



COLUMBIANA COUNTY

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Kim Fusco, Director
Bryce A. Miner, Deputy Director

Board Members:
David W. Johnson, Chair
Patty Colian, Vice Chair
Larry Bowersock
Victor W. Maroscher

Board Meeting Minutes – September 13, 2023 at 1:30 p.m.

I. ROUTINE ITEMS:

1. Approve Agenda
2. Acceptance of Minutes
3. Approval of the Bills

II. ACTION ITEMS:

4. Consider Write-In Candidate Declarations of Intent
5. Polling Location Changes in Hanover Township

III. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

1. E-Pollbook Replacement Funding
2. Security Directive 2023-16
3. General Election Ballot Proofing
4. General Election Programming Finalizing: September 20th
5. Sample Ballots Available: September 21st
6. UOCAVA Absentee Voting Begins: September 22nd
7. Logic and Accuracy Testing and Public Test Date: September 26th, 9:00 a.m.
8. Voter Registration Deadline: October 10th (Office Open 8AM-9PM)
9. Absentee Voting by Mail and In Office Absentee Voting: October 11th

The Columbiana County Board of Elections met in special session at the Board Office located at 7989 Dickey Dr., Suite 3, Lisbon, Ohio on September 13, 2023 at 1:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Johnson at 1:30 p.m.

Members present as shown by roll call:

Mr. Bowersock	<u>Yes</u>
Ms. Colian	<u>Yes</u>
Mr. Johnson	<u>Yes</u>
Mr. Maroscher	<u>Yes</u>

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Reflection

1. Approve Agenda

Moved by Ms. Colian and seconded by Mr. Maroscher to approve the agenda as submitted.

Roll Call:

Mr. Bowersock,	<u>yes;</u>	Ms. Colian,	<u>yes;</u>
Mr. Johnson,	<u>yes;</u>	Mr. Maroscher,	<u>yes;</u>

Motion carried.

NOTES:

2. Acceptance of Minutes

Moved by Mr. Bowersock and seconded by Ms. Colian to accept the minutes of the special meeting which was held August 30, 2023, as submitted.

Roll Call:

Mr. Bowersock,	<u>yes;</u>	Ms. Colian,	<u>yes;</u>
Mr. Johnson,	<u>yes;</u>	Mr. Maroscher,	<u>abstain;</u>

Motion carried.

NOTES:

3. Approval of the Bills

Moved by Mr. Maroscher and seconded by Mr. Bowersock to approve the payment of bills totaling \$123,397.79 for August 2023 as submitted.

Roll Call:

Mr. Bowersock,	<u>yes;</u>	Ms. Colian,	<u>yes;</u>
Mr. Johnson,	<u>yes;</u>	Mr. Maroscher,	<u>yes;</u>

Motion carried.

NOTES: Director Fusco noted that all of the funds are election related expenses. The office received \$107,716 from the SOS and current expenses from the August election total \$111,056.21 with a few outstanding items the office will seek reimbursement for. Mr. Johnson asked if the state will pay the overage on expenses and Director Fusco noted there should be additional funds available.

4. Consider Write-In Candidate Declarations of Intent

Moved by Ms. Colian and seconded by Mr. Maroscher to invalidate the write-in candidacy of Mark Douglas for East Liverpool City Mayor and Debra Cataldo for Wellsville Village Member of Council.

Roll Call:

Mr. Bowersock,	<u>yes;</u>	Ms. Colian,	<u>yes;</u>
Mr. Johnson,	<u>yes;</u>	Mr. Maroscher,	<u>yes;</u>

Motion carried.

NOTES: Director Fusco noted the board does not typically validate or invalidate write-in candidates unless there was an error on the write-in filing form. Director Fusco noted there were three candidates that needed consideration due to leaving information blank on their write-in form. Director Fusco sent the forms in question to the Prosecutor's Office for an opinion and Krista Peddicord provided an opinion stating the candidate must have the applicable jurisdiction on their form and the board cannot guess where the candidates intend to run, therefore the board should invalidate the candidates. Mr. Johnson asked the board to consider Mark Douglas first. Director Fusco showed the incomplete section on the write-in form to the board and Mr. Johnson stated the board should act accordingly on advice from legal counsel. The Board considered Debra Cataldo next, and found the same omission on the write-in form causing the board to act accordingly as well.

Moved by Mr. Maroscher and seconded by Ms. Colian to accept the write-in candidacy of Ashley Huston for Leetonia Exempted Village School District Member of Board of Education.

Roll Call:

Mr. Bowersock,	<u>yes;</u>	Ms. Colian,	<u>yes;</u>
Mr. Johnson,	<u>yes;</u>	Mr. Maroscher,	<u>yes;</u>

Motion carried.

NOTES: The Board examined Ashley Huston's write-in form and although the district was left blank, Ashley did mark her intent to run for the Leetonia Exempted Village School District Member of Board of Education. Mr. Johnson asked what the Prosecutor's opinion was and it was recommended the board validate this candidacy. The board expressed desire to accept the opinion of our legal counsel. Mr. Bowersock asked for clarification on the accepted write-in candidate forms and the village council structure in Wellsville.

5. Polling Location Changes in Hanover Township

Moved by Ms. Colian and seconded by Mr. Bowersock to adopt the following polling location changes:

- Hanover Township Northeast: Move from the Guilford Lake Ruritan Club to United Local School District Brautigam Center, 8143 SR 9, Hanoverton, OH
- Hanover Township South: Move from the Kensington Christian Church to United Local School District Brautigam Center, 8143 SR 9, Hanoverton, OH

Roll Call:

Mr. Bowersock,	<u>yes;</u>	Ms. Colian,	<u>yes;</u>
Mr. Johnson,	<u>yes;</u>	Mr. Maroscher,	<u>yes;</u>

Motion carried.

NOTES: Deputy Director Miner explained the current status of the Hanover Township precincts and noted we struggled to find poll workers in the area to fully staff each precinct. After touring the facility and getting permission from the school, the recommendation is to create a vote center at the school for all Hanover Township precincts. The school noted their intention to Deputy Director Miner of having teacher in service days on each election day limiting congestion at the school. Ms. Colian asked about parking since the school is under construction and the school has relayed that parking will not be an issue due to teacher in service days and construction not in the area of the polling location.

Director's Report:

Deputy Director Miner stated that Columbiana County was allocated \$61,481 for new e-poll books. The state will pay 85% and the county will be responsible for the remaining funds. The intention would be to implement new e-poll books in March 2024 and quotes will be shown to the board in a future meeting. Director Fusco discussed with the board upcoming dates and deadlines of significance. Deputy Director Miner discussed the latest security directive and notified the board members that they need to complete security awareness training by October 6th and the county will have \$10,000 to spend on upgrades for the office computer infrastructure.

Items From the Board:

Next Meeting: Beginning of October if needed

Moved by Mr. Maroscher and seconded by Mr. Bowersock to adjourn.

Roll Call:

Mr. Bowersock,	<u>yes;</u>	Ms. Colian,	<u>yes;</u>
Mr. Johnson,	<u>yes;</u>	Mr. Maroscher,	<u>yes;</u>

Motion carried.