

VOTE CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Board Meeting
7/25/2024

Attending:

Henry F Curtis, IV, Chairman
Inajo Davis Chappell, Board Member
Terence M. McCafferty, Board Member
Lisa M. Stickan, Board Member
Anthony Perlatti, Director
Mark R. Musson, Assistant Prosecutor, Cuyahoga County

Mary Bejjani, Clerk to the Board
Skip White, Clerk to the Board

The Cuyahoga County Board of Elections Meeting began at 9:37 a.m. Hereinafter referred to as the CCBOE/Board. Chairman Curtis noted that all Board Members were in attendance.

Agenda Item 1: Approval of the minutes from the June 11, 2024, board meeting

Chairman Curtis moved to approve the minutes from the June 11, 2024, board meeting. Board Member McCafferty seconded. The motion passed. Board Member Davis Chappell abstained as she was excused from the meeting.

Agenda Item 2: Acknowledgement of Secretary of State Directives: a. Directive 2024-09: Election Administration Readiness and Preparedness for the November 5, 2024, General Election; b. Directive 2024-10: Election Security for November 5, 2024, General Election (Security Directive 5.0); c. Directive 2024-11: Voter Registration Data Integrity; d. Directive 2024-12: Instructions Regarding the Review, Examination, and Verification of the Petition Proposing a Constitutional Amendment (Redistricting); e. Directive 2024-13: Instructions Regarding the Examination of a Petition to Form a Minor Political Party; f. Directive 2024-14: Preparation for the Statewide Mailings of Absentee Ballot Applications for the November 5, 2024, General Election; g. Directive 2024-15: The Examination and Verification of Petitions from Minor Party “Libertarian Party of Ohio” Candidates for U.S. Senate as well as President and Vice President of the United States

Director Perlatti stated the majority of the Directives deal with statewide petitions, including the minor party petition, minor party candidate, and the redistricting amendment. He said Directive 2024-09, Election Administration Readiness, and Directive 2024-10, Election Security for November 5, 2024, Election, gave the CCBOE guidance and provided funding for each of the directives. Director Perlatti and Deputy Director Kaloger have signed the grant applications and submitted the funding plan for approval. The Election Administration Readiness deals primarily with poll worker functions, training, and supplies, which are \$109,000. The Election Security grant deals with cyber and physical security and the grant is \$66,000. The CCBOE will submit the completed list by the July 31, 2024, deadline. Director Perlatti added that Directive 2024-14 deals with the Statewide mailing of Vote-by-Mail (VBM) ballot applications to all registered voters. The statewide mailing will go out around Labor Day. The CCBOE will focus on voter education, emphasizing that it is a legitimate mailing. The SOS mailing is also barcoded, which helps with processing the information quickly and accurately. Board Member Davis Chappell asked if the SOS mailing precludes voters from requesting a VBM application. Director Perlatti said the CCBOE will continue to send and accept requested VBM applications, and it has already received about 15,000 VBM applications and 900 UOCAVA applications. He stated it is not inappropriate to submit multiple VBM applications, but it does not generate a ballot any faster. Board Member Davis Chappell asked regarding the

Narrative that is underlined in the CCBOE minutes relates to a motion that was acted on by the Board.

MARCS radio (Multi-Agency Radio Communication System) in Directive 2024-10. Director Perlatti said it is a walkie-talkie with a special network that can be used if all communications go down. Board Member Davis Chappell asked for further information regarding the Registration Audit Dashboard requirement in Directive 2024-11. Director Perlatti said it pertains to the upcoming January 2025 Data Act passed last year. Part of the Act includes the SOS office as the official repository that maintains more information in the voter registration database. The boards will send data to the SOS regularly that the public can consume. The dashboard will provide the boards with quality assurance data that flags questionable entries. The Director provided examples of flagging instances. He said the CCBOE is one of the largest counties and has many internal quality assurances that are run regularly, which minimizes the need that other counties experience.

Board Member Davis Chappell asked a general question regarding an update on the federal court ruling that was just issued regarding disability voters being able to allow whoever they want to assist them in delivering their ballots. She understood that the SOS may be appealing that ruling. She asked if the ruling would affect how the CCBOE prepares for the upcoming election? Mark Musson, Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, said the District Court Judge ruled that certain portions of the Revised Code as applied to disabled voters violate the supremacy clause by way of the Voting Rights Act that allows disabled voters to obtain assistance from anyone of their choice in casting their ballot. The state code limits the type of people who can return a ballot on behalf of a voter to certain limited family members. The SOS and Ohio Attorney General were taking the lead in defending the state statute and evaluating the decision. They have 30 days to decide whether to appeal in that timeframe. Prosecutor Musson said he expected the SOS to issue an advisory to the boards either through the State or at least the northern half within the territory of the district court. Board Member Davis Chappell stated that based on what was said, the preemptive or federal preemption argument and federal law trump state law, which prohibits, and limits disabled voters. Mr. Musson said the judge did not reach the ADA vagueness argument. Board Member Davis Chappell said the CCBOE will expect guidance from the SOS. She said it is a big issue for disabled voters, and the CCBOE will want to administer it in accordance with the law.

Chairman Curtis moved to acknowledge Secretary of State Directives a. Directive 2024-09: Election Administration Readiness and Preparedness for the November 5, 2024, General Election; b. Directive 2024-10: Election Security for November 5, 2024, General Election (Security Directive 5.0); c. Directive 2024-11: Voter Registration Data Integrity; d. Directive 2024-12: Instructions Regarding the Review, Examination, and Verification of the Petition Proposing a Constitutional Amendment (Redistricting); e. Directive 2024-13: Instructions Regarding the Examination of a Petition to Form a Minor Political Party; f. Directive 2024-14: Preparation for the Statewide Mailings of Absentee Ballot Applications for the November 5, 2024, General Election; g. Directive 2024-15: The Examination and Verification of Petitions from Minor Party “Libertarian Party of Ohio” Candidates for U.S. Senate as well as President and Vice President of the United States. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 3: 1801 Superior Avenue Status Update by Mike Dever, County Public Works Director

Director Perlatti stated the CCBOE has been working with the County Legal Department and other County agencies and secured the 1801 Superior Avenue building. The County Council did approve a lease agreement with the building owner and landlord, Industrial Commercial Properties, LLC (ICP). Additional work needs to be done to get into the space. The CCBOE has regularly met with Public Works and other entities to prepare to get the CCBOE into the building by January 2025. Director Perlatti said he invited Director Dever to the meeting today to explain the process better as Director Dever is the project manager and will be able to answer the various questions from the Board.

Cuyahoga County Department Public Works (DPW) Director Mike Dever provided a status update on the 1801 Superior Avenue building. He stated the significant hurdle of getting the legislation passed and an agreement had been reached, and now the County is trying to meet the deadline of January 2025, to get most of the Hughes Building staff into the facility by January, with February 1, 2025, being the hard date. Completed to date is the due diligence of public access, parking, and ADA access. The universal design standards the County has adopted are being utilized for the building’s functionality for existing operations, space planning, and voter queuing. The garage rehabilitation includes the air conditioning and appropriate environmental controls for the VBM ballot procedure moving over from the Halle Warehouse. The County is still working with the Health and Human Services (HHS)

agencies on how that space will work. There are some sight tweaks taking place that have not been completed yet. The hope is to do most of this build-out, including HHS, on floors two and three completed between now and January 2025 so that when the CCBOE moves into the space, there is no construction taking place on the upper floors. Director Dever stated that various approvals are still needed from the Board of Control and County Council for purchasing equipment and other needs, but the project is in a good place. The project partners and coordination include County agencies CCBOE, HHS, DPW, Information Technology (IT), and the Sheriff's Department. The landlord, ICP, has a design team, HSB, and Neff, for the design work. HSB is doing the interior design, and Neff is doing the site work and making improvements to the parking lot. Those plans have now been submitted to the City of Cleveland for permits, and the County is anticipating getting the permits in hand by mid-August, which will then be in full construction by that time. RAM Construction will do most of the construction on the garage space, and additional contractors will be added as the process continues. Board Member Davis Chappell asked if there would be any impacts due to inclement weather. Director Dever said it is anticipated that the outdoor construction will be completed so that it is fully operational in January 2025. He stated that the project support team that is part of the county project management team is Hill and K2M, and they have a weekly call with ICP to go over the various items. There are also continual calls with the CCBOE Director with the intent of having a lot of communication. There is currently a request for quote out for a county relocation contractor to assist in ultimately helping to pack everything up and get everybody organized to move the operations. It is anticipated that a vendor will be selected by mid-August. The value of the moving contract is under \$500,000. The relocation contractor will start almost immediately to plan and organize the move. Board Member Davis Chappell asked how the move would impact the election operation and administration. Director Dever stated the move would be as seamless as possible, and the intent is to have the relocation work done on days that the CCBOE does not have election business, with the understanding that everything is about the election now through November. He added that it is an opportune time for individual offices and people to start consolidating their information. It is understood that moving is a stressful time, and all efforts will be made to make the transition as seamless as possible. The important piece is to have the IT shutdown and start-up seamless. The critical path item is getting the procurement of all the appropriate IT material and being able to have it installed and up and running. It is one of the big challenges, so it has moved to the forefront to ensure everything is procured and in place in time. Director Dever stated there are other meetings taking place regarding the security of the building, how it will be set up, how it will function, and what the Sheriff's office or Protective Services needs to be available to ensure adequate security in the building. The primary entrance of the building will be at the back entrance off the parking lot, and some details are still to be worked through. Board Member Davis Chappell asked, in terms of security, which is obviously key for the CCBOE, the physical security as well as the cyber security, and if the County is going to assume all the costs for security? Director Dever said they are working together on that right now and said it is a county building, and it's important to ensure it is secure. There will be other County functions in the building, too. Board Member Davis Chappell said the CCBOE has heightened security concerns and interests. In terms of access, there is a need to ensure the CCBOE is set up with access cards and all required cameras. She said there needs to be a sure commitment from the County that the CCBOE would not pay for security. Director Dever stated the building will have state-of-the-art security, and the County is looking at cameras, access control cards, and everything of that nature. Board Member Stickan stated there are very specific requirements that are needed. Board Member Davis Chappell stated since there is a lease, perhaps it is important to have a sublease executed between the County and the CCBOE because this is so intricate, and with a sublease, each party is clear on what is being done. A lot has been done; there is a critical path with timelines; it is just incorporating what is already in the plan that has been discussed in the meetings and memorializing it so everyone is clear. Director Dever said the County Law Department and Prosecutor's office should maybe talk that through. He said the County Executive and County are committed to making this a state-of-the-art facility. Board Member Davis Chappell said a cost comes with that, and the CCBOE wants to ensure it is not in a position down the line where it will have to be bartering or compromising something else, or something gets scaled back. She emphasized that the CCBOE cannot have anything scaled back from a voting election administrative perspective. She said the CCBOE could not afford for there to be any more changes to what the plan is and suggested it be memorialized in a sublease, or somehow the CCBOE is sure of the security. Board Member Stickan stated she would assume the Director and Deputy Director also consulted on the security plan because, obviously, part of that security is for personnel and voters. Security is also used to secure the ballots and the integrity of the election, including the camera on the Dropbox, along with requirements outside the norm. She added that, obviously, nothing should be skipped. Director Perlatti said Deputy Director Kaloger and he are participating in the meetings and can attest they are vocal about making sure people understand that there are regular standards, then there are the enhanced standards and

requirements of the Secretary of State and the Department of Homeland Security that the CCBOE must live by. Director Dever said there is a written plan for all the security in the plan sheets in the overall document submitted to the city for review. Board Member Stickan stated since there are a few agencies in the building, there has been a concern about the public being able to clearly identify that the building is for the primary use of the CCBOE. This location is the building where the public will come for Early In-Person Voting or for candidate services; whatever the needs are, signage is something that needs to be made very clear. Director Dever said signage and guidance throughout the building are important components, and the details will be discussed in upcoming meetings. In January, there will most likely be temporary signage in place as the CCBOE moves in, but there will be adequate signage, so it is very clear that the CCBOE is within this building. Board Member Davis Chappell stated the concept was not that the CCBOE is within the building; the concept was that this is the CCBOE building and keeps migrating from that general principle. Even with the understanding that, obviously, there will be a couple of county agencies in the building, the CCBOE being the biggest one. That is how the CCBOE expects it to be billed; that is what was promised. Every time it is said the CCBOE is within the building, it is not how it was billed and not how it is being billed to the voters. Chairman Curtis stated the CCBOE will have the highest public use of the building and needs to be the lead, and the building must be secured to our specifications.

Board Member McCafferty said it was his understanding that the lease required the building owner to pay prevailing wages to the craftsmen and women. What is the Department of Public Works doing to ensure compliance with prevailing wages? Director Dever stated a prevailing wage coordinator will monitor those activities to ensure they are done. They have not selected many interior contractors yet because they will put smaller packages together. Since the plans are done now, they will look at a good cross-section of contractors throughout Northeast Ohio. He said the Cleveland Building Trades would be happy to see many of the contractors on that list. It will be a competitive process because the plans have just been completed. Board Member Davis Chappell asked if HHS would be the other primary agency in the building and if the construction on the second and third floors would be complete before the CCBOE occupied the building. Director Dever said the intent is to get as much of the heavy construction done prior to the CCBOE move. Some interior office work may need to be done, but they are trying to get the basic build-out done beforehand. He added that ICP is anxious to do that rather than mobilizing twice to bring contractors into the building. Board Member Davis Chappell asked if the landlord is covering the costs of improvements and if it is a triple net lease? Director Dever said yes, there is an allowance within the contract for them to do improvements, and confirmed it is a triple net lease. Board Member Davis Chappell asked if the consolidation of HHS will impact the number of people going into the building, and is it known how many HHS people are planned, and how it will impact parking? Director Dever said he did not know, but they will be utilizing a finite amount of space. He added there will be a parking item coming to the County Council's agenda next week to purchase two lots down the street at East 17th and Superior. That will be the first reading, so moving forward with regard to the HHS consolidation, it is still being worked out. Director Dever said K2M is the criteria architecture for the group. They will be handing off their architecture to a new group, DS, who is going to be handling all of the work in regard to HHS, and they are still working through the details. The HHS agency has 2,400 employees; its primary building is the Virgil Brown Building. Board Member Davis Chappell said that parking is pivotal and the reason for the main driver of the CCBOE wanting to move, so if there is anything that might potentially impact parking, the CCBOE needs to know. She said it would be extremely disappointing to know that more HHS people need to be in the building and the CCBOE has reduced parking for voters and staff, parking is key. She added that security and parking are the main drivers for the CCBOE move and remain critical for the CCBOE's operation. Any impacts on space allocation planning can potentially impact the CCBOE's ability to administer elections. Board Member Davis Chappell recommended there should be a sub lease or written documentation so it can be clear what is needed. Director Dever said those details have not been determined. Board Member Stickan said that is a critical piece, as when there were initial discussions, it was understood that HHS was supposed to be administration and that there would not be public traffic for their client services. Board Member Davis Chappell asked what the contingency plan was if something gets derailed, and if there is not one, it needs to be addressed. She said the CCBOE will have to be reliant on the schedule that is being provided. Director Dever agreed and stated that the CCBOE could remain in the current spaces longer, which is the worst-case scenario. He said it is important to get the CCBOE in by January 2025 and is fully aware of the importance of this significant project. Board Member Davis Chappell asked if there were any incentives for the landlord to finish on time? Director Dever stated the incentive would be when rent payments would commence. She asked Prosecutor Musson to review the lease and see if there were any incentives and advise the Board. Board Member Stickan stated that next year is a municipal election year with

rolling deadlines and that they should be mindful because any delays could cause confusion for voters and candidates. Director Perlatti said next year is loaded with deadlines, and the CCBOE has been very clear that if the January 25, 2025, date is not met, it would look like a shorter window to move in June 2025.

Board Member McCafferty asked for an update on Public Works moving the Ballot Drop Box in the CCBOE parking lot. Director Dever said that the Director and Deputy Director have been working with Public Works Facility administrators Matt Rymer and Dan Paul. He understood they discussed how the ballot drop box would be moved and the details for the parking lot for tents and barriers. Director Perlatti stated that ideally, the box should be moved by mid-August, and the CCBOE needs the dates to add to the calendar as the ballot box is a priority. Director Dever stated he understood it is a priority project and is confident it will be completed in time to everyone's satisfaction.

Director Dever stated he will be coming back in the near future to update the Board on how the project is going.

Agenda Item 4: Approval to outsource the printing of Vote-by-Mail ballots for the November 5, 2024, Presidential General Election

Chairman Curtis moved to approve to outsource the printing of Vote-by-Mail ballots for the November 5, 2024, Presidential General Election. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 5: Preliminary approval of the ballot order for the November 5, 2024, Presidential General Election

Chairman Curtis moved to approve the preliminary approval of the ballot order for the November 5, 2024, Presidential General Election. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 6: Approval to appoint not less than two precinct election officials for each precinct pursuant to ORC §3501.22 for the November 5, 2024, Presidential General Election

Chairman Curtis moved to approve to appoint not less than two precinct election officials for each precinct pursuant to ORC §3501.22 for the November 5, 2024, Presidential General Election. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 7: Preliminary authorization for the allocation of voting booths for the November 5, 2024, Presidential General Election. Allocation quantities are based on one voting booth for every 175 registered voters per polling location. A total of 4,842 voting booths will be allocated + 705 ClearCast Go scanners + 289 ADA ClearAccess voting units and 1,152 Electronic Poll Books

Chairman Curtis moved to approve the preliminary authorization for the allocation of voting booths for the November 5, 2024, Presidential General Election. Allocation quantities are based on one voting booth for every 175 registered voters per polling location. A total of 4,842 voting booths will be allocated + 705 ClearCast Go scanners + 289 ADA ClearAccess voting units and 1,152 Electronic Poll Books. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 8: Approval of Resolution and/or Contract for a) R2024-07-25-0001C - Enhanced Voting, LLC, Live Election Night Reporting Software

Patrick McAlea, Fiscal Services Assistant Manager, presented the information from the board materials regarding the approval of Resolution and/or Contract for Enhance Voting. Director Perlatti stated this product is for election night software that Tenex currently provides. The item did go out for bid which was structured by the fiscal manager and prosecutor's office that would score the best functionality at a reasonable fair price. The CCBOE had previously used Enhanced Voting for remote ballot marking, which is an ADA solution, and they were good to work with and had a good product. However, when the next bid came out, they were underbid. The Enhanced Voting, Live

Election Night Reporting Software will give the CCBOE additional reporting functions, which have helpful features for the CCBOE and voters, including the ability to update it with the certified election results.

Chairman Curtis moved to approve the Resolution and/or Contract for a) R2024-07-25-0001C - Enhanced Voting, LLC, Live Election Night Reporting Software. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 9: Approval of Resolutions and/or Vouchers for a) R2024-07-25-0002V - ESSVR, LLC., Dims Annual Maintenance Fee, b. R2024-07-25-0003V - Buckeye Power Supply, Rental of Portable Generator

Mr. McAlea presented information from the board materials regarding the approvals of the resolutions and vouchers.

Chairman Curtis moved to approve the Resolution and vouchers for a) R2024-07-25-0002V - ESSVR, LLC., Dims Annual Maintenance Fee. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Curtis moved to approve the Resolution and voucher for b) R2024-07-25-0003V - Buckeye Power Supply, Rental of Portable Generator. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Items 10 – 21:

Director Perlatti stated there are several challenges that are divided into two groups. All individuals are entitled to their own opportunity to speak; their challenges relate to the same registration address.

A transcript of the hearings can be obtained by contacting Mary Bejjani, CCBOE Clerk to the Board at 216-443-6430/mbejjani@cuyahogacounty.gov.

Agenda Items 10 through 19:

Hasani Wheat, Registration Department Manager, presented information outlined in the board materials regarding the Challenge of Right to Vote filed by Dennis Culley against David Biagas, Ronald H. Coleman, Cynthia Dlugo, Terry L. Green, Francis Raymond Kish, Nellie McKinney, Mohd M. Qamar, Wanda F. Raybon, Tonya Rushton, and Clay W. Williams, Jr. Mr. Culley is a registered voter in Cuyahoga County challenged the right to vote of the ten voters' registration at 16231 Broadway Road, Maple Heights, Ohio, which was previously known as Maple Care Center Nursing Home. Mr. Wheat stated that the ten challenged voters had no voter activity at the Broadway address since November 2017, and research indicated that the nursing home had been closed for a few years. Mr. Culley testified via Zoom. Board Member Davis Chappell asked if the CCBOE receives notifications if a senior facility closes? She said the CCBOE could initiate challenges if it were aware of the facility closing. Director Perlatti stated the CCBOE does not get an automatic notice that a facility is closing, and not all facilities engage with the CCBOE for assisted voting for their residents. Director Perlatti stated if the CCBOE were to get notice from a partner facility, that would be a different fact pattern that could be monitored. He said what is in place is the monitoring of voter activity. There was no voter activity for any of these individuals challenged and they were inactive. However, the process is not instantaneous in removing a voter, as there is a four-year window to the process. Board Member Davis Chappell asked if the Ohio Department of Health, which monitors senior facilities, could alert the CCBOE if a facility closes or opens. Board Member Stickman said the County may also be able to provide the information. Director Perlatti stated the CCBOE will contact the County Senior and Adult Services Department for guidance.

Chairman Curtis confirmed that none of the respondents nor a representative attended the hearing.

Agenda Item 10: Challenge of Right to Vote filed by Dennis Culley against David Biagas
Agenda Item 11: Challenge of Right to Vote filed by Dennis Culley against Ronald H. Coleman
Agenda Item 12: Challenge of Right to Vote filed by Dennis Culley against Cynthia Dlugo

Agenda Item 13: Challenge of Right to Vote filed by Dennis Culley against Terry L. Green
Agenda Item 14: Challenge of Right to Vote filed by Dennis Culley against Francis Raymond Kish
Agenda Item 15: Challenge of Right to Vote filed by Dennis Culley against Nellie McKinney
Agenda Item 16: Challenge of Right to Vote filed by Dennis Culley against Mohd M. Qamar
Agenda Item 17: Challenge of Right to Vote filed by Dennis Culley against Wanda F. Raybon
Agenda Item 18: Challenge of Right to Vote filed by Dennis Culley against Tonya Rushton
Agenda Item 19: Challenge of Right to Vote filed by Dennis Culley against Clay W. Williams, Jr.

Chairman Curtis moved to uphold and cancel the registrations for agenda items 10-19, the Challenges of the Right to Vote, filed by Dennis Culley against David Biagas, Ronald H. Coleman, Cynthia Dlugo, Terry L. Green, Francis Raymond Kish, Nellie McKinney, Mohd M. Qamar, Wanda F. Raybon, Tonya Rushton, and Clay W. Williams, Jr. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Items 20 through 21:

Hasani Wheat presented information outlined in the board materials regarding the Challenge of Right to Vote filed by Willie Jones, III., against Brian Wilkes and Samantha Williams. Mr. Jones noted in his challenge that neither Brian Jones nor Samantha Williams lives at 2042 West 100th Street, Cleveland, Ohio. Mr. Jones also submitted an affidavit on July 20, 2024, stating that he owns the property and has resided there for over 22 years. Neither Brian Wilkes nor Samantha Williams have lived there. Mr. Wheat stated that the voter registration for Brian Wilkes and Samantha Williams came from the organization Black Fork Strategies, and the voter registrations were processed on June 12, 2024. The CCBOE could not verify relevant voter information through quality assurance measures from the Bureau of Motor Vehicles and the Social Security Administration. The CCBOE informed Black Fork Strategies of Mr. Jones's concerns. Black Fork spoke with the employee who circulated and collected the registration cards. However, that employee had no additional insights on this matter. The CCBOE also attempted to contact Mr. Wilkes and Ms. Williams but could not reach them. Board Member Stickan asked if Black Fork Strategies is the group the CCBOE has had previous issues with and referred to the SOS? Director Perlatti said yes. Board Member Stickan said her concern was there were two cards from the same worker with the same address and different zip codes. She asked if Brian Wilkes and Samatha Williams were registered voters in Cuyahoga County or if there was any record of them? Mr. Wheat stated this was their first registration. Board Member Stickan said this should be something that is flagged. Director Perlatti stated that in August, the Board can expect to see a report on some of the issues the CCBOE is seeing with Black Fork Strategies registration cards. Some grouping of registration cards has been identified as abnormal, like not having genuine signatures. A report will be provided to the Board regarding Black Fork Strategies that potentially rise to a level that is not a common mistake. The Board can then deliberate on whether there are additional action items the Board may want to refer to, such as the SOS Public Integrity Division. He said the CCBOE has regular communication with the leadership at Black Fork Strategies, and they are receptive and want to work with the CCBOE. Director Perlatti noted there is a lot of good work going on, but there may be some issues that need to be looked at. Board Member Stickan said she was glad this was caught early. Director Perlatti said the voter is active when a registration card is added to the system. However, one of the checks done throughout the State is called a BMV/SSA Administration check, which automatically reviews the information. If something is amiss, the CCBOE inactivates the registration and sends a notice to the individual. When someone registers to vote, the CCBOE automatically sends a notice advising them of their precinct and polling location. Director Perlatti said Mr. Jones received notices and challenged these two individuals. Director Perlatti said the BMV/SSA process is separate, and it ran its course, too. The CCBOE also receives returned notices when the post office returns it as undeliverable, and the CCBOE will put the voter status as must-vote-provisionally or send them another notice. There are checks and balances in the system. Board Member Davis Chappell also requested a status report on the items the CCBOE sent to the SOS Public Integrity Division. Chairman Curtis stated this concern was discussed at the conference, and the SOS committed to giving the CCBOE a status report.

Chairman Curtis confirmed that none of the respondents or a representative was in attendance for the hearing. He acknowledged the affidavit from Mr. Willie Jones, III., which attests that he owns the property at 2042 West 100th Street, Cleveland, and neither Brian Wilkes nor Samantha Williams have ever resided there.

Agenda Item 20: Challenge of Right to Vote filed by Willie Jones, III against Brian Wilkes
Agenda Item 21: Challenge of Right to Vote filed by Willie Jones, III against Samantha Williams

Chairman Curtis moved to uphold and cancel the registrations for agenda items 20-21, the Challenges of the Right to Vote, filed by Willie Jones, III., against Brian Williams and Samantha Williams. Board Member Chappell seconded and made a friendly amendment to add the affidavit from Mr. Jones be part of the record. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Member Stickan asked that the CCBOE file an amended referral with the SOS Public Integrity Division. Director Perlatti stated yes. He said the CCBOE has worked with both Black Fork Strategies and Second Street Associates to put coding on their registration cards so the CCBOE can trace back to the circulators. The CCBOE does not know who the circulator is, but can provide the information to Black Fork, and they can then address it.

Agenda Item 22: Approval of the personnel agenda

Chairman Curtis moved to approve the personnel agenda, as provided in the board materials. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Curtis moved to approve the tuition reimbursement, as provided in the board materials. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

CCBOE Election Integrity Series

Mike West, Community Outreach Manager, provided information on the CCBOE Election Integrity Series, which can be found on the CCBOE website. The CCBOE is working with local stations and social media to promote the series.

Presidential/Vice Presidential Candidates

Director Perlatti stated that 90 days before a General Election, the major political parties must certify the joint names of their presidential and vice-presidential candidates to the SOS. The 90-day deadline is August 7, 2024; this year, the Democratic National Convention is not held until August 19, 2024, through August 22, 2024. The Ohio Legislature and Governor passed House Bill 2, which delays the deadline for a major political party to certify their presidential and vice-presidential candidates to September 1, 2024. Director Perlatti stated that the CCBOE will build the ballot based on an SOS directive stating what names will appear. The SOS then has a deadline of September 6, 2024, to issue the Directive and send it to the boards of elections, which is ten days later than the original deadline. The opening of UOCAVA is Friday, September 10, 2024, which is a tight deadline. The CCBOE will still be able to build the ballot with all the other candidates and issues and although there will not be official names until the Directive is received, a placeholder can be created. Director Perlatti stated the general public should know that for administration purposes, the CCBOE has a timeline to meet all the state laws and have the ballots. The CCBOE will stay the course as none of the statutory deadlines have come about yet. Board Member Davis Chappell stated that the Directive from the SOS, Chief Elections Officers, is what triggers what boards of elections do.

The Director stated that the Election Support Department had sent out the polling location contracts for the private polling locations. By August 2, 2024, the Cleveland Metropolitan School District contracts will go out, and the other contracts for public locations will be sent the following week. Board Member Davis Chappell asked if the CCBOE has received any responses? Director Perlatti said there were locations from the March Election that indicated they would not be available for November. The Election Support Department has locked in other locations, and voters have been notified of any changes, and the changes will be noted in the Voter Information Guide. He said that in about two weeks, temporary employees will start in the Election Officials Department and be trained on recruiting poll workers. The Poll Worker Training Manual edits have been completed and have gone out to bid to have the manuals printed. Staff is also finalizing the quick reference guides. All poll workers must take in-person training for

the November 5, 2024, General Election, regardless of whether they worked in March 2024. This week, the CCBOE had its third meeting with the Sheriff's office, working on security for Early In-Person Voting and Election Day. The CCBOE has also expanded and bought in employees from the Cuyahoga County Office of Emergency Management (CCOEM), which will be utilized on Election Day. He said the CCOEM has been very helpful in reaching out and bringing in other entities for the Presidential Election. A Public Works employee is working on the parking lot agreements, and it appears the CCBOE will have all the necessary parking lots. The CCBOE just signed an agreement with the former Bryant and Stratton lot. Director Perlatti stated on Monday, July 29, 2024, there will be an on-site meeting with Midwest Direct. There will also be a meeting with the U.S. Post Office and Midwest to discuss deadlines and volume. The County Communications Department will also be meeting with the CCBOE. Additionally, there will be a meeting with the City of Cleveland Traffic Commission to discuss how they can help the CCBOE with officers and traffic during Early In-Person Voting and Election Day. Also scheduled is a meeting with the County IT Department to pro-actively plan for the November 5, 2024, Presidential General Election.

Board Member Davis Chappell asked if Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse is being used as a polling location? Director Perlatti said yes. The location was previously a polling location. Then when the Cavaliers were in the playoffs, the polling location was moved to Old Stone Church, where parking was always a challenge, and now, with the Sherwin-Williams building, the parking utilized is now gone. The NBA is very voter-engaged and asked to have the polling location back at the FieldHouse, and they are willing to work with the CCBOE for the next two to three years as a polling location. They will also provide additional staff to guide voters and work with the parking garage to have parking spaces available. Director Perlatti added on National Voter Registration Day, September 17, 2024, there will be events involving the local sports teams.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session.

Chairman Curtis moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:38 a.m. Board Member Davis Chappell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Certification: I have reviewed the above minutes and certify that they are an accurate summary of the actions taken by the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections at its meeting held on July 25, 2024.

Henry F Curtis, IV, Chairman

Henry F Curtis, IV

Inajo Davis Chappell, Board Member

Inajo Davis Chappell

Terence M. McCafferty, Board Member

Terence M. McCafferty

Lisa M. Stickan, Board Member

Lisa M. Stickan

Anthony Perlatti, Director

Anthony Perlatti