

FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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SPECIAL MEETING

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1700 Morse Road
Columbus, Ohio

- - -

Monday, May 4, 2026

3:06 p.m.

BEFORE:

Douglas J. Preisse, Chair
Meredith Freedhoff
Michael E. Sexton
Jamie L. Shumaker

- - -

Higgins & Associates
Court Reporting - Legal Video - Videoconference
4889 Sinclair Road, Suite 102
Columbus, Ohio 43229
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1 APPEARANCES:

2 ON BEHALF OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY BOARD OF
3 ELECTIONS:

4 Shayla D. Favor, Esq.
Franklin County Prosecuting Attorney

5 By: Brian Zagrocki, Esq.
6 Assistant Prosecuting Attorney
Civil Division
7 373 South High Street, 13th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215
8 (614) 525-7437
Email: bzagrocki@franklincountyohio.gov
9

10 ALSO PRESENT:

11 Antone White, Director

12 David Payne, Deputy Director

13 Erin Gibbons, Executive Manager

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I N D E X

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E X H I B I T S

EXHIBIT

Exhibit A - April 17, 2026, letter
Withdrawal of Candidacy

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P R O C E E D I N G S

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Monday, May 4, 2026
Afternoon Session

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DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: It looks
like we have a quorum, Mr. Chairman, but I'll go
ahead and take roll.

Jamie Shumaker.

MEMBER SHUMAKER: Here.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Mike Sexton.

MEMBER SEXTON: Here.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Doug
Preisse.

CHAIR PREISSE: Here.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: And Meredith
Freedhoff.

MEMBER FREEDHOFF: Here.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: We do have a
quorum, Mr. Chairman.

The first item on the agenda is the
approval of minutes from the April 6 meeting. And
I think we sent out those meetings for you to --
those minutes to look at.

1 CHAIR PREISSE: I saw nothing to
2 complain about.

3 MEMBER SHUMAKER: Is there any
4 questions?

5 (No response.)

6 MEMBER SHUMAKER: Mr. Chairman,
7 Jamie Shumaker. I move the board approve the
8 minutes from the April 6th meeting of the Franklin
9 County Board of Elections as submitted.

10 CHAIR PREISSE: Doug Preisse.
11 Second the motion.

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

14 All those in favor of the motion
15 signify by saying "aye."

16 (Ayes heard.)

17 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: All opposed,
18 same sign.

19 (No response.)

20 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Motion
21 carries.

22 The next item on the agenda is the
23 withdrawal of George Leach as a candidate to the
24 Franklin County Common Pleas Court Domestic

1 Relations Division in the Democratic primary. And
2 because his resignation or withdrawal came after
3 the 70th day prior to the election, his name must
4 remain on the ballot, but it does require board
5 action to accept his withdrawal.

6 CHAIR PREISSE: Doug Preisse. I
7 move that the board accept the withdrawal of George
8 Leach as a candidate for Franklin County Court of
9 Common Pleas Domestic Relations Division Democratic
10 primary, full term commencing January 2, 2027, on
11 the May 5, 2026, primary election blot.

12 MEMBER SHUMAKER: Jamie Shumaker. I
13 second.

14 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: It's been
15 moved and seconded.

16 All those favoring the motion
17 signify by saying "aye."

18 (Ayes heard.)

19 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: All opposed,
20 same sign.

21 (No response.)

22 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Motion
23 carries.

24 The next item on the agenda, we are

1 required to open the policy for tomorrow's primary
2 election beginning at 6:30 a.m.

3 MEMBER FREEDHOFF: Chairman,
4 Meredith Freedhoff. I move that the polls be
5 declared open Tuesday, May 5th, 2026, primary
6 election beginning at 6:30 a.m. and closing at
7 7:30 p.m. and that, in accordance with Ohio Revised
8 Code Section 3501.32, any voter in line prior to
9 the close of polls at 7:30 p.m. shall be permitted
10 to vote.

11 MEMBER SEXTON: Mr. Chairman,
12 Michael Sexton. I'll second.

13 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: It's been
14 moved and seconded.

15 All those in favor of the motion,
16 signify by saying "aye."

17 (Ayes heard.)

18 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: All opposed,
19 same sign.

20 (No response.)

21 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: Motion
22 carries.

23 Typically, at this point, we'd have
24 a -- if there were no other business, we'd have a

1 motion to recess the board unless re-called by the
2 Chairman.

3 CHAIR PREISSE: Sounds good.

4 MEMBER SHUMAKER: Then I will --
5 Mr. Chairman, Jamie Shumaker. I move the board
6 recess this meeting of the Board of Elections
7 subject to re-call by the chair until the close of
8 the election being held on Tuesday, May 5th, 2026.

9 MEMBER SEXTON: Second.

10 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: All in favor
11 of the motion signify by saying "aye."

12 (All ayes.)

13 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: All opposed,
14 same sign.

15 (No response.)

16 DEPUTY DIRECTOR PAYNE: We are in
17 recess.

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19 (Thereupon, the meeting recessed at
20 3:09 p.m. on Monday, May 4, 2026.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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State of Ohio, :
 SS:
County of Franklin, :

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I, Linda D. Riffle, Registered
Diplomate Reporter, Certified Realtime Reporter,
and Notary Public in and for the State of Ohio,
hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and
accurate transcript of the proceedings hereinbefore
set forth, as reported in stenotype by me and
transcribed by me or under my supervision.

Linda D. Riffle, Registered
Diplomate Reporter,
Certified Realtime Reporter,
and Notary Public in and for
the State of Ohio

My Commission Expires: July 26, 2026

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A	chair 1:10 4:15 5:1,10 6:6 8:3,7 Chairman 4:7,20 5:6 7:3,11 8:2,5 Civil 2:6 close 7:9 8:7 closing 7:6 Code 7:8 Columbus 1:5,23 2:7 commencing 6:10 Commission 9:17 Common 5:24 6:9 complain 5:2 County 1:1 2:2,4 5:9,24 6:8 9:4 Court 1:22 5:24 6:8	E 1:11 3:1,3 4:1,1 9:1,1 election 6:3,11 7:2,6 8:8 Elections 1:1 2:3 5:9 8:6 Email 2:8 Erin 2:13 Esq 2:4,5 Executive 2:13 Exhibit 3:4,5 Expires 9:17	6:24	N
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LID	Location Name	Tabletop ExpressVotes	Kiosk ExpressVotes	Total ExpressVotes	DS200 Ballot Counters	EPBs - Touchpads
1012	FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH	4	1	5	1	3
2036	WHITEHALL SENIOR CENTER	6	1	7	1	3
2207	EASTVIEW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH	3	1	4	1	3
3004	WHITEHALL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH	9	1	10	2	4
4029	WHITEHALL YEARLING HIGH SCHOOL	13	2	15	2	6

Precinct Split	Ballot Style	Ballot Allocation
WHITEHALL 1-A 1	1	25
WHITEHALL 1-B 1	2	50
WHITEHALL 2-A 1	3	25
WHITEHALL 2-B 1	4	25
WHITEHALL 2-C 1	5	25
WHITEHALL 3-A 1	6	50
WHITEHALL 3-B 1	7	25
WHITEHALL 3-C 1	8	25
WHITEHALL 4-A 1	9	25
WHITEHALL 4-B 1	10	25
WHITEHALL 4-C 1	11	50