

**PORTER COUNTY ELECTION BOARD**

**155 INDIANA AVE., SUITE 105**

**VALPARAISO IN 46383**

**JANUARY 26, 2023**

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call – Rausch, Chidester, Lowe, Bengs, Bailey – Quorum established.
3. Reorganization – Member Bengs Motions to keep board the same, Chidester 2<sup>nd</sup>. Vote 5-0 motion passes.
4. Selection of Election Board Attorney. Vice President Lowe motions to retain Attorney Conrad and her firm as Election Board Attorney, Chidester 2<sup>nd</sup>. Vote 5-0 motion passes.
5. Clerk's Report – January 31<sup>st</sup> is the deadline to file Oaths in the Clerk's Office. Working on providing on-line poll worker training in addition to in-class training that will continue to be required. The on-line should be used as a re-fresher for workers that take their classes early in the schedule.
6. Director's Report – Filing is going on right now, currently 52 candidates have filed. Valpo, Chesterton & Portage have contested races.
7. Approval of Minutes – Chidester motions to approve, Lowe 2<sup>nd</sup>. Vote 5-0 motion passes.
8. Resolutions for 2023 Elections – 2 Resolutions that EB signs. One for the use of the E-Poll books for the travel board and the other is to use the County Hwy Dept for the delivery & pick-up of the election equipment. Lowe motions to approve both, Chidester 2<sup>nd</sup>. Vote 5-0 motion passes.
9. IEC-22 Approval – Certification of the Voting System and the E-Poll Books. This includes the inventory of the Election Equipment. Lowe motions to approve, Chidester 2<sup>nd</sup>. Vote 5-0 motion passes.
10. Campaign Finance Reports –
  - a. Administrative Dissolution of Committee – Board can administrative dissolve candidate Ray Poparad's committee, candidate is deceased. Lowe motions to administrative dissolve the committee, Chidester 2<sup>nd</sup>. Vote 5-0 motion passes. Directors can now publish in newspaper

- b. Delinquent Reports – 108 total reports were due, 79 have been graded and corrected, 22 are still being reviewed, 7 are left outstanding, 5 that were delinquent. The 5 that were delinquent by 1 day will receive the \$50 fine. The 7 that are outstanding are accruing at \$50 fine per day. The 5 that were 1 day late will receive a Notice to Appear at the next Election Board Meeting along with a waiver and fine, they will have the option to not appear if they pay the \$50 and turn in the waiver. The 7 that are outstanding will receive a Notice to Appear at the next Election Board Meeting along with the waiver, they will not need to appear if they pay the \$50 per day fine and waiver. Next Election Board Meeting is February 23<sup>rd</sup>. President Rausch motions to send Notice to Appear w/waivers, Lowe 2<sup>nd</sup>. Vote 5-0 motion passes. There are also 2 pre-elections 2022 reports that are defective/delinquent accruing a fine at \$10 per day.
  - c. Campaign Finance Hearing – Pre-Election 2022. EB Attorney Conrad swears in Election Director's and Candidate Rodney Neal. Discussions held. Candidate Neal agrees to dissolve his Committee today, if he does so the board will waive the \$1000 maximum fine currently assessed. President Rausch makes motion, Lowe 2<sup>nd</sup>. Vote 5-0 motion passes. EB Attorney Conrad provides Findings and Conclusions for the Board to sign. The 1<sup>st</sup> one is for the Committee of Friends of Porter County Parents for Freedom, they have disbanded their committee and provided the waiver. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Findings is for the Porter County Republican South Committee, they have disbanded their committee and provided the waiver. EB signs Findings for both, President Rausch motions to accept Findings for the Friends of Porter County Parents for Freedom, Lowe 2<sup>nd</sup>. Vote 5-0 motion passes. President Rausch motions to accept Findings for the Porter County Republican South Committee, Lowe 2<sup>nd</sup>. Vote 5-0 motion passes.
11. Upcoming Meetings – Filings end on Friday February 3<sup>rd</sup> at noon. Early Vote locations/vote center locations will need to be approved, meeting set February 10<sup>th</sup>, 10am. Regular EB Meeting set February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 3pm.
12. Other – None
13. Public Comment – None
14. Adjournment – Chidester motions to adjourn, Lowe 2<sup>nd</sup>. Vote 5-0 motion passes.