

## **LAWRENCE COUNTY ELECTION BOARD MEETING**

### **PUBLIC MEETING**

#### **MINUTES OF Thursday, November 21, 2024**

The Lawrence County Election Board Meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed by a Moment of Silence.

The Lawrence County Election Board Meeting of Thursday, November 21, 2024, was called out of recess by **Commissioner Dan Vogler**, at 10:00 am at the Lawrence County Commissioners Meeting Room. Deputy Chief Clerk, Vanessa Bayless called the roll. Those in attendance were **Commissioner Chris Sainato, Commissioner Dan Kennedy, Jason Medure, Tim Germani, Susan Kite, Judy Martwinski, Carrie Hahn, Tim Buck and Debbie Wachter**. It was stated for the record that the meeting is being taped. Those wishing to speak shall be given five minutes. Those speaking are to state for the record their names, addresses and the nature of their business.

#### **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Opening comments:

Commissioner Vogler stated that the meeting for today and for next Wednesday, November 27, 2024 to certify the recount for the US Senate race was advertised with the legal ad on Wednesday, November 20, 2024. The chairs of each party were notified of the meeting today.

Mr. Vogler stated the recount for the US Senate race started yesterday with the Mail In ballots only. Today will the recount will continue with the Election Day ballots.

Ms. Hahn asked if the County can certify the Election results while a recount is happening.

Mr. Germani stated yes the County is permitted to do so.

Ms. Hahn asked about the UCOVA votes if there is a pending litigation?

Mr. Vogler stated the Commissioners have a Court Order to recount for the US Senate race only.

Mr. Vogler stated there was minimal change in the ballots yesterday. A total of (8) mail in ballots were reviewed yesterday by the Resolution Board, consisting of (2) Democrats and (2) Republicans. There were (7) ballots that were accepted and counted, (4) votes for Robert Casey and (3) votes for David McCormick.

Mr. Germani stated the State chooses a County to do a Risk Limiting Audit. They choose the County, the race and the polling location and Lawrence County, Shenango 4.

### **ELECTION DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Germani stated the Election results have to be certified by Monday, November 25, 2024. The totals are as follows:

Election Day Voter Percentage was 81.11%

Total Ballots Cast was 47,426

Election Day Ballots was 35,958

Mail In Ballots was 11,259

Provisional Ballots were 209

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **RESOLUTION R-2024-16 COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

**WHEREAS**, Pursuant to the Pennsylvania Election Code, the Lawrence County Board of Elections is required to certify the results of the General Election held on November 5, 2024, and

**WHEREAS**, Tim Germani, the Lawrence County Elections Director, provided to the Board that all votes have been counted; and

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Lawrence County Board of Elections does hereby certify the results of the General Election held on November 5, 2024.

Moved by Mr. Sainato, seconded by Mr. Kennedy to approve said Resolution. Motion carried 3-0.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ms. Hahn asked when were the UCOVA votes counted?

Mr. Germani stated they were counted Monday after the Court Order was received and counted as mail in ballots per the State.

Ms. Hahn requested to inspect the UCOVA envelopes.

Solicitor Medure stated this is a Right to Know Request.

Ms. Hahn stated it is her right.

Mr. Vogler stated our Solicitor will investigate whether or not this requires a Right to Know submission and will get back with her.

Ms. Hahn further asked about the 52 challenges and only 39 were on the list Mr. Germani presented today.

Mr. Germani stated just because a mail in ballot is sent out, does not mean one has to send it back.

Mr. Sainato stated he watched the recount yesterday and everyone and everything worked like a well oiled machine.

Mr. Kennedy stated this morning the recount started at 9:00AM. There are watchers observing the recount.

Mr. Germani thanked everyone and every department in the Courthouse for pitching in and helping with this Election. He stated it was a very challenging Election for him both professionally and personally. He stated he hopes he has changed for the better after this Election.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Vogler recessed to the call of the chair at 10:20 am.