

RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES 10-12-2021 through 11-02-2021

Chairman Bill Freytag called the meeting to order at the Longview Center, 1495 W. Longview Ave. in the lower-level classroom at 3:35 P.M. on Tuesday, October 12th, 2021. The Roll Call was as follows: Bill Freytag, present, Jonathon C. Elgin, present, Megan Whatman, present, and Lydia Reid, present. Also present at this meeting were Director Matt Finfgeld, Deputy Director Jane Zimmermann, and guest Betty Preston.

Chairman Freytag asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the 09-07-2021 meeting. Ms. Whatman made the motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Elgin and passed by voice vote 4-0. Director Finfgeld next reviewed the bills for the month of September in the amount of \$4,095.41 from the General Fund, and two pay periods totaling \$46,271.90. A motion to approve the bills as presented was made by Ms. Reid, seconded by Ms. Whatman and passed unanimously by voice vote 4-0. The Director's discussed with the Board the issues we were having getting toner cartridge for our printers. Chairman Freytag asked for any public comment. Betty Preston informed the Board that she would not be at next month's meeting.

Chairman Freytag as for any items of old business to come before the board. Deputy Director Zimmermann informed the Board that we received a call from Melanie Poole from the SOS Office and she informed her that we are not eligible to be advocates for the Safe at Home program.

Chairman Freytag stated the first order of business is Election Day contact information for Board members. The Board members stated they all would be available on Election Day and to contact them by cell phone if they are needed. The next item of business was what time to reconvene on Election night. The consensus of the Board was to reconvene at 6:30 P.M. on Election night. There was also discussion about Ms. Whatman and Mr. Elgin retrieving memory sticks from the poll workers when they bring them back on Election night.

The next item of business was the Holiday schedule. It was the consensus to wait until November to decide the holiday schedule and see if there is any statewide petitions that are circulating With no further business to come before the board Mr. Elgin made a motion to recess the meeting until 6:30 P.M. 11-2-2021. The motion was seconded by Ms. Whatman and passed by a 4-0 voice vote. Chairman Freytag adjourned the meeting at 3:49 P.M.

On November 2nd, 2021 at 6:33 P.M. Chairman Freytag reconvened the meeting with the following members answering the roll call as follows; Bill Freytag, present, Jonathon C. Elgin, present, Megan. Whatman, present, Lydia Reid, present. Also present at the meeting was Director Matt Finfgeld, and Deputy Director Jane Zimmermann

The first item of business was the review of the Pre-Unofficial public test performed by Republican Daniel O'Brien and Democrat John Makley. Director Finfgeld explained the report as follows: the first report was the zero report demonstrating that no totals were in the tabulating system computer. The next report showed the test votes for Mans 5A which has 3 school district splits. The next report showed the test vote in Jeff A which has 2 township splits The next report showed the test votes in Wash C which has no splits. The next report was a summary of all 3 precincts. 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 Election night Unofficial results. A motion to approve the results of the programming and tabulation of the public test was made by Ms. Whatman. The motion was seconded by Mr. Elgin and passed unanimously by a voice vote 4-0.

The next item of business on the agenda was to review and approve any remakes. Director Finfgeld explained there is 1 ballot that needs remade because the scanner is having trouble with the timing marks. The ballot was passed around to the board members to look at. Ms. Reid made a motion to have the ballot remade. The motion was seconded by Ms. Whatman and passed by a 4-0 voice vote.

Next on the agenda was review of the 2021 final budget. Director Finfgeld stated how it was the same as the mid-year budget and that the Directors are meeting with commissioners on 11-9-2021 to review the final budget.

The next item on the agenda is the resignation of Diana Naumoff effective 11-3-2021. Diana is a part time employee, there will be no buyout of vacation or comp time. Mr. Elgin made a motion to accept the resignation of Diana Naumof. The motion was seconded by Ms. Whatman and passed unanimously by 4-0 voice vote.

Next on the agenda was the meeting dates to review the provisional ballots and the Official count. The meeting to review provisional ballots will be 11-15-2021 at 3:00 P.M., the Official count will begin on Tuesday 11-16-2021 at 8:30 A.M., and the board will reconvene on Thursday 11-18-2021 at 3:00 p.m. to certify the Official count.

At 7:30 P.M. the absentee and early voting results were sent from the scanners to the tabulation system. Memory sticks from the polls were then uploaded to the tabulation system as they were returned. Paper ballots from the polls were then added to the totals. The write-in votes were adjudicated. There was 4 paper ballots presented to the board. They did not have the poll workers signature on the curbside envelopes, 2 from absentee voting and 2 from polling locations on Election Day. Ms. Reid made a motion to count the 4 ballots with the Unofficial count. The motion was seconded by Ms. Whatman and passed by a 4-0 voice vote. Next the Board was presented with a ballot from Miff B where it was not clear what the voter's intent was on the trustee's race. The voter filled in an oval for 1 trustee, then put an X over the oval he filled in. No other race on the ballot had an X over the oval filled in. Ms. Whatman made a motion to remake the ballot for Miff B excluding the trustee's race. The motion was seconded by Mr. Elgin and passed by voice vote 4-0. The final Unofficial Canvass was generated and presented to the Board for review. A motion to approve and sign the required documentation was made by Ms. Whatman. The motion was seconded by Ms. Reid and passed unanimously by a voice vote 4-0.

The next item of business was to conduct and review of the Post-Unofficial Public test performed by Republican Daniel O'Brien and Democrat Debra Obenour. Director Finfgeld explained the report as follows: the first report was the zero report demonstrating that no totals were in the tabulating system computer. The next report showed the test votes for Mans 5A which has 3 school district splits. The next report showed the test vote in Jeff A which has 2 township splits. The next report showed the test votes in Wash C which has no splits. The next report was a summary of all 3 precincts. 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. The motion to approve the results of the programming and tabulation of the Post-Unofficial Public Test was made by Ms. Whatman. The motion was seconded by Ms. Reid and passed unanimously by voice vote 4-0.

Mr. Elgin made a motion to give the Directors authority to stay and notify overlapping counties of results. The motion was seconded by Ms. Whatman and passed by voice vote 4-0.

With no further business to come before the board, Mr. Elgin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Whatman, and passed by voice vote 4-0. Chairman Freytag adjourned the meeting at 12:15 A.M.

Date approved _____

Bill Freytag, Chairman

Jonathon C. Elgin

Lydia J. Reid

Megan Whatman

Attest:

Matt Finfgeld

Jane Zimmermann