** bmilam@clermontsun.com  
**Subject:** UPDATED: Notice of upcoming board meetings  
**Attachments:** Remaining 2020 Nov Election Meetings UPDATED.docx

Good afternoon,

Please be advised that the agenda for the November 14<sup>th</sup> board meeting will include a personnel matter. The dates and times of the meetings remain the same as in the meeting notice I forwarded on October 25<sup>th</sup>. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Cherie Wilson, Administrative Support Specialist  
Clermont County Board of Elections  
76 S. Riverside Dr.  
Batavia, OH 45103  
513-732-7485

## **Clermont County Board of Elections Notice of Board Meetings**

The Clermont County Board of Elections has scheduled Board Meetings for

**November 14, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.** – Opening of the Official Canvas and discussion of a personnel matter.

**November 16, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.** – Certification of the November 2020 General Election and regular monthly board meeting.

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

Ray Lembke – Chairman  
Julia Carney – Director

