

Union County Board of Elections met on October 5, 2021. Those in attendance were William Steele, Chairman; Gary Lee, Board Member; Rebecca Pokorski, Board Member; Dean Cook, Board Member; Tina LaRoche, Director; Brandon Clay, Deputy Director.

Chairman Steele called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

Approve minutes

The minutes from the September 14th board meeting were presented to the board and no issues or concerns were raised.

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Board Member Cook, seconded by Board Member Pokorski.

- The motion passed unanimously.

Approve Bills

Director LaRoche presented the current bills. Board Member Lee made a motion to approve the bills. Board Member Pokorski seconds the motion.

- The motion passed unanimously.

Current Budget

Director LaRoche reviewed the current budget with the Board. She informed the Board that with the recent census, Board member salaries have increased effective August 12, 2021. For your October paycheck, you will see retro pay for August and September, as well as the new higher rate for October.

2022 Budget

Director LaRoche presented the proposed 2022 Budget. Board member Lee asked what the current pay rate was for part-time workers was and when they last received an increase. Director LaRoche said it was back in 2016 or 2017. Board member Lee asked the Board what their thoughts were on raising that amount. He said it's important to keep the people we have trained. He felt that conservatively \$16.00hr didn't seem unreasonable. Board member Pokorski agreed that it was important to keep our current staff. She felt that people could easily go elsewhere and make the same rate if not more. She felt that \$18.00hr was reasonable. Director LaRoche said that we have been lucky to have great people who continue to come back year after year. Every election Alexis adjusts her schedule at Starbucks and takes a pay cut to come in here and work, and Racheal gets babysitting. Board member Cook said that we have good people. If they are paying for babysitting, they really aren't making much. Board member Steele agreed that we don't want to have to retrain people each election. He also felt that \$18.00 was reasonable.

Board member Cook made a motion to increase part-time salary to \$18.00hr, seconded by Board member Pokorski.

- The motion passed unanimously.

Board member Cook asked if poll pads listed on the capital budget were being purchased this year or in 2022. Director LaRoche said that this is listed for 2022. Board member Lee suggested that we ask to meet with the commissioners and tell them about the purchase to see if they would prefer to purchase the new iPads in 2021 or 2022. Let them know there is a possibility to trade them in and see if they would prefer that or possibly redistribute them to county agencies. Board member Steele said it would be good if we could get them ordered sooner than later, with the chip shortage and the fact that other counties are going to be ordering replacements as well.

Board member Lee made a motion to go into executive session to discuss employee salaries, Seconded by Board member Pokorski.

Roll Call Vote

Lee - Aye
Cook - Aye
Pokorski - Aye
Steele - Aye

Board member Lee made a motion to come out of executive session, Seconded by Board member Pokorski.

Roll Call Vote

Lee - Aye
Cook - Aye
Pokorski - Aye
Steele - Aye

Board member Lee made a motion to approve the 2022 budget as presented but include the pay increase for part-time staff, seconded by Board member Pokorski.

- The motion passed unanimously.

Campaign Finance

Campaign finance report were presented to the Board. Board Member Pokorski motioned to approve the report, seconded by Board Member Cook.

- The motion passed unanimously.

Election Update

Director LaRoche and Deputy Director Clay said that the election was going smoothly. All voting machines have been locked and loaded and ready for election day. We have had around 35 voters so far today.

Official Canvass

Director LaRoche asked if we could move the official canvas date to from November 15 to November 17 to allow more time to prepare for the official canvas. Board member Cook made a motion to change the official canvas date to November 17, 2021 at 9:00a.m. Seconded by Board member Pokorski.

- The motion passed unanimously.

Misc.

Director LaRoche asked the Board if they had an issue with Allee Forrider volunteering hours for a humanity class. She could help with packing bags. Board member Pokorski made a motion to allow Allee Forrider to volunteer at the office for humanities hours, seconded by Board member Cook.

- The motion passed unanimously.

Deputy Director Clay informed the Board that he would be teaching an REO course on leadership in January.

Director LaRoche said that Union county has been getting more recognition and becoming more involved OAE0. This hasn't been the case in the past. All Board members express pleasure in our office and staff.

Meeting adjourns

A motion to close the meeting at 2:30p.m. was made by Board Member Cook. It was seconded by Board Member Pokorski.

- The motion passed unanimously.

Attest:



Brandon Clay, Deputy Director



William Steele, Chairman