

RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES 05-17-2021 through 05-20-2021

Chairman Bill Freytag called the meeting to order at the Longview Center, 1495 W. Longview Ave. in the lower-level classroom at 3:01 P.M. on Monday, May 17th, 2021. The Roll Call was as follows: Bill Freytag, present, Jonathon C. Elgin, present, Lydia Reid, absent, and Megan Whatman, present. Also present at this meeting were Director Matt Finfgeld and Deputy Director Jane Zimmermann.

Chairman Freytag asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the 04-06-2021 through 05-04-2021 regular meeting. Ms. Whatman made the motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Elgin and passed unanimously by voice vote 3-0.

There were no items of old business to come before the board.

Under new business Director Finfgeld reviewed the Provisional summary with the Board Members. After review and discussion, Mr. Elgin made a motion to rule as valid 14 Provisionals and invalidate 1 Provisional ballot. The motion was seconded by Ms. Whatman and passed unanimously by voice vote 3-0. The reason for the 1 Provisional to be invalidated was the voter was not registered. Ms. Whatman made a motion to validate 2 absentees, which were received within the 10 days after May 4th but postmarked by May 3rd, and to invalidate 1 absentee that was missing the voter signature on the identification envelope. The motion was seconded by Mr. Elgin and passed unanimously by voice vote 3-0.

The next order of business under New Business was the review of the Pre-Official Public Test as performed by Democrat Matt Finfgeld, Director and Republican Election Specialist 1 Daniel O'Brien. Director Finfgeld explained the reports as follows: the first report was the zero report demonstrating that no totals were in the tabulating system computer. The next report showed the total test votes cast in Man 1-D precinct, which has 4 splits, with 3 applicable in this election. The next report showed the total test votes cast in the Cass precinct which has 3 splits with only 1 applicable for this election. The next report showed the total test votes cast in Ont 1-A precinct, which has no splits. The next report was a summary of all 3 precincts, and the final report was a zero report showing that the tabulation computer had been set back to all zeros so that no test votes would be in the system when we start tabulating the Official results tomorrow morning. A motion to approve the results of the programming and tabulation of the Public Test was made by Mr. Elgin. The motion was seconded by Ms. Whatman and passed unanimously by voice vote 3-0.

Under other business Directors, Finfgeld and Zimmermann discussed the need for a June meeting to choose and enter into a contract on The Express Pollbook RFP that the board opened 05-04-2021. If we want to use them for the general election in 2021, we would need to be in a contract before July 1, 2021, as it is around 90 days from when the contract is signed until they arrive. The board agreed on a date of June 1st, 2021, if we can have everything prepared by then.

With no further business to come before the board, Ms. Whatman motioned to recess the meeting until May 20th, 2021 at 3:00 p.m., seconded by Mr. Elgin, and passed by voice vote 3-0. Chairman Freytag adjourned the meeting at 3:13 P.M.

On May 20th, 2021 at 3:35 p.m. Chairman Freytag reconvened the meeting with the following members answering the roll call as follows; Bill Freytag, present, Jonathon C. Egin, present, Lydia Reid, absent, Megan Whatman, present. Also present at the meeting was Director Matt Finfgeld, Deputy Director Jane Zimmermann.

Chairman Freytag asked if there were any ballots that needed to be remade due to not being read by the scanner. There were no remakes. Director Finfgeld explained that the total ballots cast and counted on the Unofficial count on Election night was 1897, and the board approved 14 Provisionals to be added, along with 2 late but eligible absentee ballots for a total of 16 votes to add into the Official count. The total of the Official count after all ballots were recounted and the 16 were added equaled 1913 which was the total on the Official summary. A motion to approve the Official results and sign all documents was made by Mr. Elgin. The motion was seconded by Ms. Whatman and passed unanimously by voice vote 3-0

The next item of business was the Post-Official Public Test as performed by Democrat Matt Finfgeld, Director and Republican Election Specialist 1 Daniel O'Brien. Director Finfgeld explained the reports as follows: the first report was the zero report demonstrating that no totals were in the tabulating system computer. The next report showed the total test votes cast in Man 1-D precinct, which has 4 splits, with 3 applicable in this election. The next report showed the total test votes cast in the Cass precinct which has 3 splits with only 1 applicable for this election. The next report showed the total test votes cast in Ont 1-A precinct, which has no splits. The next report was a summary of all 3 precincts, and the final report was a zero report showing that the tabulation computer had been set back to all zeros so that no test votes would be in the system. A motion to approve the results of the programming and tabulation of the Post-Official Public Test was made by Ms. Whatman. The motion was seconded by Mr. Elgin and passed unanimously by voice vote 3-0.

Board members briefly discussed the meeting dates needed in June with the Directors to review the RFP's for the electronic pollbooks. It was the consensus of the board to meet June 1st, 2021 at 3 p.m. and June 10th, 2021 at 3 p.m. if needed.

With no further business to come before the board, Mr. Elgin made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Whatman and passed by voice vote 3-0. Chairman Freytag adjourned the meeting at 3:51 p.m.

Date approved _____

Bill Freytag, Chairman

Jonathon C. Elgin

Lydia J. Reid

Megan Whatman

Attest:

Matt Finfgeld

Jane Zimmermann