

**HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS  
MEETING HELD  
APRIL 9, 2019 at 8:30AM**

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

Ms. McFarlin noted that proper notice was duly provided as required by O.R.C. 121.22.

**I. APPROVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES: MARCH 6, 2019**

Mr. Triantafilou made a motion to approve the Board meeting minutes for March 6, 2019; Mr. Faux seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**II. REVIEW: ELECTION EQUIPMENT ALLOCATION FOR THE MAY 7, 2019 PRIMARY/SPECIAL ELECTION**

The Board was advised of the updated spreadsheet outlining the Election Equipment Allocation for the May 7<sup>th</sup> Primary/Special Election. Staff has updated this information with the latest voter registration totals and pursuant to Secretary of State Directive, the Board is required to review the updated totals within 30 days of the Election.

Mr. Triantafilou made a motion to approve the Staff recommendation for the Election Equipment allocation for the May 7, 2019 Primary/Special Election; Mr. Faux seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**III. REVIEW: BALLOT AND PROVISIONAL ENVELOPE QUANTITIES FOR THE MAY 7, 2019 PRIMARY/SPECIAL ELECTION.**

The Board was advised of the updated spreadsheet outlining the Ballot and Provisional Envelope Quantities for the May 7<sup>th</sup> Primary/Special Election. Staff has updated this information with the latest voter registration totals and pursuant to Secretary of State Directive, the Board is required to review the updated totals within 30 days of the Election.

**Mr. Triantafilou made a motion to approve the Staff recommendation for the Ballot and Provisional Envelope Quantities for the May 7, 2019 Primary/Special Election. Mr. Faux second. The motion passed unanimously.**

#### **IV. REVIEW: VOTER REGISTRATIONS**

**The Board was advised of two spreadsheets. The first was entitled “2018 Demolished Buildings-Land Bank”. This list is derived from a January 14<sup>th</sup> report from the Hamilton County Land Reutilization Corporation, Land Bank, formally known as the Port Authority. There were 156 properties identified in the demolished building report. Staff identified 34 voters registered at addresses appearing on the list. The Board was advised that in January of 2019 a letter along with a voter registration form and a request to update their registration was sent to each of the 34 registered voters; to date, 31 of the 34 letters have been returned undeliverable.**

**A second spreadsheet entitled “Registered Voters in 2018 Demolished Buildings, City of Cincinnati” was presented to the Board. There were 52 properties identified in the demolished building report. Staff identified 14 voters registered at addresses appearing on the list. The Board was advised that in January of 2019 a letter along with a voter registration form and a request to update their registration was sent to each of the 14 registered voters; to date 12 of the 14 letters have been returned undeliverable.**

**It is the practice of the Board to schedule a Challenge Hearing, notice of which is provided is an attempt to locate the voter. The Board agreed to set the date and time for the challenge hearing: Wednesday, April 17, 2019 at 8:30am.**

#### **V. 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. In two instances, the Ward lines do not conform to census blocks. The Board is required to conform to census blocks and therefore requested a waiver from the Secretary of State. The Board was reminded 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.**

The Board's legal counsel, Mr. Cooper Bowen, presented the opinion from the Hamilton County Prosecutor's Office and the proposed resolution to redraw the precincts. The Board was provided maps and overviews of the old precinct lines and the new proposals. A discussion regarding the proposal and the number of voters impacted by the changes ensued. The Board was reminded that the City of Blue Ash initiated the changes and have been a part of the process to arrive at a solution. Mr. Triantafilou indicated that his law firm represents the City of Blue Ash but he has had no discussions with the City about this issue; Mr. Triantafilou also confirmed with Mr. Bowen that this is not an adverse matter and the solution is being sought cooperatively and thereby Mr. Triantafilou is not required to recuse himself from this vote.

Mr. Triantafilou made a motion to adopt the Blue Ash Precinct realignment consistent with the Board's Staff recommendation and the approval of legal counsel; Mr. Faux seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **VI. RESOLUTION: AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF EQUIPMENT DELIVERY CONTRACT**

The Board was advised that this contract relates to the vendor who delivers the equipment to the polling locations prior to Election Day and retrieves that equipment after Election Day. Our current equipment delivery contract expired in December, 2018. Staff, per the County's Purchasing Department, issued an Invitation to Bid (ITB) on this contract. The only bidder was our current vendor and it is Staff's recommendation to award the bid to Weil/Thoman Moving and Storage Co. and adopt the Resolution which gives authority to the Director to execute the contract.

Mr. Triantafilou made a motion to Adopt Resolution #19-001, Equipment Delivery Contract; Mr. Faux seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **VII. OTHER BUSINESS**

The Board reviewed their upcoming Meeting Schedule:

Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am: Registered Voter Challenge hearing.  
Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am: Regular Meeting - will stand in recess at its' conclusion and will reconvene on Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.

Post Election Schedule:

Monday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am: Approve the Provisional Ballots.  
Tuesday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 8:30am: Certify the Election.

**Chair McFarlin allowed for questions/comments from the audience.**

**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:** May 6, 2019

**CHAIR:**

**DIRECTOR:**

  
GWEN L. MCFARLIN

  
SHERRY L. POLAND