

I. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Ray Lembke called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Mr. Dennison led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Roll Call

Ray Lembke – Chair – Yes

Rick Combs – Yes

Gregg Conrad – Absent

Richard Grant – Yes

Also present were Director Stephanie Hemmer-Haight, Deputy Director Chris Dennison and Administrative Assistant Cherie Wilson.

III. Motion to Adopt the Agenda as Presented

2021-78 – Mr. Grant made the motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Mr. Combs seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

Mr. Combs – Yes

Mr. Conrad – Absent

Mr. Grant – Yes

Mr. Lembke – Yes

IV. Other attendees – none

V. Public participation – none

VI. Approval of Minutes

- June 23, 2021 –Regular Monthly Meeting
- July 12, 2021 – Special Board Meeting – Director Selection

2021-79 – Mr. Combs made the motion to accept the minutes of the June 23, 2021 and July 12, 2021 board meetings. Mr. Grant seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

Mr. Combs – Yes

Mr. Conrad – Absent

Mr. Grant – Yes

Mr. Lembke – Yes

VII. Approval of Bills as of July 21, 2021

2021-80 – Mr. Combs made the motion to approve payment of the bills as of July 21, 2021. Mr. Grant seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

Mr. Combs – Yes

Mr. Conrad – Absent

Mr. Grant – Yes

Mr. Lembke – Yes

VIII. Director's Report

- Questions and Issues Update

Director Hemmer-Haight distributed an election update; to date, petitions have been filed for 62 candidates, three local liquor options, two tax levies, plus a Milford charter amendment and a New Richmond zoning ordinance. Petitions have been coming in steadily over the last week; several other candidates and communities have initiated or inquired about the process. Mr. Lembke asked if we anticipate any issues with the petitions that have been filed. Director Hemmer-Haight indicated that we are not yet aware of any issues, but expect to be extremely busy with petitions in the next two weeks as the August 4th deadline approaches.

- Former Newtonsville zoning issue

Director Hemmer-Haight reported that Teresa Hinnners had reached out to Director Carney earlier in the year about the process to designate a ballot for the residents of the former Newtonsville village, possibly for a zoning issue. Deputy Director Dennison has consulted SOS intake while reminding them that the village was dissolved; the former village is now part of two Wayne Township precincts. The board asked what possible ballot issue would require a vote of the former village residents. Since zoning issues would likely be township-wide, and the only remaining action after a village is dissolved is to pay its debts, Mr. Lembke questioned how one would carve out an entity that no longer exists. The board tabled further discussion until Ms. Hinnners and the SOS provide clarification.

Director Hemmer-Haight reported that the PEO clerk position has been posted; we have received three responses to date. She plans to take copies of the job posting to the Republican booth at the Clermont County Fair. Chairman Lembke inquired about the PEO training. Director Hemmer-Haight indicated that online training for experienced PEOs may allow us to schedule fewer onsite classes, and that she will be available to assist the newly hired clerk and Leann Helton with these classes. We have some part-time personnel potentially available to help as well. The training video and manuals are reasonably current; few changes will be required for the November election.

IX. Deputy Director's report

- Budget Update

Deputy Director Dennison distributed a bimonthly budget report. According to MUNIS, we have spent just over 43% of our annual budget, and the end of July is 58% of the way through the year. However, the November election, a significant budget component, is still ahead of us. Since the budget categories do not necessarily align with the categories of the default MUNIS report, there was some discussion as to the simplest process to keep the board informed regarding expenses vs budget projections. Director Hemmer-Haight and Deputy Director Dennison recently received a MUNIS overview from the auditor's office; they will investigate options for simplifying and clarifying ongoing reporting to the board.

- Monday, August 16 10:00 a.m. – Board Meeting to certify candidates, questions, and issues petitions and regular monthly board meeting

Deputy Director Dennison reminded the board that the deadline for certifying petitions is August 16th. The board discussed whether to hold the certification meeting on the 16th or during the latter part of the previous week. The staff will need time following the deadline to process the petitions, carefully double-check all of them, and summarize information for the board meeting. Deciding to give the staff as much time as possible to thoroughly prepare, the board agreed to certify the petitions on August 16th and to hold the monthly meeting the same day. The board will need to meet again later in August to certify the write-in candidates; their deadline is August 23rd.

- Other

Deputy Director Dennison reported that he has received requests for both a tour of the facilities and for a seminar on being a candidate. He commented that he is in favor of an open house, but is concerned about the security aspects of admitting visitors who do not have specific business with the board office. Allowing individual tours or visits could set an unintended precedent and disrupt daily operations if there are frequent visitor requests. Deputy Director Dennison is clarifying guidance on office visitors with the SOS and legal counsel. Regarding the request for a candidate seminar, the SOS has repeatedly advised boards to refer those with questions to the official Ohio Candidate Requirement Guide or to outside counsel.

Mr. Combs asked about the status of the webpage. Deputy Director Dennison indicated that he has solicited input from the office personnel, reviewed other sites, and sent logos and photos to Revize; they are transferring our information to the new site, and continuing development. We still expect to have the new site available for the General Election.

X. Motion to Adopt Resolution for Former Director Julia B. Carney

2021-81 – Mr. Combs made the motion to adopt the attached resolution for former Director Julia Carney. Mr. Grant seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

Mr. Combs – Yes
Mr. Conrad – Absent
Mr. Grant – Yes
Mr. Lembke – Yes

XI. Upcoming Events and Meeting Dates

- Friday, July 23 - FWAB 100-day notice to be posted
- Wednesday, August 4 – filing deadline for candidates, questions, and issues.
- Monday, August 16 (10:00 a.m.) – Monthly Board Meeting
Board must certify candidates, questions, and issues petitions
- Monday, August 23 - Write-in candidates must file by 4 p.m.

XII. Motion to Adjourn

2021-82 – At 11:06 a.m., Mr. Combs made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Grant seconded the motion.

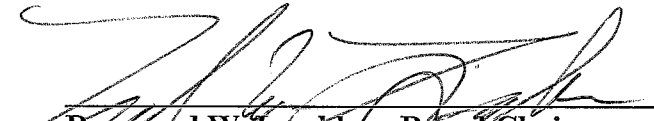
Upon roll call:

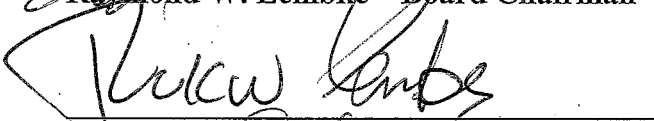
Mr. Combs – Yes


Mr. Conrad – Absent

Mr. Grant – Yes

Mr. Lembke – Yes


Raymond W. Lembke – Board Chairman


Rick W. Combs – Board Member


Gregg L. Conrad – Board Member


Rick Grant – Board Member

Date 8/16/21

CLERMONT COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
RESOLUTION

MOTION by Rick W. Combs seconded by Rick Grant that the following resolution be adopted:

WHEREAS, Julia B. Carney was appointed Deputy Director, Board of Elections on January 7, 2017 to January 7, 2018 and appointed Director January 8, 2018 to June 11, 2021; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure she has served under the Honorable Jon A. Husted (2017 - 2019) and the Honorable Frank LaRose (2019 - 2021), Secretaries of State of the State of Ohio; and

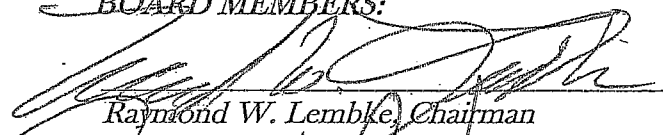
WHEREAS, her dedication and guidance to the board and the electors of Clermont County in the giving of her time and efforts to protect the voting rights of those citizens has been exemplary and outstanding and that she has always been available for any necessary assignment and has impartially, efficiently and intelligently administered the election laws for the State of Ohio; and


WHEREAS, her tenure included both a global pandemic and one of the most publically scrutinized presidential elections in national history, during which she risked her health to personally facilitate curbside voting for voters with COVID symptoms, allowed staff members to assist the county health department with COVID vaccine scheduling, she and the staff continued to serve the public daily during the pandemic and delivered timely and accurate election results for both 2020 elections; and

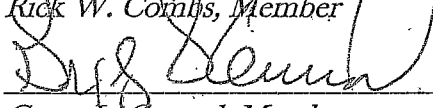
NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Board of Elections expresses its deepest appreciation and gratitude to Ms. Carney for giving herself in dedication and sincerity as a Deputy Director and Director of the Clermont County, Ohio, Board of Elections. That this resolution be spread on the minutes of the board and an appropriate copy be certified to Ms. Carney and a copy forwarded to the Secretary of State.


Adopted this 21st Day of July, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-One.

BOARD MEMBERS:


Raymond W. Lembke, Chairman


Rick W. Combs, Member


Gregg A. Conrad, Member


Rick Grant, Member

Attest:


Stephanie Hemmer-Haight, Director


Chris A. Dennison, Dep. Director

Cherie Wilson

From: Cherie Wilson
Sent: Wednesday, July 7, 2021 10:46 AM
To: legals@clermontsun.com
Cc: bmilam@clermontsun.com
Subject: July Board Meetings
Attachments: 2021 July Special and Regular Board Meetings.docx

Good morning!

Please be advised and post as a PSA (no cost) the attachment regarding the upcoming July board meetings.

My direct phone number is 732-7485 if you have any questions.

Thank you!

Cherie Wilson, Administrative Support Specialist
Clermont County Board of Elections
76 S. Riverside Dr.
Batavia, OH 45103

Clermont County Board of Elections Notice of Board Meetings

The Clermont County Board of Elections has scheduled special board meetings for:

Monday, July 12, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. – Special meeting to discuss the director candidacy.

Wednesday, July 21, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. – Rescheduled regular monthly board meeting for general purposes.

The meetings will be held at the Board Office, 76 S. Riverside Dr., Batavia, 45103.

Ray Lembke – Chairman
Chris Dennison – Deputy Director