INGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF CANVASSERS
MEETING OF JANUARY 30, 2020
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ROOM
GRADY PORTER BUILDING
LANSONG, MICHIGAN

CANVASSERS PRESENT: Rebecca Bahar-Cook (left at 2:50 p.m.)
                      Joe Groff
                      Ted Lawson
                      Jude Wells

CANVASSERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Liz Noel, Elections/Clerk Coordinator
                 Michael Tanis, Recording Secretary
                 Deb Parmelec, Leslie Township Deputy Clerk
                 Kathy LaGrow, Ingham Township Clerk
                 Mark Steinberg, Williamstown Township Clerk

Meeting Called to Order

Canvasser Bahar-Cook called the January 30, 2020 meeting of the Board of Canvassers to order at 2:00 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Canvasser Groff, supported by Canvasser Lawson, to approve the agenda.

Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of November 6 & 7, 2019 Minutes

Moved by Canvasser Groff, supported by Canvasser Lawson to approve the November 6 & 7, 2019 minutes.

The November 6 & 7, 2019 minutes were amended as follows:

Clerk Byrum stated that some clerks were reminded of the opportunity for voters to complete an affidavit if a voter is not in possession of a photo ID. She further stated that there was a reoccurring issue with voters in the Dansville Schools District, but who were not showing up on the precinct list, which would be addressed through the Qualified Voter File.

Clerk Byrum stated she absolutely did not ask for females, she had only asked for Republicans.

The Board of Canvassers requested a hand count of the ballots by the Board of Canvassers. Clerk Shuster and Kathryn Gardner, Deputy East Lansing City Clerk, brought the ballots for Precinct 10. The hand count produced the same number of ballots as the tabulator counted. The Precinct Chairperson came in, and to his recollection, a spoiled ballot did not get marked as such and was tabulated.
Moved by Canvasser Groff that if either the Election Inspector’s Preparation Certificate or the Completion Certificate is not completely filled out in the Poll Book, including boxes, then the Canvassers will deliberate and decide whether or not to bring someone in, and if a majority cannot agree, then someone would be brought in. Canvasser Lawson supported the motion.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that the County Clerk’s staff was given the authority to verify signatures and seal Poll Books once election inspectors fixed the errors after the meeting was adjourned.

Canvasser Groff stated that the Board of Canvassers had lost two very knowledgeable experienced people on the Board recently. He asked if it was up to the Board of Canvassers to do something to honor them.

Canvasser Groff stated he thought an honorary resolution should be done anyhow, as she was upset when she was not reappointed.

Motion to approve the minutes, as amended, carried unanimously.

**Election of Chair and Vice Chair**

Moved by Canvasser Wells, supported by Canvasser Bahar-Cook, to nominate Canvasser Groff as Chair of the Board of Canvassers.

Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Canvasser Lawson, supported by Canvasser Groff, to nominate Canvasser Bahar-Cook as Vice Chair of the Board of Canvassers.

Motion carried unanimously.

Chairperson Groff began chairing the meeting at this point.

**Adopt 2020 Meeting Dates and Times**

Moved by Canvasser Lawson, supported by Canvasser Wells, to adopt the 2020 meeting dates and times for the Board of Canvassers.

Canvasser Bahar-Cook stated she would be unable to attend the March 12, 2020 meeting until about 2:30 p.m.

Discussion ensued regarding securing an alternate for Canvasser Bahar-Cook and the potential for a May Election.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Other Business**

Chairperson Groff stated that Clerk Byrum was going to check to see if spouses could serve on the Board of Canvassers together. He asked if that had been done.
Liz Noel, Election/Clerk Coordinator, stated she would check on the status of that inquiry.

Chairperson Groff stated in November 2018, the Board of Canvassers employed assistants. He asked if the Board of Canvassers would like to do the same for the November 2020 Election.

Discussion ensued regarding the need for assistance possibly in August and November. Consensus was that the Board of Canvassers would decide if they would like to hire assistants for both meetings.

Chairperson Groff requested that minutes be distributed to the Board of Canvassers within eight days of the meeting.

**Public Comment**

None.

**Certification of Ballot Containers**

Canvasser Bahar-Cook left at approximately 2:50 p.m.

The Board of Canvassers certified ballot containers from Leslie Township, Williamstown Township, Ingham Township, the City of East Lansing, and the City of Lansing.

**Adjournment**

Moved by Canvasser Lawson, supported by Canvasser Wells, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried unanimously. Absent: Canvasser Bahar-Cook

The meeting was adjourned at 3:18 p.m.

BARB BYRUM, CLERK OF THE BOARD