

August 5, 2020

The Washington County Board of Elections held a monthly meeting, August 5, 2020 at 08:30 a.m. Present were Mr. Sipe, Mr. Wentz, Mr. Ray, Ms. Khadine Ritter, and Karen Pawloski, Deputy Director. Guests included Scott Trew, of Belpre City Schools, Joshua Lane, Washington County Health Dept., Gary Pitt, Lowell City Council, Steven Weber, Lowell Mayor, Stephanie Starcher, Kyle Newman, Warren Local Schools.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Chairman Sipe opened the meeting and welcomed attendees and Khadine Ritter, the newest member of the Board. She had recently been confirmed by the Secretary of State Frank LaRose.

Chairman Sipe welcomed the School Superintendents in attendance. The Board had asked them to join them in this meeting to discuss the possibility of holding in-person voting in their school facilities if the schools are closed on November 3, 2020 due to COVID-19. Chairman Sipe went on to say that he understood their concerns for not having the schools as a polling location while in school and is very hopeful one day, Ohio's General Assembly will consider it a state holiday and close the schools. His reasoning was they are centrally located within their communities and also are ADA compliant. Discussion was held whether the schools would consider having a teacher in service day on Election Day. Each Superintendent present said they might consider it, but it hits them at a bad time due to the extra holidays in November where they are not in school. Each was asked how soon they would have to know if they could put it in their schedule. The BOE plans to each back out to them after the first of the year. Mr. Sipe thanked each of them for coming and hoped eventually they could work something out where we can vote in their facilities.

The Board then welcomed Mr. Pitt and Mayor Weber to the meeting. They both were coming back to Board to ask about putting the Lowell/Adams Precincts voting location back in Lowell. The Board indicated they had not gotten a chance to delve into the change due to how the Primary did not have in-person voting at the precinct level. They indicated they would not change it for the November election but would look at it after November.

Minutes were emailed to members for review and no additions or corrections were noted. Chairman Sipe asked for a motion to approve the July 8, 2020 minutes, which Mr. Wentz did and Mr. Ray seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Bills

Karen Pawloski	reimbursement for window tint	\$96.48
Apex	indoor temp/humidity station for IT room	\$19.99
Quill	copy paper, ink, and toner	\$844.02
Suddenlink	monthly internet charge	\$106.31
Quill	hand sanitizer, folding chairs, gloves	\$221.19

Chairman Sipe asked for a motion to pay the bills. Mr. Wentz made the motion and Mr. Ray seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Correspondence

Directive 2020-12 2020 HAVA funds-Security and Accessibility grants

Directive 2020-13 2020 Preparation for Statewide mailing of Absentee ballot applications for 11/3/20 election

Business

- Preliminary ballot order numbers and machine allocation for 11-3-20
- Extra office help for the election
- Runbeck laptop for extra printer
- HAVA grant agreement
- Save the Date-SOS Summer Conference August 12-13, 2020-now virtual not in person
- Absentee Envelope quotes from Hyde Brothers, Barrett Brothers, and Ohio Envelopes
- Security grant items
- EAP plan-approve
- Employee sick, comp, and vacation time updates

Deputy Director Pawloski and Clerk Melissa Saltzwedel gave the Board an update on ordering the proper number of ballots for the November General Election. Mr. Wentz made a motion to purchase 14,825 ballots and Ms. Ritter seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Deputy Director Pawloski gave the Board an update on the ordering the Absentee Ballot Envelopes. Ohio Envelope has the cheapest rate, as many counties are using them. Mr. Wentz made the motion to approve Ohio Envelopes as the printer for our envelopes and Mr. Ray seconded the motion, motion carried.

Ms. Pawloski said she has been pleasantly surprised with the number of volunteers that have decided to become Poll Workers and had nearly 30 workers without any soliciting. She went on to say she may meet with the Marietta Area Chamber of Commerce to see if their members would be willing to allow their employees work the polls this year. Washington County needs at least 200 poll workers to have a successful election. She will also be using the Youth At the Booth at the Precincts as well.

Chairman Sipe asked for a motion that authorizes the Director to sign an agreement with the SOS on the HAVA Grant. Mr. Ray made the motion and seconded by Ms. Ritter. The Motion carried.

A virtual summer conference will be held August 12-13, 2020 and Chairman Sipe reminded the Board and staff to Save-the-Date for this conference. Three of the Board Members only needed a few yours and Ms. Ritter needs to begin getting her hours. Board members are required to have 8-10 hours of Continuing Education.

Pawloski gave an update on the levies that have come into the office for the November election. That includes two Marietta City School Levies – one Emergency Levy and a Bond issue for new schools. Others includes a Library Renewal Levy, Senior Renewal Levy, and the County Home Renewal Levy. The Village of New Matamoras also is putting on an Operating Levy.

Pawloski said that Shoshanna Brooker is also running as a Democrat for Common Pleas Judge against Judge John Halliday.

Deputy Director informed the Board about updating the Security System for the Office, which will be paid by money from SOS. Aardvark Communications and Security, of Marietta was chosen to upgrade our system. This includes additional cameras, panic buttons, motion detectors, and a monthly monitoring system.

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

Next Meeting will be on September 9, 2020 at 8:30 am. This meeting will serve as regular monthly meeting.

Mandy Amos

Director

Dennis Sipe

Khadine Ritter

Charlie Wentz

R. Glenn Ray