

Chairman Rick Combs called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Rick led the Pledge of Allegiance. Board Members present were Rick Combs, Paul Campbell, Larry Heller and Ray Lembke. Also present were Judy Miller – Director, Mike Keeley – Deputy Director, and Becky Rudd – Clerk taking record.

OTHER ATTENDEES: Beth Hamad – SOS Liaison and Julia Carney – new Deputy Director Trainee.

MOTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED:

2016-122 – Ray Lembke made the motion to Adopt the Agenda as Presented. Larry Heller seconded the motion. Upon roll call, all Members voted “yes”.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

2016-123 – Larry Heller made the motion to accept the minutes from the August 22, 2016 Regular Board Meeting. Ray Lembke seconded the motion. Upon roll call, all Members voted “yes”.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

2016-124 – Paul Campbell made the motion to accept and pay the bills as of September 21, 2016. Larry Heller seconded the motion. Upon discussion Paul asked why the total is different than what was emailed to the Board Members prior to the meeting.

At 10:00 a.m. the Board went off the record while Judy checked on this matter.

At 10:11 a.m. the Board went back on the record.

Judy explained that excel is not adding the totals properly and Kim manually added the bills for today’s meeting and forgot to tell Judy. Paul also inquired about the Board Member’s salary. Judy explained that when the Board was being paid for this year the increase was not included. The money that is owned is now being paid out in even monthly increments for the remainder of the year.

Upon roll call, all Members voted “yes”.

Salaries and Appropriations – 2017

Rick explained at the last meeting he asked Larry and Ray to look into salary and appropriations that get added into the budget for 2017. We also want to get the appropriate documentation to give the County Commissioners by October 1, 2016 to increase the poll worker compensation. Larry explained the spreadsheet that he and Ray worked up. It is a PEO compensation comparison of similar size and surrounding counties. We are about \$30 behind in pay/compensation of the surrounding counties. Ray would like to be in the same pay scale as our neighboring counties, it doesn’t matter the size of the county when you are still dealing with the same amount of voters per precinct. Judy added that this can’t go into effect until 2017, but we must have the documentation to the Commissioners by October 1, 2016 (per ORC) and the base pay cannot go over \$133. The Board discussed the matter further and also mentioned that the PEO’s are being paid for the day at the polls whether they are at the polls for 13 hours or 15 hours should the polls be mandated to stay open longer. Judy would like to adopt a \$10 increase on the travel reimbursement payment which would be in line with the County Reimbursement for mileage. Rick stated that the county policy is \$.54 reimbursement and do we want to add that as the PEO’s reimbursement.

2016-125 – Ray Lembke made the motion for this Board to consider increasing Election Day Pay for our poll workers from \$105 to \$120 per day for Base Pay, and for Training that is required for all poll workers, from \$25 to \$35 and increase the Pay Schedule \$10 for Mileage, for picking up and returning election equipment, which would be at the standard rate paid for by the County Commissioners which is currently \$.54 per mile. Larry Heller seconded the motion. Upon discussion Larry stated that the total will be \$16,600 for base pay and training for the year. Rick added that the cost has not been raised since 2009. Ray added that even with this increase we are still on the lower end with surrounding counties. Upon roll call, all Members voted “yes”.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

Judy gave the Board an Election Overview. To date we have 134,656 registered voters and the deadline to register is October 11, 2016. She advised the Board that the US Supreme Court upheld the State Law doing away with “golden week” therefore absentee voting will begin on October 12, 2016.

To date we have:

12,082 – regular absentee requests – (2014=8,181, 2012=12,929, 2008=9,653)

210 – UOCAVA requests – (2014=30, 2012=56)

On Saturday September 24th we can start sending out the UOCAVA ballots by fax, email or mail but the ballots must be returned by mail. UOCAVA voters cannot walk in and vote earlier; they must wait until October 12.

Temporary/Part-Time Employees:

Judy advised the Board of the part-time employees that are working this election. They are: Susan Brown (R), Krista Fields (D), Colleen Hettman (R), Becky Miller (D), Kim Parks (D), Anita Collins (D), Marci Bantjes (R), Liana Tomasetti (R)-training, Lora Richards (R)-training, Carol Oetzel (R)-nursing homes. Regular part-time workers Leann Helton (D) and Donna Brittain (R) returned on an as needed basis. Rick asked how things are with the budget and Judy advised that we are at a \$5,000 cushion and it might be close.

2016-126 – Larry Heller made the motion to appoint the temporary part-time workers that Judy advised the Board that are working the November 8, 2016 General Election. Ray Lembke seconded the motion. Upon roll call, all Members voted “yes”.

Judy advised the Board that they are in the process of getting their background checks.

Poll Workers:

2016-127 – Paul Campbell made the motion to appointment Marsha Heller as a Republican Precinct Election Official for the term 9-15-2016 – 9-14-2016. Ray Lembke seconded the motion. Upon roll call, Paul Campbell – “yes”, Ray Lembke – “yes”, Larry Heller – “abstain”, Rick Combs – “yes”.

Judy advised the Board that the poll worker training begins Monday October 10th. We are going with a power point program and Bonnie has prepared a wonderful manual. We also have a new training pollbook manual that Stephanie and Lora have been working on. Judy would like the Board to come in and see the demonstration. The driver’s license swipe was attached to the electronic pollbook. Judy advised the Board that there was one poll worker that wasn’t reappointed and should any Board Members be contacted, Judy would like them to talk with her.

Board Hours:

2016-128 – Paul Campbell made the motion to close the Board of Elections Office to the public on Monday, October 10, 2016 in observance of Columbus Day, a State Holiday observed by the Ohio Secretary of State, but to require all full time staff to work that day and employ the part-time staff as usual. Larry Heller seconded the motion. Upon roll call, all Members voted “yes”.

Judy advised the Board of the absentee voting hours beginning October 12.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

Mike advised the Board that the absentee ballots arrived on September 19; they still need to be proofed and prepared for the mailing and walk-in voters.

He also advised them on HB 359 – Safe at Home Act. This relates to victims of domestic violence. They can now vote without divulging their address (addresses are public record). Persons who want to utilize this Program must first register their information to the Secretary of State. Since only the Director and Deputy Director can assist Voters in this Program, this mail must be handled through a Post Office Box. Judy and Mike are the only people that have the information and PO Box keys. Paul asked how the victims know about it. Mike advised they receive it through the courts and family assistance programs. An agency gives the person the information and where it is available. This registration is good for 4 years. We keep a separate file and only Mike and Judy have access to it. Rick would like Mike to reach out to the Administrative Judge at the Municipal Court, Common Pleas and Domestic Court to let them know that this is available.

Planes Moving and Storage was contracted and is scheduled to do the election equipment deployment and pick up for this election.

Introduction of Deputy Director Trainee & Swearing In:

Rick introduced Julia Carney as the Deputy Director Trainee; she will start September 26, 2016. At 11:03 a.m. Rick swore her in as the Deputy Director Trainee.

Other Business:

Judy brought to the Board's attention that the 2 weekends of absentee voting will be heavy traffic and we may need security and perhaps ask the Sheriff's Department to either check in or be available to us. Rick didn't see a problem with that suggestion. He asked if the law enforcement had been advised of the election and Judy stated that they were. We need to contact Union Township about the First Baptist Church location. We have 8 rovers out that day. Rick suggested that emails go out advising of the large turnout expected that day; Paul added that we need to keep in touch with them. Ray reminded Judy and Mike that the Pierce Township Hall has additional parking; Judy stated that she talked with Kim about it. We are working on the notices to be mailed and signs at the old polling locations regarding to advise voters of the recent polling place changes.

Rick wants to not forget about the PEO recognition for next year and the recognition for Edna Trees and Dave Lanes families. Judy has been working on it.

RESOLUTIONS:

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME:

October 27, 2016 at 10:00 a.m., Regular Board Meeting and Public Test of the
November 8, 2016 General Election.
November 8, 2016 at 6:30 a.m., Election Day Board Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

2016-129 – At 11:14 a.m. Paul Campbell made the motion to adjourn. Ray Lembke seconded the motion. Upon roll call, all Members voted “yes”.

Rick W. Combs – Board Chairman

Paul L. Campbell – Board Member

R. Lawrence Heller – Board Member

Raymond W. Lembke – Board Member

Attest – Judith A. Miller – Director
Minutes signed on October 27, 2016