

**HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
MEETING HELD
FEBRUARY 12, 2019 at 8:30AM**

The meeting of the Hamilton County Board of Elections was called to order at 8:30am by Chairman Burke. Present were members Mr. Triantafilou, Mr. Faux and Mr. Gerhardt. Also present: Director Sherry Poland and Deputy Director Sally Krisel and David Stevenson and Cooper Bowen with the Hamilton County Prosecutor's Office.

Chairman Burke noted that proper notice was duly provided as required by O.R.C. 121.22.

I. APPROVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES: DECEMBER 13, 2018 AND JANUARY 8, 2019

Mr. Triantafilou made a motion to approve the Board meeting minutes for December 13, 2018 and January 8, 2019; Mr. Faux seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

II. REVIEW: NOVEMBER, 2018 PRECINCT ELECTION OFFICIAL ASSESSMENTS

The Board reviewed the November 6, 2018 General Election Precinct Election Day Performance Assessment Staff Summary Report. The Assessments were completed pursuant to Secretary of State Directive and Board Policy. The following was reported:

1. 166 – Voting Locations require no action
 - 123 Voting Locations had “no issues” and will be sent a letter of commendation.
2. 177 Voting Locations will be sent Retraining information
3. In-Person Training for the following:
 - 2 Individuals PEOs
4. 13 – PEOs Removed/Retired – No Rehire

Mr. Triantafilou made a motion to accept the Staff recommendation/ staff summary report; Mr. Faux seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

III. PROPOSED PRECINCT REALIGNMENTS

The Board was advised that, throughout the year, Staff monitors the number of registered voters in each precinct in Hamilton County. At this time, Staff is

reporting that 10 precincts currently have over 1400 active registered voters; State Law prohibits a precinct from exceeding 1400 active registered voters. Staff is making several recommendations including two instances where two new precincts will be created – Cincinnati 6E and Cincinnati 11D. Portions of the remainder of the precincts that exceed the limits will be moved to adjoining precincts to keep below the 1400 active voter limit. The Board was reminded that these realignments are in addition to the realignments approved in January. This completes the review except for the redistricting in Blue Ash which was discussed in a previous Board Meeting and is pending response from the Secretary of State. The Board was advised that this process is ongoing with the number of active voters in each precinct monitored on a continual basis.

Mr. Triantafilou made a motion to adopt the precinct realignments as recommended by Staff; Mr. Faux seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. CERTIFICATION OF CANDIDATES AND QUESTIONS & ISSUES FOR THE MAY 2019 PRIMARY/SPECIAL ELECTION

The Board was advised of two lists for their review:

Hamilton County Candidates May 7, 2019 Primary Election: Staff reviewed these candidate petitions and found them to be sufficient.

Board Review: Staff reviewed these candidate petitions and is asking for Board determination as to substantial compliance.

The Board elected to consider the “Board Review” document first. The list of candidates is divided into four categories to itemize the problem that occurred in each of the category.

Category #1: Ten candidates - Checked “full term” box on petition but also filled in the unexpired term expiration date.

Category #2: 1 Candidate – Primary Election Date left blank.

Category #3: 2 Candidates – Primary Election Date completed with the General Election Date

Category #4: 1 Candidate – Primary Election Date completed with the declaration of candidacy date.

Mr. Stevenson advised that he believed all of these petitions to be substantially compliant.

Mr. Triantafilou made a motion, based on the advice of counsel and past practice of the Board, to certify the candidates listed on the “Board Review” document to the Ballot; Mr. Faux seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Triantafilou made a motion to accept the Staff recommendation and certify the remainder of the candidates to the May 7, 2019 Primary Election ballot; Mr. Faux seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board was advised of the list entitled “Hamilton County Questions and Issues May 7, 2019 Special Election. There are 6 issues that have been filed with the Board to appear on the May ballot. The Board was advised that communication has been received from the City of Forest Park that they may withdraw their question regarding gas aggregation and electric aggregation and place those items on the November ballot. As of this time, no official resolution to withdraw has been presented so these items remain.

Mr. Triantafilou made a motion to certify to the ballot the Special Elections that are set forth on the referenced list, which include Lockland, Milford, Little Miami, Forest Park (2) and Springdale; Mr. Faux seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

V. APPROVAL: UPDATED JOB DESCRIPTIONS

The Board was advised of three updated job descriptions for the Operations Department. An explanation of the changes/revisions was provided.

Mr. Triantafilou made a motion to approve the job descriptions as presented; Mr. Faux seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. STATUS UPDATE: NEW VOTING SYSTEM IMPLEMENTATION

Ms. Poland advised the Board of the status update of the implementation of the new voting system. Staff is in the third week of acceptance testing which should wrap up next week. Following that, mock elections will be conducted using the poll worker trainers. The project is proceeding according to schedule and will be completed and in place for the May 7th Primary/Special election.

VII. UPDATE: REFERRALS TO HAMILTON COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

Mr. Stevenson provided the Board with an update of the status of the various referrals the Board has made to the Hamilton County Prosecutor's Office.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Triantafilou advised the Board that Charlie Norman, Administrator of the Operations Department has left for a new position. The process of naming his replacement is ongoing.

Mr. Faux had questions regarding the supplemental process and the mailing via the Secretary of State.

Chairman Burke allowed for questions/comments from the public.

Mr. Kenneth C. Henning, Regional liaison for Secretary of State Frank LaRose, introduced himself to the Board.

Commissioner Denise Driehaus presented a Proclamation on behalf of the Hamilton County Commissioners in honor of Tim Burke on his retirement from the Board of Elections.

Mr. Triantafilou advised Mr. Burke that a farewell presentation would follow the meeting and, there being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Triantafilou made a motion to adjourn; Mr. Faux seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Following the conclusion of the meeting, fellow Board members and members of the public proceeded with a presentation to honor Mr. Burke upon his retirement from the Board of Elections.

APPROVED:

DATE: March 14, 2019

CHAIRMAN:

DIRECTOR:


CHARLES H. GERHARDT, III


SHERRY L. POLAND