

Union County Board of Elections
Official Meeting Minutes
Certification of Official Election Results

Date: Monday, November 17, 2025

Time: 9:00 AM

Location: Union County Board of Elections Office

Call to Order

The meeting of the Union County Board of Elections was called to order at 9:00 AM by Chairman Dean Cook.

Attendance

Board Members Present:

- Dean Cook, Chairman
- Barbara Luke, Board Member
- Rich Coglianese, Board Member
- Fred Vogel, Board Member

Staff Present:

- Brandon Clay, Director
- Michelle Forrider, Deputy Director
- Vicki Flanders, Elections Specialist

Guests/Observers:

- Brian Metzbower, Secretary of State Liaison
- Rayce Robinson
- Kurtis Baldner
- Aaron Lewis
- Jim Miller
- Steve Votaw
- Tyler Jester

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes from the November 4, 2025, meeting.

Motion:

Barbara Luke moved to approve the minutes as presented.

Fred Vogel seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

Provisional Ballots Review

A total of 77 provisional ballots were reviewed by the Board.

Accepted Ballots:

The Elections Office staff recommended that 63 provisional ballots be accepted. These ballots met the criteria for acceptance and included the following categories:

- 50 In-county and out-of-county change of address
- 6 Name change
- 4 Absentee ballots issued but not returned
- 1 No ID at the polls, but valid ID provided post-election
- 2 Undeliverable acknowledgement notice returned

Motion:

Fred Vogel moved to accept the 63 provisional ballots as recommended by staff.

Barbara Luke seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

Rejected Ballots:

Staff recommended that 13 provisional ballots be rejected based on the following reasons:

- 8 Voter not registered in the State of Ohio
- 1 Address not found in Union County
- 1 Voter cast both an absentee ballot and an Election Day ballot
- 3 No valid ID provided

Motion:

Fred Vogel moved to reject the 13 provisional ballots as recommended by staff.

Barbara Luke seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

Remade Ballot:

One provisional ballot was presented to the Board in which the voter had voted at the correct polling location but was issued the incorrect ballot style. Staff recommended that the ballot be remade using the correct precinct ballot.

Motion:

Fred Vogel moved to remake the ballot using the correct precinct ballot style.

Rich Coglianese seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

Absentee Ballots Review

A total of 22 absentee ballots were received by the Board after Election Day.

Accepted Ballots:

Staff recommended that 16 absentee ballots be accepted. These ballots were postmarked on or before the deadline and received within the allowable timeframe.

Motion:

Barbara Luke moved to accept the 16 absentee ballots as recommended by staff.

Fred Vogel seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

Rejected Ballots:

Staff recommended that 6 absentee ballots be rejected for the following reasons:

- 2 ballots were postmarked after the deadline
- 1 ballot had no postmark
- 1 ballot was returned undeliverable
- 1 ballot was returned with incorrect voter information
- 1 ballot was returned for a voter who is deceased

Motion:

Fred Vogel moved to reject the 6 absentee ballots as recommended by staff.

Barbara Luke seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

Certification of Official Results – General Election, November 4, 2025

Director Brandon Clay presented the final canvass report for the General Election held on November 4, 2025. The report included all absentees, early in-person, Election Day, and provisional ballots. The Board reviewed the results and supported documentation.

Director Clay also reported the following Election Day issues and resolutions:

- At the Union County Service Center polling location, one voter walked off without casting a ballot.

- At Radiant Life Church, one poll book signature was missing.
- At the Pleasant Valley Fire Department, the location was one vote short. Upon investigation, it was determined that one Election Day ballot had been rejected by the OVO scanner and was not counted. After reconciling all reports, staff recommended that the ballot be run through the scanner to ensure it was counted.
 - Motion: Barbara Luke moved to run the ballot through the scanner. Rich Coglianese seconded the motion.
Motion carried unanimously.

Director Clay also presented a Taylor 2 precinct ballot that had been torn and could not be scanned. Staff recommended remaking the ballot and scanning the remade version.

- Motion: Fred Vogel moved to remake the ballot and run it through the scanner. Barbara Luke seconded the motion.
Motion carried unanimously.

During the processing of provisional ballots, a Union precinct ballot was identified that would not scan. Staff recommended remaking the ballot and scanning the remade version.

- Motion: Barbara Luke moved to remake the ballot and run it through the scanner. Fred Vogel seconded the motion.
Motion carried unanimously.

Certification of Official Results – General Election, November 4, 2025

Director Brandon Clay and Deputy Director Forrider presented the final canvass report for the General Election held on November 4, 2025. The report included all absentees, early in-person, Election Day, and provisional ballots. The Board reviewed the results and supported documentation.

After discussion and confirmation that all procedures were followed in accordance with state law and Board policy, the Board proceeded with certification of the official results.

- Motion: Barbara Luke moved to certify the official results of the November 4, 2025, General Election. Fred Vogel seconded the motion.
Motion carried unanimously.

Recount and Audit

Director Clay informed the Board that two races, from November 4, 2025, General Election met the statutory threshold for an automatic recount:

- Jonathan Alder School District Levy
- Darby Township Trustee

The recount is scheduled for Monday, November 24, 2025, at 8:00 AM at the Union County Board of Elections Office.

Immediately following the recount, the Board will conduct the post-election audit of November 4, 2025, General Election. The audit will include five percent of the total votes cast, as required by state law.

- Motion: Barbara Luke moved to conduct the audit by precinct-based selection. Fred Vogel seconded the motion.
Motion carried unanimously.

A random drawing of precincts was conducted to reach the required five percent threshold. The following precincts were selected for audit:

- Marysville 13 (282)
- Marysville 11 (202)
- Milford Center (119)
- Jerome 1 (269)

Motion: Fred Vogel moved to audit the following contests within the selected precincts:

- Marysville Board of DD Tax Levy Renewal
- Marysville City Council Race
- Jerome Township Fire Levy

Rich Coglianese seconded the motion.
Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Bills

Deputy Director Michelle Forrider presented the current bills for the Board's review and approval. The list of vendors included the following.

- Marysville Journal-Tribune
- Richwood Bank
- Verizon
- RBM

- ComDoc

Motion:

Barbara Luke moved to approve the bills as presented.

Rich Coglianese seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

Budget Report

Deputy Director Forrider presented the current budget report. She noted that all expenditures are on track and within the approved budget. No concerns were raised by the Board.

Miscellaneous

The Board discussed holiday office hours for the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday.

Motion:

Barbara Luke moved to allow staff to close the Union County Board of Elections Office at 12:00 PM on Wednesday, November 26, 2025, in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday, and to reopen on Monday, December 1, 2025, under normal business hours.

Fred Vogel seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment


Motion:

Fred Vogel moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:13 AM.

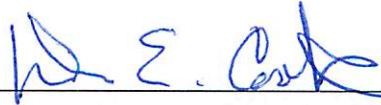
Barbara Luke seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

Attest:


Vicki Flanders, Election Specialist

Board Member:


Dean Cook, Chairman