

The Union County Board of Elections met on November 5, 2024. Those in attendance were Chairman Dean Cook; Board Members Jeff Robinson, Barbara Luke, and William Steele; Director Brandon Clay, Deputy Director Michelle Forrider; Election Specialist Vicki Flanders; Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Thayne Gray; Observers Stephen J. Reese and Tina McMahan; Members of the press Mac Cordell, Jonah Cordell, Michael Woodward, and Michael Vallone.

*****ELECTION DAY*****

Chairman Cook declared the polls open at 6:30am

Election Update

Deputy Director Forrider gave an update on early absentee voting numbers. The election is running smoothly. Early voting had a high turnout of voters accounting for approximately 48% of Union County's registered voters.

Approval of Poll Worker List

Board Member Steele moved to approve the list with Board Member Robinson seconding the motion.

- Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes from October 1, 2024 and October 25, 2025 meeting

Board Member Luke moved to approve the minutes with Board Member Robinson seconding the motion.

- Motion passed unanimously.

Bills

Deputy Director Forrider did not have bills to present at this time. The bills will be reconciled with the grant money allocated by the Secretary of State and presented for approval at the next board meeting.

2024 YTD Budget Summary

Deputy Director Forrider presented an update on the YTD budget. The budget is on track for the remainder of the year. There were no questions or concerns.

Campaign Finance

Deputy Director Forrider presented pre-general campaign finance reports.

1. Support Your Library Levy Committee
2. For Union County
3. Smarra for Treasurer
4. Citizens to Re-Elect David Phillips
5. Committee to Elect Joe Craft
6. William Bogardus
7. Tom McCarthy for Commissioner
8. Citizens for Schools Committee

Board Member Steele motioned to approve the campaign finance reports. Board Member Robinson seconded the motion.

- Motion passed unanimously.

Ruling On Absentee Ballots

Deputy Director Forrider presented twelve ballots recommended for remake due to various reasons in the following precincts:

1. Dublin City 1 - one remake
2. Dublin City 2 - two remakes
3. Jerome 1- one remake
4. Liberty 2 - two remakes
5. Marysville 3 - one remake
6. Marysville 11 – one remake
7. Marysville 17 – two remakes
8. Paris – one remake
9. Union – one remake

Board Member Steele motioned to approve the remakes with Board Member Robinson seconding the motion.

- Motion passed unanimously.

Deputy Director Forrider presented six ballots that contained true overvotes with the recommendation that the ballots be rescanned with overvote turned off.

Board Member Steele motioned to rerun the ballots with the overvote turned off. Board Member Robinson seconded the motion.

- Motion passed unanimously

Deputy Director Forrider presented four additional ballots with overvotes in which the voter filled out the oval as well as the write-in portion of the ballot. It was recommended to remake the ballots.

Board Member Luke motioned to remake the ballots consistent with the voter's intent.

Board Member Robinson seconded the motion.

- Motion passed unanimously

Deputy Director Forrider presented fourteen ballots with various markings.

Eleven of the ballots were considered to have clear voter intent.

Board Member Luke motioned to remake eleven of the ballots considered to have clear voter intent. Board Member Robinson seconded the motion.

- Motion passed unanimously

One ballot contained an overvote with the voters initials next to one of the selections.

Board Member Steele recommended remaking the ballot using the selection next to the voter's initials. Board Member Robinson seconded the motion.

- Motion passed with three members in agreement. Board Member Cook opposed the motion

Two of the ballots were unclear of the voter's intent and it was recommended that the overvote be turned off and the ballots rescanned.

Board Member Luke motioned to rerun the ballots with the overvote turned off with

Board Member Robinson seconding the motion.

- Motion passed unanimously

Recess

At 7:10am Chairman Cook discussed recessing the meeting. A motion was made by Board Member Steele to recess until 7:00pm. Board Member Robinson seconded the motion.

Unofficial Canvas

The board reconvened the meeting at 7:00pm. to conduct the unofficial canvas. Deputy Director Forrider recommended three ballots for remakes. These included the following:

1. Jerome 4 – dirty ballot that would not scan
2. Darby 2 – torn ballot that would not scan
3. Darby 2 – voter used red ink to complete ballot. Red ink will not scan.

Board Member Luke motioned to remake the ballots. Board member Robinson seconded the motion.

- Motion passed unanimously

Deputy Director Forrider presented three ballots with overvotes with a recommendation to remake due to voters' clear intent.

1. Darby 2– voter filled in two ovals but clearly wrote "Not this one" next to one oval.
2. Jerome 4– voter filled in two ovals but clearly wrote "Not this one" next to one oval.
3. Washington– voter filled in one oval for the presidential race but also circled write-in; however, the voter did not write a selection on the line.

Board Member Steele motioned to remake the ballots with Board Member Robinson seconding the motion.

- Motion passed unanimously

Deputy Director Forrider presented a ballot with an overvote recommending review from the board.

1. Darby 1 – the Voter erased a selection for the State Representative race and filled in another selection. However, the scanner still picked up both selections.

Board Member Steele motioned to remake the ballot with the voter's clear intent. Board Member Robinson seconded the motion.

- Motion passed unanimously

Deputy Director Forrider presented a ballot from Dublin City 2 with a hesitation mark. Board Member Luke motioned to remake the ballot with the voter's intent. Board Member Robinson seconded the motion.

- Motion passed unanimously

Deputy Director Forrider presented four ballots with true overvotes.

Board Member Steele motioned to rerun the ballots with overvote turned off. Board Member Robinson seconded the motion.

- Motion passed unanimously

All ballots from Election Day were counted, the Board signed and Certified the Unofficial Canvas results.

The Official is at 9:00am on Tuesday November 18, 2024

The Audit is at 9:00am on Tuesday December 3, 2024

Attest: Vicki Flanders
Vicki Flanders, Election Specialist

Chairman: Dean Cook
Dean Cook, Chairman