MINUTES OF MEETING
WAYNE COUNTY BOARD OF CANVASSERS
MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 2015 – 11:00 A.M.
RALPH VIGLIOTTI BLDG.
1900 E. JEFFERSON, DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48207

Call to Order: Chair Krista Haroutunian, Wayne County Board of Canvassers called the meeting to order at 11:03 A.M.

Members present: Krista Haroutunian, Chair
Leatha Larde, Vice-Chair
Joseph Xuereb, Member
Terry Susan Nichols, Alternate Member

Members absent: John Knappmann, Member (Excused)

Also present: Delphine G. Oden, Director, Wayne County Elections
Janet Anderson-Davis, Assistant Wayne County Corp. Counsel
Melanie D. Ryska, Assistant Director, Wayne County Elections
Ernestine Williams
Clarence Oden, Jr.
Jennifer Redmond
Sandra K. Watley
Byron Nolen
Courtney J. Owens
James Owens
Jenneatta Mitchell
Sandra Hutson
Felicia Rutledge
Yolanda Holmes
Jina Sawani
Gregory Mahar
Marilyn Knight
Vince Bobrowicz
Sao Hang
Abena Hogan

Agenda item: **Consideration of Agenda approval.**

Board action on agenda item: Chair Haroutunian requested a motion to adopt the agenda. Alternate Member Nichols duly supported by Member Xuereb moved to adopt the agenda as submitted. The motion was adopted unanimously by a voice vote.

Agenda item: **Approval of Minutes of August 5, 2015**

Board action on agenda item: Chair Haroutunian requested a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting conducted August 5, 2015. Vice-Chair Larde duly supported by Alternate Member Nichols moved to approve the minutes of the meeting conducted August 5, 2015. The motion was adopted unanimously by a voice vote.

Agenda item: **City of Inkster Election Results**

Chair Haroutunian asked Director Oden to provide a brief report to the board of the events surrounding the City of Inkster Primary Election. Director Oden stated the role of Wayne County Elections and their involvement regarding local elections. She reported to the Board that there was an error on the City of Inkster Primary Election Ballot. She detailed that the ballot for the City Council District #2 & District #3 races was printed with a "vote for not more than 2" instead of "vote for not more than 1." She read a communication from the State Bureau of Elections which instructed the Board to re-tabulate the ballots where voters had voted for not more than 1 candidate and then asked Assistant Director Ryska to explain the process of hand counting the votes that were cast.

Assistant Director Ryska explained that the process is similar to that of a recount. The seals on the ballot containers are verified; the ballots are physically counted and verified by the tabulator tape or the number of voters in the poll book. After verification, the teams are to count only the voted ballots that contain 1 vote cast on the ballot. The ballots that have more than 1 vote cast in the race are not counted.

The Board recessed to begin counting the ballots by hand at 11:21 a.m.

The Board reconvened at 11:34 a.m. Assistant Director Ryska informed the Board that there were no ballots in the ballot container for Election Day Precinct 201.

The Board recessed 11:35 a.m. to contact the State Bureau of Elections regarding the missing ballots.

The board reconvened at 12:19 p.m. Assistant Director Ryska gave a brief report of what staff members had done to re-tabulate the votes cast in the City of Inkster Council District #2 & #3 race. All re-tabulation had been done for all precincts involved except Precinct 201. Director Oden stated the Board and counsel was in communication with the State Bureau of Elections and had received

instructions on retrieving the missing ballots. The Bureau indicated that staff from Wayne County Elections would have to go the City of Inkster, locate, secure under seal and retrieve the ballots for Precinct 201. Wayne County Staff members Jennifer Redmond, Jenneatta Mitchell along with the Inkster City Clerk, Felicia Rutledge and Deputy Clerk Yolanda Holmes left the meeting to retrieve the missing ballots.

Agenda item: **Certification of the August 4, 2015 Primary Election**

Chair Haroutunian asked staff to provide to the Board a report of the canvass. Assistant Director Ryska indicated the canvass consisted of 10 communities. A report was provided of when the canvass began, all the precincts and AV boards that were included in the canvass, which precincts balanced to zero, which precincts and AV boards that were out of balance, and what was done to explain the differences. She reported on the provisional ballots that were valid and invalid from the communities that issued provisional ballots.

The Board reviewed the results of the August 4, 2015 Primary Election. Chair Haroutunian requested the results be attached to the minutes and included with the record.

Board action on agenda item: Chair Haroutunian requested a motion to certify the results of the August 4, 2015 Primary Election excluding the City of Inkster. Member Xuereb duly supported by Vice-Chair Larde moved to certify the results of the August 4, 2015 Primary Election excluding the City of Inkster. The motion was adopted unanimously by a voice vote.

Meeting recessed at 12:34 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 2:13 p.m. Member Xuereb was excused from the meeting.

Chair Haroutunian asked Wayne County Staff to provide a brief report on what was done to retrieve the missing ballots. Jennifer Redmond indicated that staff and the Inkster City Clerk and Deputy Clerk went to the Department of Public Works, where all voting machines are stored. She reported that the City of Inkster Clerk located the voting machine for Precinct 201 and Wayne County staff member Jenneatta Mitchell unlocked the machine, removed all ballots and staff member Jennifer Redmond placed the ballots into a ballot bag and sealed the container with a state approved seal. Director Oden indicated that the State Bureau of Elections gave specific instructions on how to ensure that all the ballots are accounted for. Staff members would first have to tally the votes and

verify that all the votes received by each candidate were the same votes received on election night. After the verification, staff members would then be able to re-tabulate the votes cast.

The Board recessed so staff could tally and re-tabulate the votes cast in Precinct 201. After the tally and re-tabulation, Chair Haroutunian asked for staff to give a report. Jennifer Redmond indicated that staff opened the ballot bag and began to tally the votes. After the tally, it was verified that the votes received by each candidate was the same number of votes received by the candidates on election night. Staff was then able to proceed with the re-tabulation. The Board was presented with the official election results for the City of Inkster. Chair Haroutunian read the results of the re-tabulation into the record and announced the candidates that received a sufficient number of votes to proceed to the general election.

The whole number of votes given for the office of City Council District #2, City of Inkster, at the election held on August 4, 2015 was **96**.

Calvin L. Hayes: **25**
Charmaine Kennedy: 19
Clarence Oden, Jr. **52**

The whole number of votes given for the office of City Council District #3, City of Inkster, at the election held on August 4, 2015 was **99**.

Lorenzo A. Moner, Jr.: **29**
Courtney James Owens: 19
Sandra K. Watley. **51**

Board action on agenda item: Chair Haroutunian requested a motion to certify the results of the Inkster City Council race. Vice-Chair Letha Larde duly supported by Alternate Member Nichols moved to certify the results of the Inkster City Council race. The motion was adopted unanimously by a voice vote.

Agenda item: **New Business**

Board action of agenda item: Chair Haroutunian asked if there was any new business. No new business.

Agenda item: **Public Comment.**

Board action on agenda item: Chair Haroutunian asked if there was any public comment. No public comment. Chair Haroutunian thanked the Staff members for their hard work and ensuring this process is done efficiently and accurately.

Agenda item: **Adjournment.**

Board action on agenda item: Chair Haroutunian requested a motion to adjourn. Alternate member Nichols duly supported by Vice-Chair Larde moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was adopted unanimously by a voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 3:01 p.m.

_____ _____

_____ _____