

**HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
MEETING HELD
MARCH 6, 2019 at 3:30PM**

The Oath of Office was administered by the Honorable Judge Gwen Bender to Board Members Gwen L. McFarlin and Charles H. Gerhardt, III.

The meeting of the Hamilton County Board of Elections was called to order at 3:30pm by Mr. Charles Gerhardt, III, ranking member of the Board. Present were members Ms. McFarlin, Mr. Triantafilou and Mr. Faux. Also present: Sherry Poland and Sally Krisel and David Stevenson and Cooper Bowen with the Hamilton County Prosecutor's Office.

Mr. Gerhardt noted that proper notice was duly provided as required by O.R.C. 121.22.

I. BOARD REORGANIZATION PURSUANT TO O.R.C. 3501.09

Mr. Gerhardt began the meeting by asking for a motion to appoint a temporary Chair.

Mr. Triantafilou made a motion to appoint Gwen L. McFarlin as temporary Chair; Mr. Faux seconded. The motion passed unanimously whereupon Ms. McFarlin continued to conduct the meeting.

Mr. Triantafilou made a motion to appoint Sherry Poland Director of the Hamilton County Board of Elections; Mr. Gerhardt seconded. The motion passed unanimously

Mr. Faux made a motion to appoint Sally Krisel Deputy Director of the Hamilton County Board of Elections; Mr. Triantafilou seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Triantafilou made a motion to appoint Gwen McFarlin Chair of the Hamilton County Board of Elections; Mr. Faux seconded. The motion passed unanimously whereupon Ms. McFarlin assumed her role as Chair.

The Oath of Office was administered by the Honorable Judge Gwen Bender to Ms. Poland, Ms. Krisel and the entire Board Staff.

II. APPROVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES: FEBRUARY 12, 2019

Mr. Triantafilou made a motion to approve the Board meeting minutes for February 12, 2019; Mr. Faux seconded. Ms. McFarlin indicated she would abstain from this vote as she was not a member of the Board at that time. The motion passed with affirmative votes from the remainder of the Board members.

III. FULL TIME STAFF APPOINTMENT

The Board was advised of the addition of full time staff member Floyd “Skip” Jones as IT manager, replacing Neil Weinberg upon his retirement in August, 2019. The Board was advised that an updated organizational chart was provided which included the additional changes of Mike Tolbert, Administrator of the AV/PEO Department and Christa Criddle, Administrator of the Operations Department.

Mr. Faux made a motion to approve the full time staff appointment of Mr. Jones; Mr. Triantafilou seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. WITHDRAW OF CITY OF FOREST PARK GAS AND ELECTRIC AGGREGATION ISSUES FOR THE MAY 7, 2019 SPECIAL ELECTION

The Board was advised of the February 19, 2019 receipt of two ordinances from the City of Forest Park to withdraw from the ballot the City of Forest Park Gas and Election Aggregation issues which had been certified to the ballot on February 12, 2019.

Mr. Triantafilou made a motion to approve the request for withdrawal from the City of Forest Park of the Gas and Electric Aggregation Issues; Mr. Faux seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

V. APPROVE: ELECTION EQUIPMENT ALLOCATION FOR THE MAY 7, 2019 PRIMARY/SPECIAL ELECTION

Mr. Triantafilou made a motion to approve the Acquisition, Allocation and Distribution of Voting Equipment for the May 7, 2019 Primary/Special Election; Mr. Faux seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. APPROVE: BALLOT AND PROVISIONAL ENVELOPE QUANTITIES FOR THE MAY 7, 2019 PRIMARY/SPECIAL ELECTION

Mr. Triantafilou made a motion to approve the Ballot and Provisional Envelope Allocation for the May 7, 2019 Primary/Special Election; Mr. Faux seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. UPDATE: CITY OF BLUE ASH PRECINCT REALIGNMENTS

The Board was reminded of the ongoing situation regarding the City of Blue Ash Precinct realignments. The City of Blue Ash has redrawn their Ward lines which in-turn requires the Board of Elections to redraw the Precinct lines. The Board is required to conform to census blocks and therefore requested a waiver from the Secretary of State. Ms. Poland reported that the request for the waiver was denied. Staff has been in communication with the City of Blue Ash and has requested guidance from the Board's legal counsel to reach a resolution. It was recommended that this item be held until a later meeting.

VIII. STATUS UPDATE: NEW VOTING SYSTEM IMPLEMENTATION

Ms. Poland advised the Board of the status update of the implementation of the new voting system. Acceptance testing is ongoing. Demo units have been installed in the BOE lobby for public use. Internal mock elections involving staff will take place on March 12th for fine tuning the procedures of in-person early voting and on March 13th for fine tuning the Election Day procedures. Ms. Poland reported that most voters will not see much change with the actual voting process with the new equipment. A notable change is with regard to early in-person voting. If a voter has ID they are provided a ballot which they vote and scan, as on Election Day; if the voter is unable to show ID, they must complete an application for the Absentee Ballot so that their information may be verified. They are then given a ballot to vote and scan. Ms. Krisel made a statement praising Ms. Poland and Mr. Mallory for their work in affecting the change in processes for early in-person voting.

IX. OTHER BUSINESS

The Board was advised of the May Election Calendar and a Social Media graphic to demonstrate that ballots may now be scanned in early in-person voting.

Chair McFarlin allowed for questions/comments from the public.

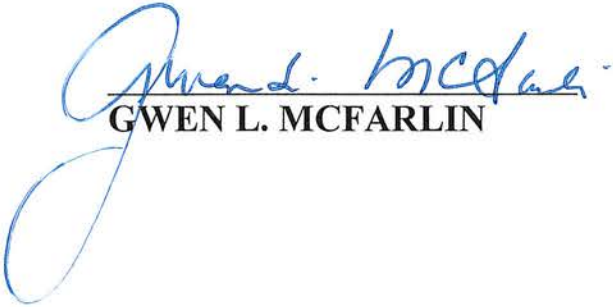
There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Triantafilou made a motion to adjourn; Mr. Faux seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVED:

DATE: April 9, 2019

CHAIR:

DIRECTOR:


GWEN L. MCFARLIN


SHERRY L. POLAND