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THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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In Re: :
:
Regular Meeting. :

- - -

JULY 6, 2021

PROCEEDINGS OF THE

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

before Chairman Douglas J. Preisse,
Director Antone White, Deputy Director
David Payne, Board Members Kimberly E. Marinello,
Michael Sexton, and Josh Jaffe, on Tuesday,
July 6, 2021, beginning at approximately 3:02 p.m.,
and concluding at approximately 3:22 p.m.

- - -

ALSO PRESENT:

Erin Gibbons
Carla Patton
Jeanine Hummer, First Assistant/Chief Counsel
Aaron Sellers
Judge Stephanie Mingo

- - -

Higgins & Associates
Court Reporting - Legal Video - Videoconference
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I N D E X

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- - -

1 ready?

2 MEMBER JAFFE: I am ready.

3 JUDGE MINGO: Please raise your
4 right hand.

5 I, Josh Jaffe, --

6 MEMBER JAFFE: I, Josh Jaffe, --

7 JUDGE MINGO: -- do solemnly swear
8 that I will support the Constitutions of the
9 United States and and the State of Ohio; --

10 MEMBER JAFFE: -- do solemnly swear
11 that I will support the Constitutions of the
12 United States and and the State of Ohio; --

13 JUDGE MINGO: -- that I will enforce
14 the election laws, protect and preserve the records
15 and property --

16 MEMBER JAFFE: -- that I will
17 enforce the election laws, protect and preserve the
18 records and property --

19 JUDGE MINGO: -- pertaining to
20 elections --

21 MEMBER JAFFE: -- pertaining to
22 elections --

23 JUDGE MINGO: -- and perform my
24 duties as a member of the Board of Elections --

25 MEMBER JAFFE: -- and perform my

1 duties as member of the Board of the Elections --

2 JUDGE MINGO: -- to the best of my
3 ability.

4 MEMBER JAFFE: -- to the best of my
5 ability.

6 JUDGE MINGO: This I shall do as I
7 shall answer unto God.

8 MEMBER JAFFE: This I shall do as I
9 shall answer unto God.

10 JUDGE MINGO. Congratulations.

11 MEMBER JAFFE: Thank you.

12 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Thank you, Judge.

13 JUDGE MINGO: Thank you.

14 Congratulations.

15 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: I guess we
16 can add you to the -- to the quorum.

17 Congratulations, Josh.

18 MEMBER JAFFE: Thank you.

19 DIRECTOR WHITE: Welcome, Josh.

20 MEMBER SEXTON: Welcome.

21 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: The next
22 item on the agenda is the paper ballot allocation
23 for the August 3rd Special Congressional Election,
24 and I'll turn that over to Carla Patton for an
25 explanation.

1 CARLA PATTON: Before you you should
2 have Exhibit A, the final paper ballot allocation
3 for the August 3rd, 2021, Special Election. This
4 is by precinct. There were no changes in the
5 quantities that we're providing to the precincts as
6 far as the number of ballots; however, there are --
7 you will notice there is quite a reduction in the
8 number of preprinted, which is your Recommended
9 Allocation column on the report. If you look on
10 the report, you'll also notice there is a column
11 for Poll Print. And so on the -- It's a Y if they
12 have a Poll Print system, which is our Ballot on
13 Demand System; and a No if they do not have one.
14 So if they had a Poll Print system, we reduced the
15 number of preprinted ballots we're sending out.
16 And to make up for that difference, we are sending
17 that much blank ballot stock to the location.

18 There is no location that is
19 receiving less than one pad of preprinted paper
20 ballots for each ballot style in their location.
21 No less than 50 if there was more than 75 being
22 allocated originally.

23 So we would ask that you approve the
24 recommended allocations as you see with preprinted
25 under the Preprint Ballots and the blank ballots on

1 the Blank Ballot column that equal up to the
2 initial recommended allocation.

3 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Thank you,
4 Carla.

5 Are there any questions concerning
6 the paper ballot allocation for the Special
7 Congressional Primary?

8 DIRECTOR WHITE: Carla, a preprinted
9 package, 25 ballots?

10 CARLA PATTON: 25 in each packet of
11 preprinted ballots, yes.

12 DIRECTOR WHITE: So at minimum per
13 location --

14 CARLA PATTON: A minimum would be
15 five --

16 DIRECTOR WHITE: -- at least one
17 preprinted packet if they do not have --

18 CARLA PATTON: Correct.

19 DIRECTOR WHITE: -- a Poll Print.

20 CARLA PATTON: Correct. And in the
21 event of a failure of the Poll Print system, they
22 do have ample enough ballots for us to be able to
23 in turn have our in-house printing here at the --
24 at the print shop turn around and produce the
25 necessary number of ballots to get them to the

1 recommended allocation.

2 DIRECTOR WHITE: Thank you.

3 MEMBER MARINELLO: Thanks, Carla.

4 I move that the Board adopt the
5 paper ballot allocation formula in Exhibit A
6 compiled by the board staff for the August 3, 2021
7 Special Election.

8 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Second?

9 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Second the
10 motion.

11 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: It's been
12 moved and seconded.

13 I'll take roll.

14 Kim Marinello?

15 MEMBER MARINELLO: Yes.

16 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Mike Sexton?

17 MEMBER SEXTON: Yes.

18 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Doug
19 Preisse?

20 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Yes.

21 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: And
22 Josh Jaffe?

23 MEMBER JAFFE: Yes.

24 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Motion
25 carries.

1 The next item on the agenda is of a
2 similar vein, so voting machine and paper pollbook
3 allocation.

4 Carla, do you want to discuss that
5 as well?

6 CARLA PATTON: So Exhibit B, the
7 final equipment allocations for the August 3rd,
8 2021, Special Election, again, there are no changes
9 from the initial equipment allocations that we put
10 forth with the exception of some few minor location
11 changes where location wasn't available, so we
12 shifted the precincts in other open locations and
13 adjusted the allocation accordingly.

14 As far as the calculations, none of
15 that changed where the marking devices are one for
16 every 243 voters; and for every ten ballot markers,
17 you have a ballot counter assigned to the location.
18 Your pollpads, one for every 700 active registered
19 voters in the location with no less than three
20 being assigned.

21 The Poll Prints are the Ballot on
22 Demand System. That is based on the number of
23 ballot styles that's available on a location as
24 well as the number of pollpads. So that column
25 will either have a one or a two in there depending

1 on how many units. If there is no number, then
2 they're not receiving a Poll Print system.

3 And then the blank ballot cards,
4 that's the ballots that are fed into the
5 ExpressVote Markers, so that quantity is in there
6 in reference to the voting equipment.

7 So we would ask that you approve the
8 recommended allocation set forth in Exhibit B.

9 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Any
10 questions for -- for Carla regarding that?

11 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: None here.

12 MEMBER JAFFE: No. I move that the
13 Board adopt the voting machine allocation formula
14 in Exhibit B compiled by the board staff for the
15 August 3rd, 2021, Special Congressional Primary
16 Election.

17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Second?

18 MEMBER SEXTON: I'll second it.

19 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: It's been
20 properly moved and seconded.

21 I'll take roll.

22 Kim Marinello?

23 MEMBER MARINELLO: Yes.

24 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Mike Sexton?

25 MEMBER SEXTON: Yes.

1 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Doug
2 Preisse?

3 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Yes.

4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: And
5 Josh Jaffe?

6 MEMBER JAFFE: Yes.

7 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: The motion
8 carries.

9 The next item on the agenda is
10 holiday hours.

11 At a previous board meeting,
12 we had decided to give the staff the Friday
13 after Thanksgiving, because we'll be working
14 Labor Day.

15 Since then we found out that the
16 county is already giving the Friday after
17 Thanksgiving as a -- a holiday now. So what we
18 would ask is that we move to the day before
19 Thanksgiving. So in reality, what we would have
20 off for the staff is the Wednesday, the Thursday of
21 Thanksgiving, and then the Friday preceding -- or
22 following Thanksgiving, so.

23 DIRECTOR WHITE: And just as a
24 correction, the -- the day after Thanksgiving was
25 originally in lieu of Juneteenth.

1 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Oh,
2 Juneteenth. I'm sorry. That's correct.

3 DIRECTOR WHITE: Juneteenth, the
4 county recognized on June 18th; however, we -- as
5 you recall, staff worked on Juneteenth. So that's
6 what the original day after Thanksgiving was given
7 for, in lieu of Juneteenth.

8 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: And I guess
9 my confusion is we will be coming to the Board,
10 because we are planning to work on Labor Day. So
11 we probably will be coming to the Board in the
12 future to ask for a -- an additional day in lieu of
13 Labor Day.

14 But thanks for the correction. It
15 was Juneteenth.

16 MEMBER SEXTON: So we have -- the
17 reason we're doing this move is because of the
18 Special Election in August.

19 DIRECTOR WHITE: Uh-huh.

20 MEMBER SEXTON: So in future years,
21 will we do it kind of closer to the Juneteenth
22 Holiday?

23 DIRECTOR WHITE: Yeah. If we
24 don't -- in future years, if we don't have a
25 special election that would, you know, require us

1 to be here for some election reason, we would
2 normally -- we would just take Juneteenth off as
3 it's recognized by the county.

4 MEMBER SEXTON: Okay.

5 DIRECTOR WHITE: Yes.

6 JEANINE HUMMER: And, now, if I may,
7 you have a federal holidays, so it's going to be --
8 now have your set number, and you can never have
9 less than that of the federal approved holidays.

10 MEMBER MARINELLO: Mr. Chairman, I
11 move that the Board use Wednesday, November 24th,
12 as a replacement for the Juneteenth Day Holiday,
13 Friday, June 18th, in which full-time Franklin
14 County Board of Elections employees were required
15 to work.

16 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: I second the
17 motion.

18 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: It's been
19 properly moved and seconded.

20 I'll 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 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Yes.

3 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: And

4 Josh Jaffe?

5 MEMBER JAFFE: Yes.

6 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: The motion
7 carries.

8 The next item on the agenda is for
9 KNOWiNK or pollpad solution election support.

10 Carla?

11 CARLA PATTON: Yes. In -- in an
12 effort to make sure that our system is all proper
13 and working and functioning properly for the early
14 voting as well as on election day, we are seeking
15 on-site support from KNOWiNK, in addition to, you
16 know, some of the other problems we've had in the
17 past, for them to be here to help rectify anything
18 we may encounter. We're also attempt -- trying out
19 some new hardware to help us eliminate some of the
20 time that it takes to program the pollpads.

21 And so with that, we're requesting
22 that we purchase the on-site support from KNOWiNK,
23 as put forth in the quote that you have received in
24 your package and the purchase order request for
25 \$24,000.

1 That is reflecting half, a
2 50 percent off discount as well for the support.
3 It is for multiple persons throughout the election,
4 most of it. Most of --

5 We do have support on site here
6 today as well as tomorrow for the early vote, for
7 getting ready for early vote. The other support
8 will be coming forth that week before the election
9 to help us with the programming of the electronic
10 pollbooks for election day and making sure that
11 everything's working properly.

12 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: They going to
13 work?

14 CARLA PATTON: I'm going to work,
15 most definitely.

16 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: The pads, not the
17 staff.

18 CARLA PATTON: Yes, they will work.
19 They worked successfully in the May election
20 without any issues with a small trial of the same
21 system that we're looking at. And so this is just
22 on a little more grander scale than what we had in
23 May. And so just to kind of help us be able to
24 document the processes involved with the new
25 equipment and the new procedures, we felt it was

1 best that they -- that the vendor have support on
2 site here for us to help.

3 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: In May, we
4 did run a pilot project and it was fantastic; and
5 so we're very excited, but we do want to make sure
6 they're here to answer any questions that we might
7 have.

8 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Yes. Sounds good
9 to me.

10 MEMBER JAFFE: So they're here today
11 and tomorrow and then for the week prior to
12 election day?

13 CARLA PATTON: Yes. We got a little
14 crafty and split -- you know, we cut it down as
15 much as we could as far as the number of days while
16 still providing ample support to make sure that the
17 system functions properly.

18 MEMBER JAFFE: And other than the
19 May election, has there been a larger scale test or
20 will there be a large-scale test of the --

21 CARLA PATTON: Well, the -- the next
22 item on the agenda will --

23 MEMBER JAFFE: Okay. I'll ask that
24 then.

25 CARLA PATTON: Yes.

1 MEMBER SEXTON: Mr. Chairman, I move
2 that the Board authorize the Director and Deputy
3 Director to make an expenditure of \$24,000 with
4 KNOWiNK for election support for our electronic
5 pollbooks for the August Special Congressional
6 Primary Election.

7 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Second.

8 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: It's been
9 properly moved and seconded.

10 I'll take roll.

11 Kim Marinello?

12 MEMBER MARINELLO: Yes.

13 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Mike Sexton?

14 MEMBER SEXTON: Yes.

15 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Doug

16 Preisse?

17 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Yes.

18 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: And

19 Josh Jaffe?

20 MEMBER JAFFE: Yes.

21 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Motion
22 carries.

23 The next item on the agenda is the
24 KNOWiNK Thunder Synch.

25 Carla?

1 CARLA PATTON: So this is one of the
2 items that we piloted in May on a very small scale.
3 We used one unit.

4 The Thunder Synch system is a system
5 that allows for us to program at least 16 pollpads
6 at one time using a wired connection versus a
7 wireless connection. This system was purchased,
8 before as recommended by the vendor as the quantity
9 of the e-pollbooks that we distributed and deployed
10 out to the polls. Four Systems was recommended,
11 and that would cut our time of importing voter
12 files into the pollpads from about three and a half
13 to four days minimum to six to seven hours at
14 maximum. So we're recommen- -- we're asking that
15 we be permitted to purchase the Thunder Synch
16 system from KNOWiNK at a cost of, including
17 installation of the hard -- network hardware,
18 \$8,500 for each system, with four systems, being a
19 total of 34,000. And the equipment -- and that
20 package includes all equipment necessary in order
21 to operate the system, which is a Mac Mini, two
22 16-port Thunder Synch transfer hubs, a monitor, the
23 keyboard and wire -- mouse, all the wires, and
24 adapters and power strips in place.

25 And, of course, the support that we

1 just voted would be here to help us, like I said,
2 document the processes and procedures for us to --

3 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Is the second --
4 The second KNOWiNK issue is merely equipment?

5 CARLA PATTON: This is the
6 equipment, yes.

7 DIRECTOR WHITE: And so, Mr. Jaffe,
8 this is -- this is what we -- we piloted back from
9 the May election. We -- At no cost, they brought
10 in a system, and that's what we used to program the
11 pollpads.

12 KNOWiNK provided on -- on-site
13 support for that at no charge. So when we asked
14 them to come back, that's when they said they would
15 need to charge because they didn't charge us for
16 May, but they would do so at a reduced rate. So it
17 ties in together, the support.

18 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Okay. Thank you
19 for that.

20 DIRECTOR WHITE: You're welcome.

21 CARLA PATTON: And just so you -- We
22 were able -- Like I say, in May, you know, we only
23 had about 70 iPads that we had to program for the
24 election; but we were able to do those 70 pollpads
25 in less -- in roughly about a half an hour, and

1 that was taking our time.

2 MEMBER JAFFE: And that was using
3 one of --

4 CARLA PATTON: That was just using
5 one of the -- one of the systems, Thunder Synch.

6 MEMBER JAFFE: So it would be five
7 now or just the four?

8 CARLA PATTON: No, it would be just
9 four that we would have. So that was total -- The
10 one we used in May was on loan, and so that would
11 be one of the four that would be purchased.

12 MEMBER JAFFE: Got it.

13 CARLA PATTON: And this system has
14 been used in L.A. County in November of 2020. The
15 Thunder Synch equipment was used in L.A. County,
16 who owns I believe about 700,000 -- 700 to 800,000
17 pollpads in their county; and they we were able to
18 do all this work in a day and a half.

19 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Okay.
20 Reassuring.

21 MEMBER MARINELLO: Wow.

22 MEMBER JAFFE: Well, I move that the
23 Board authorize the Director and Deputy Director to
24 make an expenditure of \$34,000 with KNOWiNK to
25 purchase the Thunder Synch package which will be

1 used to upload voter data to our electronic
2 pollpads.

3 MEMBER MARINELLO: Second.

4 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: It's been
5 properly moved and seconded.

6 I'll take roll.

7 Kim Marinello?

8 MEMBER MARINELLO: Yes.

9 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Mike Sexton?

10 MEMBER SEXTON: Yes.

11 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Doug

12 Preisse?

13 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: Yes.

14 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: And

15 Josh Jaffe?

16 MEMBER JAFFE: Yes.

17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: The motion
18 carries.

19 I don't see any other items on the
20 agenda.

21 Does anybody else, a prosecutor or
22 anybody, have anything for us?

23 JEANINE HUBER: No. No news is good
24 news coming from the prosecutor's office. Right?

25 CHAIRMAN PREISSE: That sounds good.

1 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: I would
2 entertain a motion to adjourn.

3 MEMBER JAFFE: Move to adjourn.

4 MEMBER SEXTON: Second.

5 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: All right.

6 We're adjourned.

7 DIRECTOR WHITE: Thank you.

8 - - -

9 Thereupon, the meeting adjourned at
10 3:20 p.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, Beth A. Higgins, 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 17th day of July, 2021.

/s/Beth A. Higgins _____
Notary Public, State of Ohio

My Commission Expires: July 16, 2025.

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