

Certification of Candidates to the 2022 Primary Ballot

I. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Ray Lembke called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Deputy Director Dennison led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Roll Call

Ray Lembke – Chair – Yes

Rick Combs – Yes

Gregg Conrad – Yes

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

2022-32 – Mr. Combs made the motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Mr. Conrad seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

Mr. Combs – Yes

Mr. Conrad – Yes

Mr. Grant – Yes

Mr. Lembke – Yes

IV. Other attendees: Brian Shrive – Assistant County Prosecutor

V. Certification of Candidates for the Primary Currently Scheduled for May 3, 2022

A. Motion on petitions to be rejected

2022-33 – Mr. Conrad made the motion to reject the petitions of Christopher Orleck as a candidate in the Republican primary for U.S. Congress from the 2nd District of Ohio due to insufficient signatures (only 26 of 52 were valid). Mr. Grant seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

Mr. Combs – Yes

Mr. Conrad – Yes

Mr. Grant – Yes

Mr. Lembke – Yes

B. Motion to certify all other candidates to the primary ballot for the following races:

- US Representative to Congress 2nd District

2022-34 – Mr. Conrad made the motion to certify Alan Darnowsky and Samantha Meadows to the Democratic Primary Ballot as candidates for U.S. Congress from the 2nd District of Ohio. Mr. Combs seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

Mr. Combs – Yes

Mr. Conrad – Yes

Mr. Grant – Yes

Mr. Lembke – Yes

The board discussed that Mr. Windisch wrote Norwood as the city or village on his petitions. Mr. Lembke noted that the practice is to use the city associated with the petitioner's mailing address, which in this case is Cincinnati. However, Mr. Windisch's 2327 Kenilworth Avenue residence is within the city limits of Norwood, and he included the correct zip code. Therefore, he was truthful on his petitions, and his precinct was clear to the signers.

2022-35 – Mr. Combs made the motion to certify Brad Wenstrup, James J. Condit Jr., and David J. Windisch as candidates for U.S. Congress from the 2nd District of Ohio to the Republican Primary Ballot. Mr. Conrad seconded the motion. Upon roll call:

Mr. Combs – Yes

Mr. Conrad – Yes

Mr. Grant – Yes

Mr. Lembke – Yes

VI. Upcoming Events and Meetings:

- March 18 – UOCAVA absentee ballots to be ready (46 days before primary election)
- March 23 – Regular March Board Meeting
- April 4 – Voter registration deadline – *office open until 9:00 p.m.*

- April 5 – First day of early voting based upon current schedule
W1:8-5; W2:8-5; W3:8-5; W4:8-7; Sat April 30:8-4: Sun May 1:1-5: Mon May 2:8-2
- April 20 – Regular April Board Meeting
- April 22 – Deadline to file notice of observer appointments
- May 3 – Primary Election Day (polls open 6:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.)
- Tuesday, June 28 and Wednesday, June 29, 2022 – SOS Summer Conference

Mr. Shrive mentioned that the Ohio Senate passed a bill to extend the deadline to send and return UOCAVA ballots. (Note: modified UOCAVA procedures were passed in Ohio Senate Bill 11 on 3/10.)

Deputy Director Dennison reported that the Ohio General Assembly appropriated \$9 million in state funds for county boards of elections' primary expenses. Clermont County was allocated \$132,202 to offset costs for vendors, staffing, PEO recruitment & training, and ballots; the requirement for three quotes is nullified. Mr. Conrad asked if we will be allowed to keep the money if there are no changes to the election date. The grant agreement does not require calculation of marginal additional expenses. While the funds will help cover the costs of the May 2022 primary election, the grant money is woefully inadequate should the legislature schedule a second primary.

2022-36 – Mr. Combs made the motion to enter into the 2022 primary funding agreement with the Ohio Secretary of State. Mr. Conrad seconded the motion. Upon roll call:


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

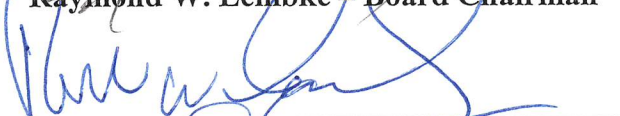
The board discussed the Grissom building that had been suggested as a possible future BOE site. The directors met with Tom Eigel (County Administrator) and Wade Grabowski (Facilities department), who relayed that the county does not want to acquire more property; the building is currently owned by Clermont DD. The county forecast proposes a future location for the BOE on Bauer, and Facilities personnel have indicated that equipment storage could be added to a Filager building. The directors expressed their concerns about the voter capacity and parking problems during the 2020 Presidential election; the county employees usually fill the parking lots, leaving insufficient parking for voters. The issues are expected to be exacerbated in 2024, with more people voting in person as the pandemic subsides. The board has serious concerns about lead times for future construction, and expressed unanimous commitment to emphasize the requirement for adequate BOE facilities to the Commissioners: Long term, we need to have our equipment onsite with sufficient capacity for offices, training, early voting and parking; short term, we must have a concrete plan for training and equipment storage that can be expeditiously implemented when we are required to vacate the Red Barn. The board plans to draft correspondence to the Commissioners and consult with Hamilton, Warren, Butler, Delaware, and other counties on best practices for BOE facilities and equipment.

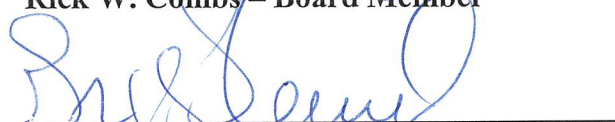
VII. Adjournment

2022-37 – At 9:45 a.m., Mr. Combs made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Conrad seconded the motion.

- Upon roll call:
- Mr. Combs – Yes
 - Mr. Conrad – Yes
 - 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 3-23-2022

Cherie Wilson

From: Cherie Wilson
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2022 1:57 PM
To: legals@clermontsun.com
Cc: bmilam@clermontsun.com
Subject: Notice of special board meeting
Attachments: 2022 Mar 9 - special mtg certify US House petitions.doc

Good afternoon,

Please be advised and post as a PSA (no cost) the attachment regarding the special board meeting to certify candidates for the upcoming primary election.

Please let me know if you have questions.

Thank you,

Cherie Wilson, Administrative Support Specialist
Clermont County Board of Elections
76 S. Riverside Dr.
Batavia, OH 45103
513-732-7485

Clermont County Board of Elections Notice of Special Board Meeting Date

The Clermont County Board of Elections has scheduled a Special Board Meeting on Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. to certify 2nd district U.S. House petitions for the May 2022 Primary Election.

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

Ray Lembke – Chairman
Stephanie Hemmer-Haight – Director