

I. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Ray Lembke called the meeting to order at 9:00 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

2021-126 – 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 –

V. Public Test for General Election – November 2, 2021

At 9:02 a.m., the Board recessed while Mr. Conrad and Mr. Grant observed the director, deputy director and assistant run the test deck through the DS-850 ballot scanner.

At 9:18 a.m., the Board returned from recess. Mr. Combs read the results from the newly run report while Mr. Lembke compared them to the control sheet. The board found the results matched and that the DS-850 ballot scanner was counting accurately. The board signed and dated the reports.

2021-127 – Mr. Grant made the motion to accept the results of the Public Test for the November 2, 2021 General Election. Mr. Conrad 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 29, 2021 – Regular Board Meeting

2021-128 – Mr. Combs made the motion to accept the minutes of the September 29, 2021 board meeting. 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 27, 2021

2021-129 – Mr. Grant made the motion to approve payment of the bills as of October 27, 2021. Mr. Combs seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

Mr. Combs – Yes

Mr. Conrad – Yes

Mr. Grant – Yes

Mr. Lembke – Yes

IX. Reduction in Number of Precinct Election Officials at Polling Locations

Director Hemmer Haight stated that the goal is to fill every PEO position; however, we are currently short approximately 40 workers. We have been in contact with the local news and with high school principals (for Youth in the Booth), and we have requested that Miami Township and Batavia Village Hall put notifications on their marquees. In case we cannot fill every position by Election Day, Director Hemmer-Haight asked the board to authorize three PEOs per precinct. The Ohio Revised Code allows a minimum of two per precinct if approved by the board. Mr. Conrad clarified that the reduced staffing only applies to polling locations with multiple precincts.

In preparation for 2022 and future elections, Mr. Combs suggested contacting the County Administrator to discuss possible PEO incentives. Mr. Lembke suggested contacting the OAE and other counties to discuss recruitment practices that work well. Mr. Conrad asked the directors and PEO clerks to remind the PEOs to keep food and drinks off of the ballot table(s).

2021-130 – Mr. Grant made the motion to give the director the option to reduce the number of Precinct Election Officials per polling location to not less than 2, pursuant to ORC §3501.22 (A) (2)(c). Mr. Conrad seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

Mr. Combs – Yes

Mr. Conrad – Yes

Mr. Grant – Yes

Mr. Lembke – Yes

X. Allocation of Election Equipment

2021-131 – Mr. Conrad made the motion to approve the allocation and distribution of voting machines and marking devices for each precinct in the County, of one DS 200 per precinct and one ExpressVote ADA machine for each polling location. Mr. Combs seconded the motion.

Upon roll call:

Mr. Combs – Yes

Mr. Conrad – Yes

Mr. Grant – Yes

Mr. Lembke – Yes

XI. Director's report

1. Status of Election – Total Registered Voters – 143,903

2. Absentee Report

In-Office as of Oct 26 (937)

Mailed ballots as of COB Oct 22, 2021: Requested (3386), Returned (1182), UOCAVA (9)

3. Poll Worker/PEO Update

Director Hemmer-Haight distributed a list of PEOs that had been added since the last meeting.

4. Office Staffing – Overtime

Director Hemmer-Haight updated the board on part-time workers: Katherine Pittman has been working 6-8 hours per day packing the bins and helping the PEO clerks. Wayne Reveal has been assisting with the phones and the front lobby. Krista Fields has been working in the early voting area. Also, Rick Raabe and Carol Wilson have been assisting Leann and Crystal with PEO training. Carol is a former teacher, who has provided input to make the training more dynamic.

5. Observers – None Filed to Date – Deadline was October 22

6. Election Support – Shawn Doolittle – ES&S Election Support – on-site November 1-3.

Mr. Combs asked about Mr. Doolittle's background and experience with the company. Director Hemmer-Haight indicated that she would contact ES&S to ascertain his qualifications.

XII. Deputy Director's report

1. Talking Points for Public Inquiry

Deputy Director Dennison noted that he had emailed a draft of public talking points to the board.

Upon approval, it can be used in response to telephone and email inquiries, and can be disseminated to the parties if the board desires. Mr. Conrad asked if the document had been cleared with our counsel or the SOS legal department. Mr. Dennison replied that both county and SOS counsel had approved it; the majority of the information originated from an SOS document.

Mr. Grant had previously asked about the operating systems on the election equipment. Deputy Director Dennison stated that the Electronic Poll Book tablets are based on Toshiba Windows, the DS200/450/850 machines are Linux-based; the Mail Ballot Verifier is a Windows application, currently Windows 10.

2. Mail House Update

Deputy Director Dennison reported that the absentee mailings have been smooth overall. There was one mail house issue where the automated equipment diverted an incorrect ballot packet and generated a corrected one; however an individual put the errant ballot packet with other good packets to mail. This caused the voter to receive both ballots, but our mail house resource quickly identified the correct ballot, which the voter was allowed to vote.

We have learned of two voters who did not receive mailed ballots. The USPS tracking system does not show a final scan; however, this does not necessarily mean the ballots were not delivered.

The board noted that three errors to date out of 3386 ballots is a fairly low error percentage, and we have no control over mail delivery. Mr. Combs commented that he received his ballot right away.

Deputy Director Dennison told the board that video training modules had been created for the rovers and the nursing home staffs. Mr. Lembke relayed his wife's praise for the online PEO training.

Mr. Combs stated that he had not received a reply from the Prosecutor's office to his recent inquiries. He would like a representative available at board meetings either bimonthly or at least quarterly. The board requested that the Assistant County Prosecutor join the meeting on November 2nd at 4:30 p.m.

XIII. Upcoming Events and Meeting Dates

- Tuesday, November 2, 2021 (6:30 a.m.) – General Election Day
- Monday, November 15, 2021 (9:00 am) – Open Official Canvas (13th – 17th)
- Friday, November 19, 2021 (10:00 am) – Certification of General Election & Regular Monthly Board Meeting
- Office Closed - Thanksgiving – Thursday, November 25, 2021- Friday, November 26, 2021
- Office Closed – Christmas – Friday, December 24 – Monday, December 27
- Office Closed – New Year Holiday – Friday, December 31
- Recounts must be held within 6-10 days after the Declaration of the Official Result of Election
- Thursday, January 13- 14, 2022 OAE Winter Conference (virtual REO classes January 11-12)

XIV. Motion to Adjourn

2021-132 – At 10:06 a.m., Mr. Grant made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Conrad seconded the motion.

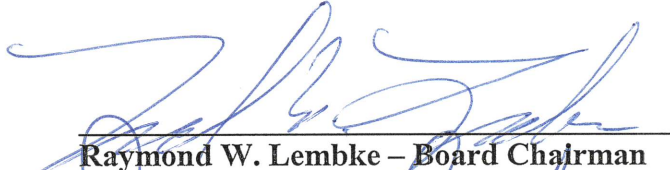
Upon roll call:

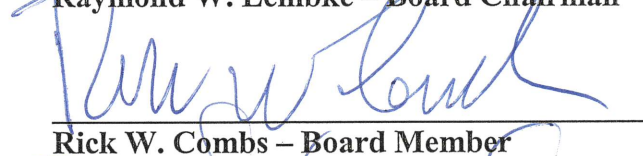
Mr. Combs – Yes

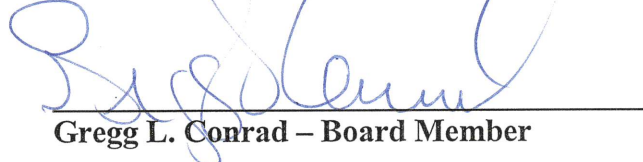
Mr. Conrad – Yes

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 12-6-2021

APPROVAL OF BILLS FOR BOARD MEETING

OCTOBER 27, 2021

[illegible]

Cherie Wilson

From: Cherie Wilson
Sent: Monday, October 4, 2021 3:15 PM
To: legals@clermontsun.com
Cc: bamilam@clermontsun.com; Stephanie Haight
Subject: Rescheduled October Monthly Board Meeting and PUBLIC TEST
Attachments: 2021 Oct 27 chg reg mtg PUBLIC TEST.doc

Good afternoon!

Please be advised and post as a PSA (no cost) the attachment regarding the rescheduled October board meeting and PUBLIC TEST. Note that the meeting is on the regularly scheduled 4th Wednesday of the month, but at 9 a.m., instead of 10 a.m.

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 Change of Meeting Date

The Clermont County Board of Elections has re-scheduled the October 2021 Regular Monthly Board Meeting for:
Wednesday, October 27, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. The Public Test for the November 2, 2021 General Election will be held during the meeting.

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

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

Ray Lembke – Chairman
Stephanie Hemmer-Haight – Director