

RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES 11-15-2021 through 11-18-2021

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, November 15th, 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, and Deputy Director Jane Zimmermann.

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, Ms. Reid made a motion to rule as valid 86 Provisional ballots and invalidate 8 Provisional ballots. The motion was seconded by Ms. Whatman and passed unanimously by voice vote 4-0. The reasons the 8 Provisional ballots were invalidated was 6 were not registered voters, and 2 voted in the wrong precinct and wrong vote center. Mr. Elgin made a motion to validate 14 absentees, which were received within the 10 days after November 2nd but postmarked with November 1st or before, and to invalidate 8 that were received with a postmark after November 1st. The motion was seconded by Ms. Whatman and passed unanimously by voice vote 4-0.

The next order of business was the review of the Pre-Official Public Test as performed by Democrat Matt Finfgeld, and Republican 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. 5A precinct, which has 3 school district splits. The next report showed the total test votes cast in the Jeff A which has 2 township splits. The next report showed the total test votes cast in Wash C 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. The motion to approve the results of the programming and tabulation Pre-Official Public Test was made by Ms. Whatman. The motion was seconded by Ms. Reid and passed by voice vote 4-0.

With no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Elgin made a motion to recess until November 18th, 2021 at 3:00P.M., seconded by Ms. Whatman and passed by voice vote 4-0. Chairman Freytag adjourned the meeting at 3:25 P.M.

On November 18th, 2021 at 3:00 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, and Rachel Mullen the Northern Ohio Regional Liaison from the SOS.

Chairman Freytag asked if there were any ballots that needed to be remade due to not being read by the scanner. Director Finfgeld explained that 1 Provisional ballot needed to be remade because when the stub was torn off it took some of the timing mark as well. The Board inspected the ballot and Mr. Elgin made a motion to approve the remake of the ballot. The motion was seconded by Ms. Whatman and passed by voice vote 4-0.

The next item of business was to certify the Official results. Director Finfgeld explained that the total ballots cast and counted on the Unofficial count on Election night was 15,895, and the Board approved 86 Provisional ballots to be added, along with 14 late but eligible absentee ballots for a total of 100 votes to add into the Official count. The total of the Official count after all ballots were recounted and the 100 were added equaled 15,995 which was the total on the Official summary. A motion to approve the Official results, sign all documents and to use the Board members stamps on certificate of nominations was made by Ms. Whatman. The motion was seconded by Ms. Reid and passed unanimously by voice vote 4-0.

The next item of business was to conduct and review of the Post-Official Public test performed by Republican Daniel O'Brien and Democrat Matt Finfgeld. 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 and a summary of the entire County. The final report was a zero report showing that the tabulation computer had been set back to all zeros. The 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 4-0.

Under other business Director Finfgeld informed the Board that our audit will start on November 29th, 2021. Mr. Elgin made a motion to perform the audit by polling location. The motion was seconded by Ms. Whatman and passed by voice vote 4-0. Director Finfgeld then asked the Board if the full time staff to could attend winter conference if they wanted and stay overnight Thursday night only. The Board thought it would be a good idea to have the full time staff attend the conference. Director Finfgeld also told the Board to think about who would want to attend summer conference on June 28th & 29th in Columbus, the reservation deadline is 1-15-2022.

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 3:23 P.M.

Date approved _____

Bill Freytag, Chairman

Jonathon C. Elgin

Lydia J. Reid

Megan Whatman

Attest:

Matt Finfgeld

Jane Zimmermann