

***The Union County Board of Elections met on November 17, 2021. Those in attendance were Chairman William Steele; Board Members Gary Lee, Dean Cook, and Rebecca Pokorski; Director Tina LaRoche; Deputy Director Brandon Clay; Election Specialist Michelle Forrider and Renee Error.
Official Canvass***

Chairman Steele called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Rule on Provisionals

Board Member Pokorski made a motion to accept 32 Provisional ballots that were In-County change of address/change of name change. Seconded by Board Member Lee.

- The motion passed unanimously.

Board Member Pokorski made a motion to accept 32 Provisional ballots that were Out of County change of address/change of name change. Seconded by Board Member Lee.

- The motion passed unanimously.

Board Member Pokorski made a motion to accept 4 Provisional ballots where the voter had no identification at the polls and provided the last four of their social security number. Seconded by Board Member Lee.

- The motion passed unanimously.

Board Member Lee made a motion to accept 2 Provisional ballots where the voter was sent an absentee ballot but did not return it. Seconded by Board Member Pokorski.

- The motion passed unanimously.

Board Member Lee made a motion to accept 2 Provisional ballots where the voter was in the correct polling location, but the poll worker gave the voter the incorrect ballot style, and remake it on the correct ballot style only counting the races that apply to voter, seconded by Board Member Pokorski.

- The motion passed unanimously.

Board Member Cook made a motion to reject 7 ballots where the voter was not registered in Ohio. Seconded by Board Member Pokorski.

- The motion passed unanimously.

Board Member Lee made a motion to reject 1 ballot where the voter previously cast an absentee ballot in-office. Seconded by Board Member Pokorski.

- The motion passed unanimously.

Rule on Absentees

Board Member Pokorski made a motion to accept 35 absentee ballots that were postmarked on time but arrived after Election Day. Seconded by Board Member Cook.

- The motion passed unanimously.

Board Member Lee made a motion to reject 4 absentee ballots that were postmarked late. Seconded by Board Member Pokorski.

- The motion passed unanimously.

Board Member Cook made a motion to reject 2 absentee ballots that had no postmark. Seconded by Board Member Pokorski.

- The motion passed unanimously

Election Update

Director LaRoche and Deputy Director Clay were both pleased with the election. Director LaRoche expressed concern with not having a contract with Chaffin's Moving Company. There were reports that machines were not tied down during transportation. Board Member Lee agreed that we need a contract and would like to see the staff outline the needs for delivery and pick up. Board Member Steele asked if we could use resources from the county. Staff will outline needs and present options to the Board at a future meeting.

Post-Election Audit

Director LaRoche reminded the Board that Audits are to be conducted following each general election. We need to Audit at least 5% of the votes cast. We can choose to audit by Precinct, by Polling Location, or by voting machine.

Board Member Cook made a motion to conduct the Audit by Precinct. Seconded by Board Member Pokorski.

- The motion passed unanimously.

Director LaRoche informed that Board that now we must randomly draw precincts until we have at least 5% of the votes cast and at least 2 precincts. The votes cast is 11,711 so we will need to audit at least 586 votes.

Board Member Steele asked if Board Member Lee would like to randomly select precincts. Board Member Lee pulled Jerome 3 which had 528 votes, then Allen 1 which has 209 for a total of 737.

Director LaRoche informed the Board that we are to Audit one contested countywide race and 2 other races. The only countywide contested race is the 911 levy so that will be our countywide race. Staff recommends auditing the General Health District Levy because it will also appear on all ballots selected in the random draw. As well as the Jerome Police Levy which appears on the most ballots selected after the 911 and General Health District.

Director LaRoche also informed the Board that the Audit must take place no earlier than 6 business days after the official. Staff recommended November 30 as a possible date to conduct the audit.

Board Member Cook made a motion to follow staff's recommendations on races to audit and set the audit for November 30, 2021. Seconded by Board Member Pokorski.

- The motion passed unanimously.

November 2, 2021 Minutes

Minutes from the November 2, 2021 meeting were presented, and no issues or concerns were raised. Board Member Cook made a motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Board Member Pokorski.

- The motion passed unanimously.

Campaign finance

The Post-General campaign finance reports were presented to the Board. Board Member Lee made a motion to approve the reports. Seconded by Board Member Pokorski.

- The motion passed unanimously.

Bills

Director LaRoche presented the bills since the last meeting. Board Member Pokorski made a motion to approve the bills. Seconded by Board Member Cook.

- The motion passed unanimously.

Budget

Deputy Director LaRoche presented the end of year budget estimates. Based on the current estimates we should be able to purchase the Poll Pads and Balotar printers this year.

Poll Pad Quote

Director LaRoche presented the current Poll Pad Quote with trade in and the current rate Knowlnk would give us for the 60 iPad Air 1's (\$15) and for our 4 iPad Air 2's (\$44.50). Board Member Steele said that is not worth the cost as he has seen several iPads for sale for much more than that. Board Member Cook agreed and asked if we could sell the 60 iPad Air 1 and keep the 4 iPad Air 2 here for the Board Members use? Board Member Lee questioned the county policy on that. Board Member Pokorski agreed that the trade seemed low. Board Member Lee asked if Staff could look into the possibility of selling them and how that would work.

Holiday Schedule

Director LaRoche asked the Board for their thoughts on the upcoming Holiday Schedule. Board Member Cook made a motion to close the office on November 24, 25, 26 and December 24, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 as the alternative holiday schedule.

- The motion passed unanimously.

MISC

Director LaRoche informed the Board that for the upcoming conference there will be a system implemented to make everyone as comfortable as possible. They will be utilizing a red, yellow, and green system to alert attendees to this information. This information will be included on your name tag/lanyard, so people understand how best to interact with you.

- Red- Please maintain social distance, do not shake hands or initiate physical contact.
- Yellow- Elbow bump, tap knuckles, but please no handshakes or hugs.
- Green- Hug me or shake my hand! I'm comfortable with physical contact.

Board Members indicated their preference on the registration sheet.

Board Member Lee made a motion for the board to go into executive session to discuss staff salary. Seconded by Board Member Pokorski.

Roll Call was taken:

Dean Cook - yes

Bill Steele - yes

Becky Pokorski - yes

Gary Lee - yes

Board Member Lee mad a motion to come out of executive session. Seconded by Board Member Pokorski.

Roll call was taken

Dean Cook - yes

Bill Steele - yes

Becky Pokorski - yes

Gary Lee – yes

Board Member Cook made a motion to pay staff Bonuses/Hazard Pay as soon as possible in the following amounts:

Director/Deputy Director: Tina LaRoche and Brandon Clay \$3000 each.

Election Specialists: Michelle Forrider and Renee Error \$2000 each

In-Office part time staff: Gretchen Kinney, Alexis LaRoche and Vicki Flanders \$800 each.

Absentee part time staff: John Howard, Jeff LaRoche, Shirley Peterson, Stephanie Pyser, Martha Vincent, Gary Wallace, and Racheal Whitley \$350 each.

Seconded by Board Member Pokorski.

- The motion passed unanimously.

Official Canvas

Director LaRoche informed the Board that Dave Creviston was concerned that the Marysville Charter Commission did not properly certify the issues to the Board of Election and that the charter amendments were not voted on by the commission. He believes that the Board should not certify the results of the amendments. Director LaRoche talked with City Law Director Tim Aslaner and he stated that the proper steps have been followed. Board Member Steele thanked Director LaRoche for researching this bringing it to the Boards attention.


All ballots were counted, the Board was presented the official canvass results. The Board signed and Certified the Official Canvas results.

Board Member Cook made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Board Member Pokorski.

- The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Steele closed the Meeting at 12:30 p.m.

Attest:



Brandon Clay, Deputy Director

Chairman:



William Steele, Chairman