

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSIONERS

CALL TO ORDER:

The Board of County Election Commissioners meeting was called to order by the Honorable Kathleen A. Ryan on October 1, 2021 at 2:03 p.m. in the Oakland County Elections Division, Board of Canvassers/Training Room, 1st floor, West Wing Extension, 1200 N. Telegraph Rd., Pontiac, MI 48341

ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ryan, Brown, Wittenberg. (3)
ABSENT: None. (0)

OTHERS PRESENT: Joseph J. Rozell, Director of Elections; Heather Kadulski, Elections Specialist; and Brandon Buck, Corporation Counsel.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Moved by **BROWN** seconded by **WITTENBERG** to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Moved by **WITTENBERG** seconded by **BROWN** to approve the minutes of the September 15, 2021 Board of County Election Commissioners Meeting. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. APPROVAL OF ELECTION INSPECTORS.

Moved by **BROWN** seconded by **WITTENBERG** to approve list of inspectors provided and designates Joseph J. Rozell, Director of Elections to make additional appointments as necessary.

VOTE ON ADDITIONAL APPOINTMENTS: AYES: BROWN, WITTENBERG, RYAN. (3)
NAYS: NONE. (0)

The appointments were **APPROVED**.

B. CONDUCT OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST.

Moved by **WITTENBERG** seconded by **BROWN** to appoint Joseph J. Rozell, Director of Elections as committee designee to conduct the Public Accuracy Test on October 25, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. in accordance with State law.

VOTE ON PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST: AYES: WITTENBERG, BROWN, RYAN. (3)
NAYS: NONE. (0)

The committee designee and conduct of the Public Accuracy Test were **APPROVED**.

C. DESIGNATE LOCATION AND START TIME OF COUNTY ABSENT VOTER COUNTING BOARDS.

Moved by **BROWN** seconded by **WITTENBERG** to designate:

Location 1 as the Oakland County Elections Division, Board of Canvassers/Training Room, 1st floor, West Wing Extension, 1200 N. Telegraph Rd., Pontiac, MI 48341. Processing is authorized to begin at 7:00 a.m. on Election Day.

Location 2 as the L. Brooks Patterson Executive Office Building, 2100 Pontiac Lake Rd., Waterford, MI 48328. Processing is authorized to begin at 7:00 a.m. on Election Day.

VOTE ON LOCATION AND START TIME: AYES: BROWN, WITTENBERG, RYAN. (3)
NAYS: NONE. (0)

The location and start time were **APPROVED**.

D. RECALL LANGUAGE

Judge Ryan advised that proper notice had been given for today's meeting for the recall of Barbara Anness, Board Member, Rochester Community School District; Michelle Bueltel, Board Member, Rochester Community School District; and Michael Zabat, Board Member, Rochester Community School District. She also advised that the purpose of today's meeting according to MCL 168.952 of Michigan Election Law, is that the Commission shall meet and determine whether each reason for the recall stated in the petition is factual and of sufficient clarity to enable the officer(s) whose recall is being sought and the electors to identify the course of conduct which is the basis of the recall.

I. RECALL OF BARBARA ANNESS

"On June 21, 2021, Barbara Anness, Trustee Voted "Yes" to adopt a budget amendment that appropriated \$1,840,229.00 of the District's general funds to expenditures not related to kindergarten through twelfth grade instruction."

Judge Ryan asked if there was anyone present who wished to come forward to speak as a proponent of the petition. Andrew Weaver spoke as a proponent of the petition.

Judge Ryan asked if there was anyone present who wished to come forward to speak in opposition to the petition. Michael Zabat spoke in opposition of the petition for all individuals subject to the recall. Michelle Bueltel agreed with the statement read by Michael Zabat.

Discussion followed.

Moved by **RYAN** that the petition submitted by Andrew Weaver for Barbara Anness, Board Member, Rochester Community School District be approved. No one seconded the motion, therefore the motion failed.

Moved by **BROWN** seconded by **WITTENBERG** that the petition submitted by Andrew Weaver for Barbara Anness, Board Member, Rochester Community School District be disapproved.

VOTE ON BARBARA ANNESS PETITION: AYES: BROWN, WITTENBERG. (2)
NAYS: RYAN. (1)

The petition was **DISAPPROVED**.

II. RECALL OF MICHELLE BUELTEL

“On June 21, 2021, Michelle Bueltel, Trustee Voted “Yes” to adopt a budget amendment that appropriated \$1,840,229.00 of the District’s general funds to expenditures not related to kindergarten through twelfth grade instruction.”

Judge Ryan asked if there was anyone present who wished to come forward to speak as a proponent of the petition. Andrew Weaver spoke as a proponent of the petition.

Judge Ryan asked if there was anyone present who wished to come forward to speak in opposition to the petition. No one spoke in opposition to the petition.

Moved by **WITTENBERG** seconded by **BROWN** that the petition submitted by Andrew Weaver for Michelle Bueltel, Board Member, Rochester Community School District be disapproved.

VOTE ON MICHELLE BUELTEL PETITION: AYES: WITTENBERG, BROWN. (2)
NAYS: RYAN. (1)

The petition was **DISAPPROVED**.

III. RECALL OF MICHAEL ZABAT

“On June 21, 2021, Michael Zabat, Trustee Voted “Yes” to adopt a budget amendment that appropriated \$1,840,229.00 of the District’s general funds to expenditures not related to kindergarten through twelfth grade instruction.”

Judge Ryan asked if there was anyone present who wished to come forward to speak as a proponent of the petition. No one spoke as a proponent to the petition.

Judge Ryan asked if there was anyone present who wished to come forward to speak in opposition to the petition. No one spoke in opposition to the petition.

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Moved by **BROWN** seconded by **WITTENBERG** that the petition submitted by Andrew Weaver for Michael Zabat, Board Member, Rochester Community School District be disapproved.

VOTE ON MICHAEL ZABAT PETITION: AYES: BROWN, WITTENBERG. (2)
NAYS: RYAN. (1)

The petition was **DISAPPROVED**.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Clerk Brown addressed the Election Commission.

Moved by **RYAN** seconded by **WITTENBERG** that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

Judge Ryan adjourned the meeting at 2:24 p.m.

Lisa Brown
Clerk/Register of Deeds and
Secretary to the Board of County Election Commissioners