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THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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In re: :

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Special Meeting :

- - -

November 13, 2020

PROCEEDINGS OF REMOTE MEETING OF THE
FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
VIA VIDEOCONFERENCING

before Chairman Douglas J. Preisse, Director Edward Leonard, Deputy Director David Payne, and Board Members Bradley K. Sinnott, Kimberly E. Marinello, and Michael Sexton, on Friday, November 13, 2020, beginning at approximately 9:32 a.m., and concluding at approximately 9:40 a.m.

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APPEARANCES:

FRANKLIN COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE
Timothy A. Lecklider, Esq.
Assistant Prosecuting Attorneys
373 South High Street, 13th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215
614-525-3520,

On behalf of the Board.

Also present:

Antone White, Executive Assistant to the
Board, Director, and Deputy Director

Matthew Kelly, Absentee Manager

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AGENDA ITEMS	PAGE
Remake of Paper Absentee Ballots for the November 3rd, 2020 General Election	4
Adjourn	11

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E X H I B I T S

EXHIBITS	PAGE
(None marked)	

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P R O C E E D I N G S

- - -

DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: I will take
roll.

Kim Marinello?

MS. MARINELLO: Here.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Mike Sexton?

MR. SEXTON: Here.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Doug
Preisse?

MR. PREISSE: Here.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Brad
Sinnott?

MR. SINNOTT: Here.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: We have a
quorum.

The first item on the agenda is the
remaking of absentee ballots. And I will turn it
over to Matt Kelly, who is the manager of our
absentee ballot department, to describe to the
Board what we are asking the Board's permission to
do.

Matt, do you want to go ahead?

MR. KELLY: Sure. Good morning.

MS. MARINELLO: Good morning.

1 MR. KELLY: Today marks the 10th day
2 after the election, and the end of the cure period
3 for all outstanding ballots with deficiencies under
4 identification envelopes. It is also the last day
5 that we are legally allowed to accept any
6 outstanding overseas and military ballots through
7 the U.S. Postal Service or by a postal courier.

8 So with the passing of the deadline
9 today, we are now ready to move forward in the
10 processing of any and all submitted original
11 ballots that were included in the 49,669 voters who
12 potentially received the wrong ballot style in
13 their original ballot mailing.

14 So in keeping with the mitigation
15 guidelines set forth by the Ohio Secretary of
16 State's office of the handling of the original
17 ballots that were not remedied by either a
18 submission of a second replacement ballot or by the
19 act of the voter voting early in person, we have
20 been preparing these ballots for processing, but we
21 have not yet begun to fully process these ballots.

22 This preparation included sorting
23 the ballots into batches where we could identify
24 the identification envelope either in a correct
25 ballot style or incorrect ballot style, and

1 determining if these ballots were replaced by a
2 voter who chose to vote provisionally on election
3 day.

4 We are now at the point where the
5 actual processing of these original ballots can
6 begin since tomorrow, Saturday, November 14th marks
7 the 11th day after the election.

8 This processing includes scanning of
9 2,508 ballots that are completely correct and have
10 the correct ballot style. This also includes the
11 need to remake nearly 6,000 original ballots so
12 these ballots will include all of the selected
13 contests and issues marked by the voter on the
14 original ballot so these contests can be accurately
15 recorded on our scanners for ultimate counting and
16 tabulation as part of the original canvas.

17 It's important to note here that
18 many of these remake ballots will include ballots
19 that include all of the races appropriate to that
20 voter's address, but the ballot style simply did
21 not match exactly to the voter's assigned precinct.
22 And this group will also include ballots that need
23 to be completely remade where the voter's ballot
24 style included out of district contests or the
25 voter was not eligible to vote in.

1 The remaking of these ballots will
2 ensure that the correct ballot styles are assigned
3 to that voter and their precinct, and the
4 collection of all marked eligible races and
5 contests that are assigned to that voter, that the
6 voter selected on their original ballot will be
7 included.

8 Any voter selections that are not
9 eligible as part of their correct ballot style will
10 not be included on the remake ballots.

11 So to begin the process, we are
12 asking the Board to approve the remaking of these
13 original ballots, along with any additional ballots
14 in need of remakes, because of unreadable barcodes
15 or damage that may have occurred in the delivery
16 process. Remaking and processing will begin
17 tomorrow, Saturday, November 14th in order to
18 process and conclude scanning of all ballots for
19 the official canvas by the certification date on
20 November 18th.

21 So I humbly request that you give us
22 permission to do these remakes.

23 MS. MARINELLO: Matt, do you have an
24 exact number of remakes, 6,000 what? Do we need
25 that?

1 MR. KELLY: 5,938 is the number we
2 have. Now, there may be some that come in the mail
3 today, and there may be, you know, if there is a
4 remake of the remake that we need to scan, we need
5 to have authority to do that as well.

6 MS. MARINELLO: So approximately
7 6,000 is okay to say?

8 MR. KELLY: Yes.

9 MR. PREISSE: I just had a quick
10 question. David shared with me some numbers, I
11 think yesterday were recalled, there really was a
12 pretty good, it seemed to me, effective efforts
13 and, you know, by us guys, the Board, by you guys,
14 and then response by the voters of the 49,669,
15 there is a heck of a lot of folks who did use --
16 who were able to access and use the replacement
17 ballot.

18 Matt, do you have those figures at
19 your fingertips?

20 MR. KELLY: Yeah. At the onset of
21 this, when we started with the 49,669, 38,312
22 people chose to use the replacement ballot or went
23 and voted in person early.

24 MS. MARINELLO: Wow.

25 MR. PREISSE: Which struck me as a

1 darn good number and effective for you guys, design
2 and then, of course, the effort today to count all
3 of the votes.

4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: It may be
5 worth stating -- this is David Payne. It may be
6 worth stating in the attempt to reach all 49,669,
7 we made phone calls as well as sending three
8 separate distinct postcards to each of those
9 individuals letting them know that they had a
10 second ballot, and they should attempt to try to
11 return that.

12 MS. MARINELLO: And also sending the
13 postcard letting us know we had the correct --

14 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: That's
15 correct also, yes. Sending the -- yes, letting
16 them know they indeed had the correct ballot.

17 MS. MARINELLO: All right. I move
18 that the Board authorize the staff to remake
19 approximately 6,000 absentee paper ballots and that
20 these remake ballots shall be tabulated and
21 included in the official canvas of the results of
22 the November 3rd, 2020 General Election with a
23 report to be made to the Board later.

24 MR. PREISSE: This is Doug Preisse,
25 I second the motion.

1 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: It's been
2 properly moved and seconded. I will take roll.

3 Kim Marinello?

4 MS. MARINELLO: Yes.

5 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Mike Sexton?

6 MR. SEXTON: Yes.

7 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Doug

8 Preisse?

9 MR. PREISSE: Yes.

10 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: And Brad

11 Sinnott?

12 MR. SINNOTT: Yes.

13 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Motion
14 carries.

15 That concludes the items on the
16 agenda. I would entertain a motion to adjourn.

17 MS. MARINELLO: Mr. Chairman, I move
18 to adjourn this meeting of the Franklin County
19 Board of Elections.

20 MR. PREISSE: This is Doug Preisse,
21 I second the motion.

22 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: I will take
23 roll.

24 Kim Marinello?

25 MS. MARINELLO: Yes.

1 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Mike Sexton?
2 MR. SEXTON: Yes.
3 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Doug
4 Preisse?
5 MR. PREISSE: Yes.
6 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: And Brad
7 Sinnott?
8 MR. SINNOTT: Yes.
9 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: We are
10 adjourned.
11 Thank you.
12 - - -
13 Thereupon, the proceeding adjourned at
14 approximately 9:40 a.m.
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C E R T I F I C A T E

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THE STATE OF OHIO:

SS:

COUNTY OF FRANKLIN:

I, Angela S. Moore, a Professional Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of Ohio, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true, correct, and complete written transcript of the proceedings in this matter;

That the foregoing was taken by me stenographically and transcribed by me with computer-aided transcription;

That the foregoing occurred at the aforementioned time and place;

That I am not an attorney for or relative of either party and have no interest whatsoever in the event of this litigation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal of office at Columbus, Ohio, this 30th of November, 2020.

/s/Angela S. Moore
Notary Public, State of Ohio

My Commission Expires: February 28, 2021.

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