

LICKING COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS  
SPECIAL MEETING CERTIFYING RESULTS OF THE FEBRUARY 27, 2024 SPECIAL ELECTION  
MARCH 4, 2024

A special meeting of the Licking County Board of Elections was called to order at 10:00 A.M., with the following members present: Chairman Freddie Latella, members Dave Rhodes, Kaye Hartman and Park Shai, Director Brian Mead, and Deputy Director Tess Wigginton.

The purpose of this meeting was to conduct the Official Canvass for the February 27, 2024 Special Election, regular business, and other business brought before the Board.

Park Shai led the members and attendees in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Official Canvass**

The Official Canvass of the February 27, 2024 Special Election was conducted in accordance with Directive 2023-30 and all relevant sections of the Election Official Manual.

1 – Provisional ballot cast on election day. Voter had recently moved into Buckeye Lake from Franklin County. As there was no election in Franklin County on February 27, 2024, staff recommends counting this ballot. David Rhodes made a motion to accept the ballot. Park Shai provided the second. Roll call: Shai – yes, Rhodes – yes, Hartman – yes, Latella – yes. Motion Carried.

**New Business**

Kirkersville has presented an issue that they would like to be placed on the November ballot. It is a referendum to compel the village counsel to enter into a contract with Southwest Licking Water and Sewer for services to the village. Brian Mead advised the Board that he didn't think this could be placed on the ballot. Legal Counsel Josh Kunkel agrees. The Supreme Court of Ohio issued a prior opinion that this type of issue is not appropriate for referendum. Motion by David Rhodes, seconded by Kaye Hartman to decline this issue. Roll Call: Rhodes – yes, Hartman – yes, Latella – yes. Park Shai abstained. Motion Carried.

**Financial Report**

Director Brain Mead presented the latest financial report. David Rhodes moved that the Board accept the February financial report. Seconded by Kaye Hartman. Roll call: Shai – yes, Rhodes – yes, Hartman – yes, Latella – yes. Motion Carried.

Brian presented the final Resource Allocations for the March Primary Election. Motion made to accept the allocation made by David Rhodes, seconded by Park Shai. Roll call: Shai – yes, Rhodes – yes, Hartman – yes, Latella – yes. Motion Carried.

Brian presented the proposed chargebacks for the Buckeye Lake Special Election to the Board. The cost wasn't quite as high as first predicted, largely because the Board administration and staff did much of the prep work that is usually done by part-time and contract help.

**Certification of the February 27, 2024 Special Election in Buckeye Lake**

Tess Wigginton presented the final tabulation of votes to the Board. David Rhodes moved to certify the results, seconded by Park Shai. Roll call: Shai – yes, Rhodes – yes, Hartman – yes, Latella – yes. Motion Carried.

David Rhodes asked about the possibility of recouping the cost of the Board's defense of the lawsuit from the now-former Mayor of Buckeye Lake. Brian said he'd look into it.

**Office Update**

Director Mead advised the Board that we are required to train all poll workers and location managers in a federal election year. Brian noted that the training has already started. There are a total of fourteen classes scheduled. He is emphasizing the new ID requirements in these classes.

Brian briefly reviewed the communications from the Secretary of State's office.

**Public Comments**

None.

**Board Comments**

Member Kaye Hartman complimented the staff for their handling of the Buckeye Lake Special election. She said that she has made a point of telling people that it was *their* Board of Elections staffing the polling place.

**Adjournment and Next Meeting:**

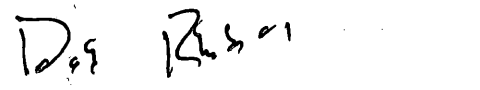
There being no further business, it was moved by David Rhodes, seconded by Park Shai to adjourn. Roll call: Shai – yes, Rhodes – yes, Hartman – yes, Latella – yes. Motion Carried.

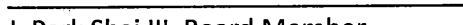
The meeting was adjourned at 10:32 AM.

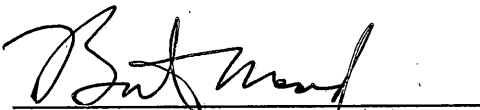
The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at 6:15 AM at the Board of Elections office to open the Primary Election.

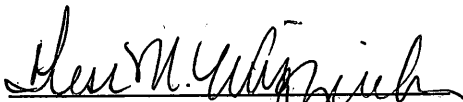
  
Freddie Latella, Chair

  
A. Kaye Hartman, Board Member

  
Dave Rhodes, Board Member

  
J. Park Shai III, Board Member

  
Brian K. Mead, Director

  
Tess M. Wigginton, Deputy Director