

The regular monthly meeting of the Erie County Board of Elections was called to order by Chairman Thomas Ferrell on Friday, February 11th, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

Roll Call:	(D) Thomas M. Ferrell, Chairman	Present
	(D) William J. Monaghan, Member	Present
	(R) Nicholas J. Smith, Member	Present
	(R) Jeffrey N. Krabill, Member	Present

Guests in attendance: Rachel Mullen from SOS Office, Caleb Stidham, and Amy Grubbe

Motion to approve the minutes from the January 28th meeting was made by Mr. Monaghan, seconded by Mr. Krabill. Motion carried.

Lori Salyers, Director, stated that there were two bills to pay from the month of February, plus two bills that came in late last year. She stated that for the bills that were from last year, the board members would need to sign Then and Now Certificates. Motion to pay the bills was made by Mr. Krabill, seconded by Mr. Monaghan. Motion carried. Ms. Salyers then stated that she started compiling ledgers for our accounts and placed them in the board members' folders. She stated that right now the balances are negative because the new budget does not commence until sometime in March. Once the new budget commences, then the balances will be positive.

Adrienne James, Deputy Director, stated that for the upcoming primary, the board needs to approve allocation of voting equipment. Staff would like to have one DS200 and one Expressvote per polling location. Motion to accept this allocation of equipment was made by Mr. Krabill, seconded by Mr. Monaghan. Motion carried.

Mr. Krabill stated he had a quick question. He stated he's hearing more and more from Columbus that there may be two primaries because of the continued delays with the maps. He asked if there was anything we should be doing about that, or if we should just take it as it comes.

Ms. Salyers suggested just taking it as it comes. She stated that we received a letter from the Ohio Association of Election Officials outlining reasons against two primaries. The OAEO asked us to forward the letters to our representatives, and Ms. Salyers did so. Ms. Salyers also stated she hoped there would not be two primaries, because that would be very expensive. Mr. Smith commented that if there are two primaries, the legislatures should provide funding for that. Mr. Monaghan asked Ms. Mullen what the SOS office thought. Ms. Mullen stated that the SOS office is not advocating for two primaries, but that it was up to the legislatures.

Next, Ms. James stated that the board members have spreadsheets in their folders of candidates to approve. The left column contains the names of candidates they have already approved, while the right column contains candidates the board has not yet approved. Ms. James stated that of all the candidates who needed signatures, they all had more than enough valid signatures, and they filled everything out correctly. Ms. James also stated that Mr. Monaghan would need to abstain on voting on Brian Baxter's petitions.

Ms. Mullen stated that, according to Directive 2022-03 from the SOS, boards cannot yet certify Ohio house races. Mr. Smith then made a motion to certify all the candidates in the right column except for James R. Obergefell for Ohio House, Douglas James Swearingen Jr. for Ohio House, and Brian Baxter for Coroner. Mr. Krabill seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Mr. Ferrell- yes
Mr. Monaghan- yes
Mr. Smith- yes
Mr. Krabill- yes

Motion carried. The candidates approved are as follows:

- Steve Shoffner, Republican, County Commissioner, FTC 1/1/2023
- Mark A. Bertsch, Democrat, County Central Committee, Hur B
- Christopher J. Cammalleri, Democrat, County Central Committee, Hur C
- Megan Nicole Cammalleri, Democrat, County Central Committee, San D
- Chasity L. Page, Democrat, County Central Committee, San K
- Lynnette A. Kromer, Democrat, County Central Committee, Cast Vill
- Harrison Mathew Tone, Democrat, County Central Committee, Hur Twp #3
- Daniel W. McLaughlin, Democrat, County Central Committee, Per Twp #1
- Deborah S. McGuire, Democrat, County Central Committee, Per Twp #4
- Kathay Michelle Dickey, Republican, County Central Committee, Ver 3-B
- Deena Brace, Republican, County Central Committee, BV Vill
- Timothy D. Coleman, Republican, County Central Committee, Per Twp #9

Motion to approve Brian Baxter's petitions for coroner was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Krabill. A roll call vote was taken.

Mr. Ferrell- yes
 Mr. Smith- yes
 Mr. Krabill- yes
 Mr. Monaghan- abstain

Motion carried.

Motion to approve a name change for Douglas Swearingen Jr., candidate for Republican Central Committee, Hur Twp #2, was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Monaghan. A roll call vote was taken.

Mr. Ferrell- yes
 Mr. Monaghan- yes
 Mr. Smith- yes
 Mr. Krabill- yes

Motion carried. Mr. Swearingen's name will appear on the ballot as D.J. Swearingen.

Mr. Smith stated that, following the directive, we will not certify James R. Obergefell or Douglas James Swearingen Jr. as candidates for Ohio house at this time. However, both candidates have enough valid signatures, so when we are allowed to certify, it will just be a formality.

Mr. Ferrell asked if there was anything else. Mr. Monaghan stated he asked Ms. James to print job descriptions for the clerks, deputy director, and director, and place them in everyone's folders. Mr. Monaghan asked the other board members to review those descriptions so that we can talk about them in executive session next meeting. Mr. Smith reminded the board members that Ms. Salyers stated that next meeting, we would also need to go into executive session regarding security measures.

Mr. Smith then asked if we could change the date of the March meeting. After some discussion, the board members decided to move the next meeting to Friday, March 18th at 1:30 p.m. Ms. Mullen reminded the board members that they may have to meet earlier than that to certify house candidates, depending on when a new directive is released.

Ms. Grubbe then stated she had a couple questions regarding the report that Mr. Krabill wrote. She asked, "Was this report done with the knowledge of the other board members?" Mr. Krabill replied, "I think so. I don't remember specifically." Mr. Smith stated that it's not an official report from the board. Ms. Grubbe stated, "It doesn't state that explicitly." Mr. Smith replied that we stated it during the last board meeting on the record. Ms. Grubbe stated that it doesn't say that on the report.

Ms. Grubbe then asked if Mr. Krabill sent the report to the SOS office. Mr. Krabill stated he had. Ms. Grubbe asked what their response was. Mr. Krabill stated there was nothing in writing, just that the SOS office thought the report was well done. Ms. Grubbe stated if the SOS office does provide a response in writing, she would like to see it.

Next, Ms. Grubbe stated the report continues “unfounded conspiracies.” She quoted Mr. Krabill’s report where he wrote, “Believe me, I tried.” She then asked him what he was trying to find.

Mr. Krabill replied that he doesn’t think he’s on trial for anything. He then stated that when constituents come up to him with questions and those questions persist, he feels he has an obligation to investigate them. He could not find a manner or means by which any votes could be changed, and that’s what the report says. He also stated that the report is just regarding Erie County. He’s not making any statements about any other county or state. He just looked at the way we conduct our business here in Erie County, and it’s solid.

Mr. Monaghan asked if this report was brought up in a board meeting, and stated he wasn’t sure why Mr. Krabill sent the report to the SOS. Mr. Krabill stated that he wrote the report personally, and he personally was interested in the SOS office’s response.

Mr. Ferrell asked if there was anything further. Mr. Krabill asked if the board members or anyone else would be concerned about him renewing the questionnaire that he sent out a couple years ago regarding board practices and pay levels. The board members agreed that that would be fine.

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Krabill. Motion carried. Board adjourned at 9:21 a.m.

Lori J. Salyers, Director

Attest:

Thomas M. Ferrell, Chairman