

**Opening of Official Canvass
of the May 4, 2021 Special Election**

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 Julia Carney, Deputy Director Chris Dennison and Administrative Assistant Cherie Wilson.

III. Motion to Adopt the Agenda, as Presented

2021-51 – Mr. Conrad made the motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Mr. Combs seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

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

IV. Other attendees – Brian Shrive, Assistant County Prosecutor

V. Absentee Ballots

A. Additional Valid Regular Absentees -- 6 to add to the Count

Ballots postmarked by May 3, 2021 and received by May 14, 2021	<u>6</u>
Ballots postmarked after May 3, 2021	<u>1</u>

Director Carney advised the board that we received six mail-in absentee ballots on May 14th, the last possible day to be considered valid. All were postmarked May 3rd from the Bethel area. Although they were received by the deadline, Director Carney expressed concern that the postal service took ten days to deliver these ballots.

2021-52 – Mr. Combs made the motion to accept the six ballots postmarked by May 3, 2021 and received by May 14, 2021, 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

Director Carney reported that we also received a ballot that was postmarked May 7th, four days after the May 3rd deadline.

2021-53 – Mr. Conrad made the motion to reject the ballot postmarked after May 3, 2021 for not being timely mailed. Mr. Grant seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

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

VI Provisional Ballots

PROVISIONAL BALLOTS FOR BOARD REVIEW		<u>Invalid</u>	<u>Valid</u>
1	No Signature	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>
2	Not Registered in Ohio	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>
2	Voted Right Location/Wrong Precinct – Duplicate/Add to Good Count	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>
12	VALID PROVISIONAL BALLOTS – NO VISIBLE PROBLEMS	<u>0</u>	<u>12</u>
17	TOTAL PROVISIONALS CAST		

Director Carney indicated that the person who failed to sign the provisional envelope is not registered in Ohio; the ballot would not count even if the provisional envelope had been signed. We will send the voter a registration form. The provisional envelopes will serve as registration forms for the other two provisional voters who were not already registered in Ohio.

2021-54 – Mr. Combs made the motion to accept the fourteen valid provisional ballots, remaking the two that were given ballots for the wrong precinct, and to reject the three invalid provisional ballots for the reasons indicated. Mr. Grant seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

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

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

2021-55 – Mr. Conrad made the motion to instruct the Director, Deputy Director and staff to proceed with the official canvass of the May 2021 Special Election. Mr. Combs seconded the motion.

Upon roll call:

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

VIII Personnel Matter

Mr. Grant made the motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to ORC §121.22(G)(1) to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, or compensation of a public official. Mr. Conrad seconded the motion. Upon discussion between the board and Mr. Shrive as to whether an executive session was required, Mr. Shrive advised against going into executive session unless further discussion demonstrates the need to do so at a later point. Mr. Grant withdrew the motion.

Director Carney submitted her resignation letter to the board; it is effective as of June, 11, 2021. She has accepted a position as an Assistant County Prosecutor for Clermont County. The board commended her on a job well done during her tenure.

The board discussed advertising and qualifications for the director (or deputy director) position. The ideal candidate would be a Republican, a qualified elector, a county resident, and should have managerial/leadership experience as well as familiarity with computer technology; election experience would be a plus. Director Carney advised that some counties allow a candidate thirty days to acquire residency. She plans to advertise in the Clermont Sun, the Clermont County jobs website, our BOE website, and the national election jobs website. Mr. Combs suggested mentioning the position to Mr. Shebesta (ES&S contractor), Mr. Henning (SOS liaison) and our OAEO contact, since their positions put them in regular contact with election officials from other counties who may have leads.

Director Carney will not attend the summer conference; she will arrange a transfer of her reservation to Mr. Conrad, since he has continuing education requirements to complete. Following the latest CDC guidance, the SOS may allow additional attendees. Director Carney and the board will consider sending additional staff if the conference agenda appears appropriate.

The board inquired about Terrie Latham, who is on leave. She is currently scheduled to return May 24th. Mr. Shrive will follow up with her attorney.


IX. Meetings and Special Dates:

Thursday, May 20, 2021 – Certification of special election – 10:00 am monthly Board meeting
Monday, May 31, 2021 – Memorial Day – office closed
June 8-9, 2021 – Summer conference – Columbus

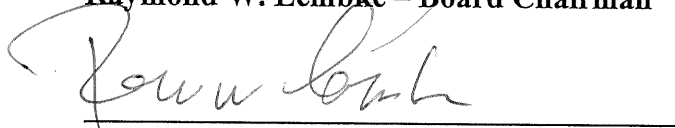
X. Motion for Board to Reconvene on Thursday, May 20, 2021 at 10:00 am to Certify the Election and Conduct any Other Regular Business the Board Deems Necessary

2021-56 – At 9:24 a.m., Mr. Grant made the motion to recess until 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 20, 2021. Mr. Conrad seconded the motion. Upon roll call:


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



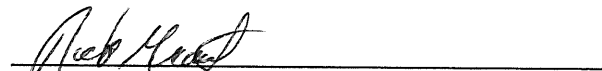
Raymond W. Lembke – Board Chairman



Rick W. Combs – Board Member



Gregg L. Conrad – Board Member



Rick Grant – Board Member

Date 5/20/21

Cherie Wilson

From: Cherie Wilson
Sent: Friday, May 14, 2021 8:58 AM
To: legals@clermontsun.com
Cc: bmilam@clermontsun.com
Subject: Revised Notice of upcoming board meetings
Attachments: 2021 May Special Election Certification meetings REVISED.docx

Good morning,

Please be advised of the revised meeting description for the upcoming May board meetings. The dates have not changed, but we added information to the notice. 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 Second Revised Notice of Board Meetings

The Clermont County Board of Elections has scheduled special board meetings for

May 17, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. – Opening of the Official Canvass, review of provisional ballots, and personnel matters.

May 20, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. – Certification of the May 2021 Special Election and rescheduled regular monthly board meeting for general purposes.

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

Ray Lembke – Chairman
Julia Carney – Director