

**HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS  
MEETING HELD  
AUGUST 2, 2018 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.**

*A Transcript of the meeting is attached hereto for reference.*

**I. APPROVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES: JUNE 5, 2018; JUNE 27, 2018 AND JULY 3, 2018**

**Mr. Triantafilou made a motion to approve the Board Meeting minutes for June 5, 2018; June 27, 2018 and July 3, 2018; Mr. Faux seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Ms. Poland advised that copies of part petitions and the summary report from Staff of each of the Statewide petitions to be discussed was provided to the Board. Subpoenas were issued to the Circulators of 23 part petitions in question regarding the Kidney Dialysis issue and of 17 part petitions regarding the Neighborhood Safety, Drug Treatment petition and to the organizers of both issue petitions.**

**Only the following individuals were present in response to subpoena:**

**Raymond Green – Neighborhood Safety, Drug Treatment petition**

**Anwar Page – Kidney Dialysis petition**

**Raymond Hughes – Kidney Dialysis petition**

**Shavonte Craddock – Neighborhood Safety, Drug Treatment petition**

**Mr. Triantafilou advised that State Law gives Boards of Elections the responsibility to investigate anomalies with reference to petitions; specifically anomalies or irregularities related to the authenticity of signatures. He further advised that the possibility of referral of these cases to the Hamilton County Prosecutor for further prosecution does exist; anyone present today may seek an attorney or assert their right to silence.**

## II. REVIEW: KIDNEY DIALYSIS STATEWIDE PETITION ANOMALIES

**Anwar Page:** The part petitions in question with regard to Mr. Page are #94, 607 and 1081. The part petitions contained a total of 115 signatures with zero determined to be valid. Staff advised that many of the signatures appeared to be in the same handwriting. Mr. Page was sworn and provided testimony regarding the circulation of these specific part petitions as well the circulating process in general. Mr. Page reported that he obtained over 5000 signatures and provided information on his circulating process. He also provided information regarding his employer, the instruction/orientation provided and the compensation process used by his employer. An exchange of questions and responses with Mr. Page ensued.

**Raymond Hughes:** The part petition in question with regard to Mr. Hughes was #1609. The part petition contained 39 signatures, 15 of which were determined to be valid/24 of which were determined to be invalid. The questions concern the invalid signatures which Staff reports appear to be in the same hand and lines 23-25 which have incorrect street names listed. Mr. Hughes was sworn and provided testimony regarding the circulation of the specific part petition as well as the circulating process in general. Mr. Hughes reported that he obtained approximately 1800 signatures and provided information on his circulating process. He also provided information regarding his employer, the instruction/orientation provided and the compensation process used by his employer. An exchange of questions and responses with Mr. Hughes ensued.

There were no other witnesses present for the Kidney Dialysis petitions.

## III. NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY, DRUG TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION STATEWIDE PETITION ANOMALIES

**Raymond Green, Jr.:** Mr. Green was sworn and provided testimony. His company is Black Fork Strategies. His firm was contracted to collect 300,000 signatures for the Neighborhood Safety, Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Statewide Petition. Mr. Green testified that an office was opened and a field director as well as other staff was hired. He testified with respect to the hiring process; the orientation/ training process and the compensation process. Mr. Green stated his client was Ohio Organizing Collaborative. Zach Roberts was present and identified himself as being with the Ohio Organizing Collaborative. An exchange of questions and responses with Mr. Green ensued.

**Zach Roberts:** Mr. Roberts was sworn and identified himself as the liaison between Black Fork Strategies, LLC and the nonprofit that was part of the hiring process to ensure enough signatures to qualify for the ballot; the nonprofit being the Ohio Organizing Collaborative for whom he is employed. An exchange of questions and responses with Mr. Roberts ensued.

**Shavonte Craddock:** The part petition in question with regard to Mr. Craddock was #2674. The part petition contained 30 signatures, zero of which were determined to be valid. Staff advised many of the signatures appear to be in the same handwriting. Mr. Craddock was sworn and provided testimony regarding the circulation of the specific part petition as well the circulating process in general. Mr. Craddock reported that he obtained approximately 1800 signatures and provided information on his circulating process. He also provided information regarding his employer and the instruction/orientation provided. An exchange of questions and responses with Mr. Hughes ensued.

There were no other witnesses present for the Neighborhood Safety, Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Statewide petitions.

Mr. Triantafilou made a motion to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing this quasi-judicial proceeding; Mr. Faux seconded. Mr. Burke-aye; Mr. Triantafilou -aye; Mr. Faux -aye; Mr. Gerhardt -aye. The motion passed unanimously whereupon the Board entered Executive Session at 9:40am.

Mr. Triantafilou made a motion to return to Regular Session; Mr. Faux seconded. Mr. Burke - aye; Mr. Triantafilou -aye; Mr. Faux -aye; Mr. Gerhardt -aye. The motion passed unanimously whereupon the Board returned to Regular Session at 10am.

Mr. Burke indicated that there would be no further Board action on this matter today. The Board is taking the matter under consideration.

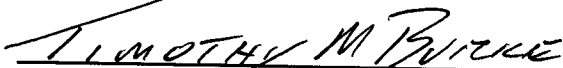
Mr. Burke referenced a complaint filed with reference to another petition and a circulator, Andrew Pappas.

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: August 20, 2018

CHAIRMAN:

  
TIMOTHY M. BURKE

DIRECTOR:

  
SHERRY L. BOLAND