

PORTER COUNTY ELECTION BOARD

155 INDIANA AVE., SUITE 105

VALPARAISO IN 46383

FEBRUARY 23, 2023

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call – Rausch, Lowe, Bengs, Chidester, Bailey – Quorum established.
3. Clerk’s Report – Campaign Finance Class Scheduled for April 5th @5:30 in Room 102A. Clerk’s App is continued to roll out updates, wait times at polling locations will be available for the next election.
4. Director’s Report – Only about ½ of poll workers will be needed for this election but they are always looking for new signups.
5. Approval of Minutes – January 26th & February 10th Meetings. Rausch moves to accept, Chidester 2nd. Vote 5-0, motion passes.
6. Campaign Finance Reports –
 - a. Delinquent Reports – President Rausch swears in parties that are going to speak on their delinquent/deficient reports.

-Discussions held by EB over Janice Meyer’s Report. Lowe motions to waive fine as long as campaign has been disbanded. Vote 5-0, motion passes.

-Discussions held by EB over Erin Stojjic’s Report. Campaign has been disbanded. Bengs motions to fine \$50, Bailey 2nd. Vote 5-0, motion passes.

Discussions held by EB over Kim Brys Report. Campaign has been disbanded. Chidester motions to fine \$50, Bailey 2nd. Vote 5-0, motion passes.

Discussions held by EB over Frankie Harris’s report. Candidate Harris did not appear. Bengs motions to send a new Notice to Appear to both P.O. Box and resident address for next EB Meeting, if she fails to appear the fine stands at \$1,000, Chidester 2nd. Vote 5-0, motion passes.

Discussions held by EB over Rodney King’s report. Chidester motions to waive fine, Bengs 2nd. Vote 5-0, motion passes.

Discussions held by EB over Brandon Kroft report. Mr. Kroft notified EB Attorney Conrad that he was unable to appear and would not be available until the April EB meeting. Bengs motions to defer until the March 23rd meeting and either him or a representative on his behalf will need to appear. If he fails to appear at the March 23rd meeting default fine of \$1,000 stands. Chidester 2nd. Vote 5-0, motion passes.

Discussions held by EB over Amy Parry report. Chidester motions \$50 fine, Lowe 2nds w/addition that report be filed today. Vote 4-1, motion dies. Bailey votes no. Discussions held. Bailey motions \$150 fine and that report is filed today, Chidester 2nd. Vote 5-0, motion passes.

**Member Bengs excuses self from meeting. Quorum still established.

Discussions held by EB over Valpo Dem's Pre-Election Report that is deficient. No representative is present from the Valpo Dems. Rausch motions that the EB Attorney will issue new notice to appear at March hearing or they can pay the maximum \$100 fine along with the waiver to appear, Chidester 2nd. Vote 4-0.

7. Amending of Vote Center Plan for 2023 Elections – Vote Center Plan has 2 Amendments, one for the dates and times and one for the locations. Rausch motions to accept the Absentee dates and times, Lowe 2nd. Vote 4-0. Rausch motions to accept the Voting Locations (locations were reduced due to election being held for Cities/Towns only), Lowe 2nd. Vote 4-0. There are currently 4 defendants that are defective/delinquent in turning in their annual reports. Lowe motions for all 4 to be notified to appear at the March 23rd hearing unless they return the waiver of appearance and pay the fine of \$100, Chidester 2nd. Vote 4-0, motions passes. Appearance waivers/fines have been paid by candidates Jennifer Fisher, Jessie Harper, Jim Biggs, Jeffery Reiner, Amy Cunningham and David Reynolds II. Rausch motions to approve requirement to appear at the hearing, Chidester 2nd. Vote 4-0, motions passes.
8. Resolution for 16/17-year-old Poll Workers- Lowe motions to approve, using 16/17-year-old Poll workers, Rausch 2nd. Vote 4-0, motion passes.
9. Upcoming Meetings – Election Board Meeting March 23rd @3pm. Public Test March 31st 8am in the equipment room. Campaign Finance Class April 5th @5:30.
10. Other – None
11. Public Comment – Unknown public wants to know what the training system is for the reports that are required to be filed by the candidates. Clerk Bailey - there are approximately 130 open committees, 44 were outstanding the day before the deadline, after the deadline 7 had not been turned in. Clarified that State Law dictates when the reports are due.

The complaint made by Reverend Cooper will be agenda at the next Election Board Meeting once the reports have been reviewed by the Office and by consultant Kenard Taylor. Rausch motions to send correspondence to Reverend Cooper to appear at next EB Meeting, Lowe 2nd. Vote 5-0, motion passes.

12. Adjournment – Lowe motions to adjourn, Chidester 2nd. Vote 5-0, motion passes.