

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

Chairman Ray Lembke called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Mr. Combs 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**

**2022-153** – 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** – Julia Carney, Assistant County Prosecutor

**V. Public Test for General Election – November 8, 2022**

At 10:02 a.m., the board recessed while Mr. Grant and Mr. Conrad observed the director, deputy director and assistant run the test deck through the DS-850 ballot scanner.

At 10:15 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.

**2022-154** – Mr. Combs made the motion to accept the results of the Public Test for the November 8, 2022 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 14, 2022 – Special Board Meeting on Moscow Protest
- September 21, 2022 – Regular Monthly Board Meeting

**2022-155** – Mr. Grant made the motion to approve both sets of September 2022 board meeting minutes. Mr. Conrad seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

Mr. Combs – Abstain

Mr. Conrad – Yes

Mr. Grant – Yes

Mr. Lembke – Yes

**VIII. Approval of Bills as of October 19, 2022**

Mr. Grant asked about the \$108.93 payment to the Ohio Supreme Court. According to the invoice, we were billed for a filing fee and postage costs. Ms. Carney indicated that a courier was required.

**2022-156** – Mr. Combs made the motion to approve payment of the bills as of October 19, 2022. Mr. Grant seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

Mr. Combs – Yes

Mr. Conrad – Yes

Mr. Grant – Yes

Mr. Lembke – Yes

**IX. Director's report**

a. Election Update

Director Hemmer Haight reported 1239 walk-in voters and 17,259 applications for mailed ballots (approximately 4,000 ballots returned) as of yesterday evening. The turnout so far is somewhat heavier than four years ago.

b. Total Registered Voters – 148,994 (2018 – 139,110 registered voters)

c. Absentee Report

We have mailed all of the UOCAVA ballots, and have received some of them back already.

d. Cell phones, county

The directors voiced their concern over the use of their personal phones for BOE business in light of continuing public records requests. They suggested acquiring BOE cell phones for the director and deputy director, so their own phones could stay personal and private. The cost would be approximately \$45 monthly per line, including the cost of the phones; protective cases would be additional. The board emphasized the need to restrict BOE business to the new phones; Ms. Carney will draft a phone policy.

**2022-157** – Mr. Conrad made the motion authorize the purchase and service of mobile phones for the director and deputy director for Board of Elections business. Mr. Combs seconded the motion.

Upon roll call:

Mr. Combs – Yes

Mr. Conrad – Yes

Mr. Grant – Yes

Mr. Lembke – Yes

Director Hemmer-Haight reported that the BOE received a ballot with a blank ID envelope; the voter failed to complete any of the required information. The usual next step would be to send an 11-S form to provide the voter an opportunity to cure the defect(s). However, this voter (Andrew Moran) had called on May 3 (Primary Election Day) with a polling location inquiry. At the time, he said he had moved to Milford, but wanted to vote in New Richmond where he was still registered. He insisted on speaking to the Deputy Director, who confirmed that he must vote a provisional ballot based on his new address. So when his blank ID envelope arrived for this election, the staff questioned why he was trying to vote absentee from his old New Richmond address. Following the discussion during the primary election, the directors had driven to the New Richmond address; it appeared that his registered address was a commercial property in which no one had been living.

Although the board hypothesized that Mr. Moran could have moved again since May, we have not received an updated registration form. He can be sent an 11-S form, while simultaneously asking the prosecutor's office to investigate his registered address.

**2022-158** – Mr. Combs made the motion to request that the prosecutor's office investigate the registered address of Andrew Moran. Mr. Grant seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

Mr. Combs – Yes

Mr. Conrad – Yes

Mr. Grant – Yes

Mr. Lembke – Yes

## **X. Deputy Director's report**

a. Ballot Delivery

We expect to receive the shipment of Election Day ballots today; they will be loaded into the locked DS-200 machines this week to prepare for deployment.

b. Website Update

Deputy Director Dennison indicated that new reporting functionality went live last month, and the entire voter database is available with real-time updates. Mr. Combs praised the content and suggested reviewing some features for ease of use. Mr. Grant mentioned that the Facebook & Twitter icons prevent clicking on some of the fields; this will be addressed and corrected.

Deputy Director Dennison is concerned about the vendor responsiveness in activating the new site. If their responsiveness continues to be an issue, we will involve the prosecutor to ensure that the contract terms are met.

c. Poll Worker/PEO Training

As of this week, all of the PEO positions have been filled. There is a sub list for cancellations between now and Election Day. The training emphasizes the imperative that the workers show up on Election Day. The board asked about attending a training class and/or viewing the online training. Deputy Director Dennison provided the board with copies of the new training manual that was delivered this week from the printer; the manual has the online training information. The online material also includes de-escalation resources from the Secretary of State.

Mr. Conrad asked about mailing ballots the weekend prior to Election Day. Thursday 11/3 is the last scheduled file to be sent to the mail house vendor. However, they will be flexible about additional mailings on 11/4 and 11/5, depending on the number of ballots to be mailed. The directors reported their tremendous satisfaction with Graphic Village, the mail house vendor, who has been extremely responsive to our calls, questions and issues, even after business hours. The packet cost for this election has been reduced because we contracted directly with Graphic Village, instead of the previous contract with Seachange as a third-party middleman.

**XI. Upcoming Events and Meeting Dates**

- October 28 – Deadline to file notice of observer appointments
- November 8 – Election Day (polls open 6:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.)
- Open official canvass and regular board meeting: November 21<sup>st</sup> (Monday) at 9:00 a.m.
- Certification of general election: November 29<sup>th</sup> (Tuesday) at 9:00 a.m.
- Commence recount or audit: December 5<sup>th</sup> (Monday) at 9:00 a.m.
- Recounts:
  - candidate or group requested = 5 days after certification
  - automatic = NLT 10 days after certification
- Post-Election Audit:
  - no recount = 6 days after certification
  - recount = immediately after certification, completed within 14 days
- December Regular Monthly Board Meeting – TBD (will schedule with a recount or audit meeting)

**XII. Adjournment**

2022-159 – At 11:08 a.m., Mr. Grant made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Conrad seconded the motion.

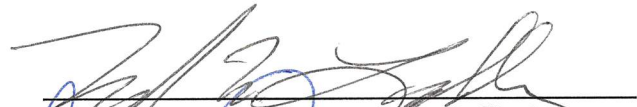
Upon roll call:

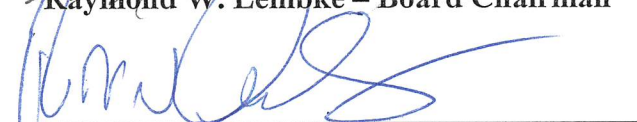
Mr. Combs – Yes

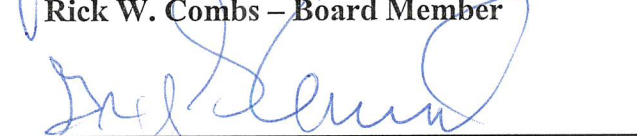
Mr. Conrad – Yes

Mr. Grant – Yes

Mr. Lembke – Yes

  
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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 11-21-2022

