

LICKING COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS  
REGULAR MEETING  
FEBRUARY 12, 2024

The regular meeting of the Licking County Board of Elections was called to order at 11:37 A.M., with the following members present: Chairman Freddie Latella, members Dave Rhodes, and Kaye Hartman, Director Brian Mead, and Deputy Director Tess Wigginton. Also attending were Josh Kunkel, Assistant Licking County Prosecuting Attorney, Jerry Griffin, Licking County League of Women Voters, members of the Ohio Election Integrity Network Vicki McKinney, Erin Massara, Sue Mazzarini, Sandra Walker, Jendell Duffner, and Elaine Kent, and Secretary of State Central Ohio Regional Liaison Susie O'Brien.

The purpose of this meeting was to conduct the regular business of the Board, and any other business brought before the Board.

David Rhodes led the Board and attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Minutes**

Tess Wigginton presented the minutes from the November 21, 2023 Final Canvass meeting and the January 2, 2024 Candidate/Issue Certification meeting for the Board's approval. Member David Rhodes moved that the minutes be accepted as written. Motion was seconded by Member Kaye Hartman. Roll Call Vote: Rhodes – yes, Hartman – yes, Latella – yes. Motion carried.

**Financials**

Brian Mead presented the January Financial/Audit Trail report.

**New Business**

The Ohio Election Integrity Network came to the meeting to introduce their initiative to the Board, to share their initial findings, and ask for the Board's assistance in reconciling their findings with Licking County voter registrations. EIN Chair Vicki McKinney said that they are a non-partisan organization and outlined their procedure for finding and tracking discrepancies between the NCOA and our voter rolls. They've found a number of voters who are registered in two states and voting in either one state or both states, and a brief list of deceased voters not yet deactivated in our system. They are asking us to follow up with all these voters to clean up our voter rolls. They'd met with Brian and Tess earlier to introduce the effort and ask what they can do to facilitate our procedure. Brian said that our staff would be happy to send letters to the people they'd identified if they provided us the information in an easy-to-use format, and they've provided an Excel spreadsheet so we can create a mail merge. Chair Freddie Latella moved to allow the Board staff to send letters to the identified voters. This was seconded by David Rhodes. Roll Call Vote: Rhodes – yes, Hartman – yes, Latella – yes. Motion carried.

**Secretary of State Communications**

Brian provided the Board with an overview of communications from the Secretary of State's office since the last meeting.

**Office Update**

Preparations for the March 19<sup>th</sup> Primary and the February 27<sup>th</sup> Special Election are well underway. Brian noted that he is not expecting a huge turnout for the Primary, but we will have all three stations open to accept voters in the office. Poll worker training starts February 27<sup>th</sup>. Freddie Latella asked if we had all the part-time help we needed for this election. Brian said that we did.

The Buckeye Lake Special election is proceeding as normal unless and until directed otherwise by the Ohio Supreme Court. Early voting has begun; staff sent twenty-six absentee ballots and three have been returned, and twenty-one people have voted in office so far. Allocation of resources for the Buckeye Lake polling site will be the same as for any election: two check-in stations, six ExpressVote machines, and two scanners are programmed and ready. Six BOE staff members will serve as poll workers for the day, with several rotating in and out during the day.

**Old Business**

None.

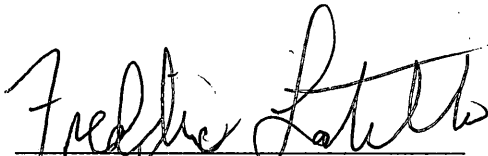
**Public Comments**

None.

**Adjournment and Next Meeting:**

There being no further business, it was moved by David Rhodes, seconded by Kaye Hartman to adjourn. Motion carried 3-0. The meeting was adjourned at 12:22 PM.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 27, 2024 at 6:15 am at the Hebron New Life Church Gym to open the polls for the Special Election.

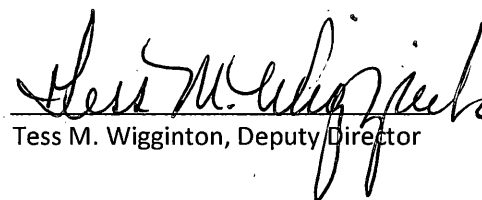
  
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Freddie Latella, Chair

  
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A. Kaye Hartman, Board Member

  
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Dave Rhodes, Board Member

  
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J. Park Shai III, Board Member

  
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Brian K. Mead, Director

  
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Tess M. Wigginton, Deputy Director