

May 22, 2020

The Washington County Board of Elections held a meeting the official canvas and monthly meeting on May 22, 2020 at 08:30 a.m. Present were Mr. Sipe, Mr. Halliday, Mr. Wentz, Mr. Ray, Mandy Amos, Director, and Karen Pawloski, Deputy Director. The meeting was live streamed on YouTube.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Chairman Sipe opened the meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to resolve a recount after the official canvas was completed. There was a one (1) count difference between the candidates of the Belpre 4A Republican Central Committee, so there had to be a hand recount. The recount was done by all staff members in a bi-partisan manner and was counted at least five (5) times. As a result of the recount, there was a one (1) vote difference between the official count and recount. The official canvas showed Kelly Cox with 101 votes and Leslie Pittenger with 100 votes. With the recount (completed 5 times) there was 100 votes for Kelly Cox and 100 for Leslie Pittenger. The staff looked at every ballot cast for the primary and for the Belpre 4A. In the official count – there were 291 ballots cast in Belpre 4A. For the recount by hand, there were 290 ballots. The Board determined the official count did not have a tie in that race, but with the tie in the recount by hand, there was a tie, so the Board had to determine the winner by lot. SOS states the Board must document how the lot and then determination is made. The Board chose a flip of coin, which was a 1999 Quarter. Mr. Wentz was chosen to flip the coin. Mr. Halliday chose which candidate would have heads and which would have tails. The two names were put in a hat and Mr. Halliday said the first one drawn would be heads. Mr. Ray reached into the hat and picked Kelly Cox - which would be heads and Leslie Pittenger was tails. Mr. Wentz flipped the coin and it landed as heads. Kelly Cox was chosen as the winner for the Belpre 4A Republican Central Committee.

Mr. Halliday said he contacted the SOS for the purpose of determining when the County Party's had to meet to organize their Central Committees. He was told they had from May 28 to June 6. Both parties have their meetings scheduled. Democrats are meeting Monday, June 1 and Republicans are meeting on Tuesday, June 2.

Mr. Halliday also read a letter that was date May 22 to the Ohio Secretary of State, Frank LaRose stating that as of 5:00 p.m. on May 22, he was resigning from the Washington County Board of Elections to become the Washington County Common Pleas Court Judge as appointed by Governor DeWine. The letter states he had enjoyed his tenure over the past year and can truly say the work done by the SOS Office and the local boards is aspiring. (the letter is on file at the Washington County BOE).

Chairman Sipe and the other Board members and staff thanked Mr. Halliday for his service on the Board and wished him well.

Deputy Director Pawloski, shared a report which was required by the SOS on the cost of Ohio's Primary to Washington County. The total was \$19,410.49. She stated we had already received \$10,000 from the SOS from the HAVA Grant for reimbursement for the COVID-19 supplies. She indicated the SOS may release more money.

Mr. Halliday made a motion to certify all elections results, including the recount of Belpre 4A Republic Central Committee to reflect the prior official count. Mr. Wentz seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Chairman Sipe then asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Halliday gave the motion and Mr. Wentz seconded the motion – the motion carried.

Next Meeting will be on June 3, 2020 at 8:30 am. This meeting will serve as the audit and regular monthly meeting.

Mandy Amos
Director

Dennis Sipe

John Halliday

Charlie Wentz

R. Glenn Ray