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THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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In Re: :
:
Special Meeting. :

- - -

November 18, 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 Wednesday, November 18, 2020, beginning at approximately 9:34 a.m., and concluding at approximately 9:44 a.m.

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APPEARANCES:

FRANKLIN COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE
Timothy A. Lecklider, Esq.
Assistant Prosecuting Attorney
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
Matt Kelly
Carla Patton

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Wednesday Morning Session
November 18, 2020
9:34 a.m.

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DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: This is the meeting --

And I want to remind everybody they should introduce themselves prior to speaking so that our court reporter can correctly take down what everybody is saying.

Welcome to this meeting of the Franklin County Board of Elections.

I will take roll.

Kim Marinello.

MEMBER MARINELLO: Here.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Mike Sexton.

MEMBER SEXTON: Here.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Doug Preisse.

CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Here.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: And Brad Sinnott.

MEMBER SINNOTT: Here.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: We do indeed have a quorum.

The first item on the agenda -- I'm

1 going to ask Matt Kelly from Absentee to give a
2 brief report on the absentee numbers. Matt.

3 MR. KELLY: Good morning.

4 As part of the certification I'm
5 here to report the absentee numbers. This includes
6 in-office absentee from the early vote center and
7 all of the absentees that were delivered to us by
8 mail.

9 The absentee in-office number is
10 117,356; the mail-in absentee number is 257,548.
11 That is a grand total of 374,904. That represents
12 58.94 percent of total votes cast in this election.

13 That's my absentee report for the
14 Board.

15 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Thank you,
16 Matt.

17 This is David Payne, again.

18 I'm going to call on Carla Patton to
19 give the certification results for the
20 November 3rd, 2020, General Election.

21 Carla, are you on the call?

22 MS. PATTON: Yes, I am.

23 Good morning.

24 You have been provided with the
25 Franklin County only official results that reflects

1 a turnout of 73.46 percent of the voters voting,
2 either early vote by mail or in-person on election
3 day. These are the results after bipartisanship
4 canvassing of all the votes cast throughout the
5 election. These are the results as we present to
6 you today for certification for the 2020 General
7 Election.

8 There are two races, according to
9 these results, that do fall within an automatic
10 recount. The first race being for Senator of the
11 16th District between Republican Stephanie Kunze
12 and Democrat Crystal Lett. There was a total of
13 211,990 votes cast in that race. One-half of one
14 percent of that total is 1,059 votes. The race has
15 a difference of 116 votes, with Stephanie Kunze
16 receiving more votes than Crystal Lett. Therefore,
17 that race qualifies for an automatic recount.

18 The other race is the
19 Gahanna-Jefferson City School District bond and tax
20 levies issue. There were a total of 28,916 votes
21 cast in that race. One-half of one percent of that
22 total is 144 votes. The issue passed by a
23 difference of 76 votes; therefore, qualifying it
24 for an official automatic recount.

25 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Are there

1 any questions?

2 Thank you, Carla.

3 Are there any questions from Board
4 members regarding Carla's certification report?

5 If none --

6 Did I hear somebody had a question
7 for Carla?

8 If not, I would entertain a motion
9 to accept the certification numbers that you have
10 before you for the November 3rd, 2020, General
11 Election.

12 MEMBER SINNOTT: This is Sinnott. I
13 move that the Board certify and declare as final
14 the official canvass of the votes cast in the
15 November 3, 2020, General Election, as submitted by
16 staff in Exhibit A.

17 MEMBER SEXTON: This is Michael
18 Sexton. I will second.

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

21 Kim Marinello.

22 MEMBER MARINELLO: Yes.

23 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Mike Sexton.

24 MEMBER SEXTON: Yes.

25 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Doug

1 Preisse.

2 I'll come back to Doug.

3 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: I beg your

4 pardon.

5 Yes.

6 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Brad

7 Sinnott.

8 MEMBER SINNOTT: Yes.

9 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Motion

10 carries.

11 The next item on the agenda is the
12 post-election audit. And I will turn that over to
13 Director Leonard to go over the process of the
14 post-election audit.

15 DIRECTOR LEONARD: Good morning,
16 Board members. This is Director Leonard.

17 One of the things that's required --
18 post-election activities that's required by the
19 Election Official Manual is for us to conduct a
20 post-election audit. And pursuant to the Manual,
21 the Board is required at the time of certification
22 of the results to identify how they're going to
23 conduct the audit, the time and location when
24 you're going to choose the units that will be
25 actually audited, and then the actual time of when

1 the audit is going to take place. So in this case,
2 because -- and as is outlined in the Manual because
3 our -- we can use polling locations as the unit.
4 So we would audit the polling locations, because
5 our scanners are not structured at the precinct
6 level. They are programmed at the voting location
7 level. And so we can either -- according to the
8 Manual we can do our audits at the polling location
9 level. And the staff has discussed in terms of
10 setting the date and selecting which polling
11 locations will be audited, and we have that meeting
12 on the 24th and then begin the audit on
13 December 7th after the completion of the recounts.

14 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Are there
15 any questions?

16 Thank you for that report, Director.
17 Are there any questions for Director
18 Leonard?

19 MEMBER SINNOTT: This is Sinnott.
20 So right now I have a 10:00,
21 Tuesday, November 24th virtual meeting on my
22 calendar. Is that correct?

23 DIRECTOR LEONARD: Correct.

24 And the purpose of that would be to
25 identify the precincts that will be part of the

1 recount and then also to identify the polling
2 locations that will be subject of the audit.

3 MEMBER SINNOTT: Thank you.

4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Any other
5 questions for Director Leonard?

6 If not, I would entertain a motion
7 to accept the post-election audit information that
8 was just described by Director Leonard.

9 MEMBER MARINELLO: This is Kim
10 Marinello. I move that the Board conduct its
11 post-election audit by polling location and that
12 selection of polling locations to be audited shall
13 be conducted at a meeting of the Board of Elections
14 to be held virtually at 10 a.m., on Tuesday,
15 November 24th, and such audit will commence on
16 Monday, December 7th.

17 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: This is Doug
18 Preisse. Second.

19 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: It's been
20 properly moved and seconded to accept the
21 post-election audit date, time, and method.

22 All those in favor will be
23 signifying by saying aye by quorum call -- or I'm
24 sorry -- roll call.

25 Kim Marinello.

1 MEMBER MARINELLO: Yes.

2 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Mike Sexton.

3 MEMBER SEXTON: Yes.

4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Doug

5 Preisse.

6 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Yes.

7 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: And Brad

8 Sinnott.

9 MEMBER SINNOTT: Yes.

10 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Motion

11 carries.

12 I don't see any other items on this
13 agenda. So unless there's any further discussion
14 or comments, I would entertain a motion to adjourn.

15 MEMBER SINNOTT: This is Sinnott.

16 So moved.

17 MEMBER MARINELLO: Kim Marinello.

18 Second.

19 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: I will take
20 roll.

21 Kim Marinello.

22 MEMBER MARINELLO: Yes.

23 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Mike Sexton.

24 MEMBER SEXTON: Yes.

25 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Doug

1 Preisse.

2 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Yes.

3 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: And Brad
4 Sinnott.

5 MEMBER SINNOTT: Yes.

6 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Thank you,
7 Board members. We are adjourned.

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9 Thereupon, the proceedings were
10 adjourned at approximately 9:44 a.m.

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THE STATE OF OHIO:

SS:

COUNTY OF FRANKLIN:

I, Carla D. Castle, 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 any of the parties and have no interest whatsoever in the event of this matter.

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

/s/Carla D. Castle
Notary Public, State of Ohio

My Commission Expires: September 29, 2021.

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