

INGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF CANVASSERS  
MEETING OF JANUARY 3, 2018  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ROOM, GRADY PORTER BUILDING  
LANSING, MICHIGAN

CANVASSERS PRESENT: Kathy Prout  
Mary Kay Scullion  
Joe Groff  
Ronald Owens

OTHER PRESENT: Barb Byrum, Ingham County Clerk  
Jen Shuster, Chief Deputy County Clerk  
Liz Noel, Elections/Clerk Coordinator

**Meeting Called to Order**

Chairperson Scullion called the January 3, 2018 meeting of the Board of Canvassers to order at 10:02 a.m.

**Approval of Agenda**

Chairperson Scullion stated without objection, Comments from the Clerk would be added to the agenda as Agenda Item No. 3.

The agenda, as amended, was approved unanimously.

**Comments from the Clerk**

Clerk Byrum stated she had met with interested parties regarding the Voter Assist Terminal and concerns that visually impaired individuals had on December 18, 2017. She further stated she had voted with the screen off, and discussed many of the concerns regarding the Voter Assist Terminal.

Clerk Byrum stated the system had been certified by the State of Michigan, for voters not only with visual impairments, but hearing impaired and those with difficulties holding their hands certain ways. She further stated it was second-ranked in the certification for voters who needed more assistance, but it did pass certification.

Clerk Byrum stated the individuals present at the meeting had indicated that they liked the first-ranked ES&S system better, but there was a myriad of reasons why she had decided not to go with that system, namely the responsiveness of the vendor. She further stated that a lot of the concerns that the individuals had expressed were because it was a new technology and that brought challenges the first few times it was used; as well as lack of training for poll workers.

Clerk Byrum stated Meridian Township was the focus of that concern, because she had sent her staff to the Meridian Township training of their poll workers, and the Meridian Township Clerk had told them to divert voters to the regular paper ballot, and not the touchscreen device. She further stated this concern was validated

because her staff had heard it, and there had been complaints from visually impaired voters in Meridian Township.

Clerk Byrum stated the visually impaired individuals she had met with were from Meridian Township, Lansing Township, and the City of Lansing, as well as others from an organization they were a part of. She further stated she would keep communication lines open with them, she would work with municipal clerks to encourage more training on the Voter Assist Terminal, she would offer training, and she wanted to do more pragmatic outreach to voters.

Clerk Byrum stated around the state, this system had been embraced, so she thought a lot of the struggles they were having in Ingham County were due to lack of training and the clerks perhaps not embracing it. She further stated she had not yet reached out to the Meridian Township Clerk, but she would encourage them to train their poll workers on the new Voter Assist Terminal.

Clerk Byrum stated Meridian Township was of the size that they got to train their own workers and she did not have the authority to train them, and neither did the State of Michigan.

Clerk Byrum stated Chairperson Scullion had asked about a February Election, and the State of Michigan had done away with the February Election date, so regular election dates were in May, August, and November. She further stated that the Governor could call for a special election for the 68<sup>th</sup> House District which had been vacated by Andy Schor, Mayor of Lansing.

Clerk Byrum stated she estimated the cost of a special election to be about \$50,000 for the County, whereas the City of Lansing estimated the cost to be about \$100,000 and she expected it to be less than that, considering the cost of the County-wide election in November 2017. She further stated the Governor's Office had not reached out, and it was usually customary for the Governor's Office to reach out to the County Clerk.

Discussion.

Clerk Byrum stated that was why there were only three election dates, but the note that stated meetings could be cancelled or added due to business was in case a special election did take place. She further stated she hoped if there was a special election that it would be toward the end of February, to be sure ballots were available for overseas and military voters.

#### **Approval of the November 8, 9 and 13 2017 Minutes**

The November 8, 2017 minutes were amended as follows:

Clerk Byrum requested that the Board of Canvassers canvass the City of Mason, Meridian Township and the City of East Lansing first, and that they canvass one jurisdiction at a time to avoid any ballots mixing **if ballots are needed to be retabulated.**

This was considered a friendly amendment.

The November 13, 2017 minutes were amended as follows:

Motion to amend and approve the **August 9 and 10, and 11, 2017** minutes carried unanimously.

This was considered a friendly amendment.

Moved by Canvasser Prout, supported by Canvasser Groff, to approve the minutes as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

### **Election of Officers**

Moved by Canvasser Prout, supported by Canvasser Owens, to nominate Canvasser Scullion as Chairperson of the Ingham County Board of Canvassers.

Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Canvasser Groff, supported by Canvasser Owens, to nominate Canvasser Prout as Vice-Chairperson of the Ingham County Board of Canvassers.

Motion carried unanimously.

### **Adopt 2018 Meeting Dates and Times**

A discussion ensued regarding the location and time of the meetings.

It was decided that 2018 meetings would be held in the Board of Commissioners Room at the Mason Historical Courthouse.

The discussion regarding the time of the meetings continued.

Three meeting dates of February 27, March 14, and March 21, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. were added to the tentative schedule for the purposes of certifying ballot containers. Locations would be determined at a later date.

Moved by Canvasser Groff, supported by Canvasser Owens, to adopt the tentative 2018 meeting schedule as follows:

February 27, 2018 (Location to be determined)

March 14, 2018 (Location to be determined)

March 21, 2018 (Location to be determined)

Following meetings will be held in the Board of Commissioners Room at the Mason Historical Courthouse:

#### **(May 8, 2018 Election)**

May 9, 2018, 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

May 10, 2018, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

May 11, 2018, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

May 14, 2018, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

May 15, 2018, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

May 16, 2018, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

May 17, 2018, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

May 18, 2018, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

(August 7, 2018 Election)

August 8, 2018, 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.  
August 9, 2018, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
August 10, 2018, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
August 13, 2018, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
August 14, 2018, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
August 15, 2018, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
August 16, 2018, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
August 17, 2018, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
August 20, 2018, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
August 21, 2018, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
August 22, 2018, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
August 23, 2018, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
August 24, 2018, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

(November 6, 2018 Election)

November 7, 2018, 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.  
November 8, 2018, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
November 9, 2018, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
November 13, 2018, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
November 14, 2018, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
November 15, 2018, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
November 16, 2018 at 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
November 19, 2018 at 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
November 20, 2018 at 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
November 21, 2018 at 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
November 22, 2018 at 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.

Other Business

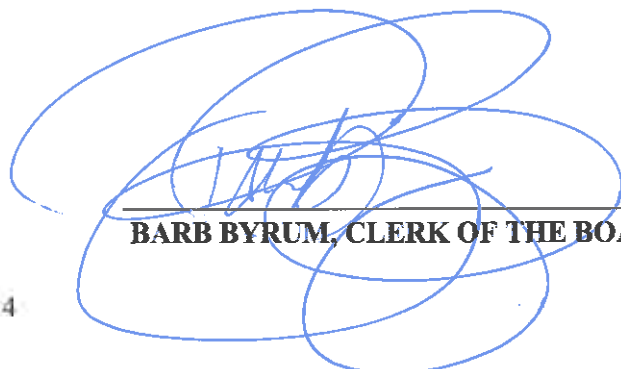
Clerk Byrum stated the municipal clerks were requesting reimbursement for the November 7, 2017 Election and it would be before the Board of Commissioners as a resolution this month.

Public Comment

None.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:43 a.m.



---

**BARB BYRUM, CLERK OF THE BOARD**