

APPROVED
December 1, 2017

INGHAM COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION
MINUTES
November 3, 2017

The regular meeting of the Ingham County Election Commission was called to order at 3:29 p.m. by Judge Garcia. The meeting was held in the Board of Commissioners Room at the Grady Porter Building in Lansing, MI.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Barb Byrum, Ingham County Clerk
Richard Garcia, Chief Probate Judge
Eric Schertzing, Ingham County Treasurer

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Jen Shuster, Chief Deputy County Clerk
Liz Kane, Election/Clerk Coordinator
Dave Stoker, Corporate Counsel
Greg Talberg, Williamston School Board member
Jonathan Brandt, petitioner

Approval of Minutes:

Moved by Clerk Byrum, supported by Treasurer Schertzing, to approve the minutes of the September 6, 2017 Election Commission Meeting.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Approval of the invoices for the November 7, 2017 Election – \$29,377.98

Moved by Treasurer Schertzing, supported by Judge Garcia, to approve the invoices for the November 7, 2017 Election.

Clerk Byrum stated the invoices presented were only part of the invoices for the Election, which involved precinct kits and ballots. She further stated the programming done in-house was saving the County money on the election.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Consideration of Recall Petition Language

Judge Garcia explained the task of the Election Commission, which was to determine if there was significant clarity of the language on the petition submitted.

Judge Garcia asked Jonathan Brandt, petitioner, to come forward and explain the petition language.

Mr. Brandt approached the Election Commission and explained the petition language proposed.

Judge Garcia asked how possible petition signers would know what they would be signing, based on the proposed language.

Mr. Brandt stated that copies of all the policies referenced in the language would be available with each petition circulator.

Judge Garcia asked if there was a maximum length the petition language could be.

Clerk Byrum stated that the Michigan Bureau of Elections had given direction that the proposed language had to fit on the petition sheet.

Clerk Byrum explained when the signed petitions could be filed based on the term length.

Discussion.

Greg Talberg, elected official whose recall is sought, approached the Election Commission.

Mr. Talberg read from a written statement.

Discussion.

Judge Garcia stated that the proposed language was factual, but he was concerned about the clarity for an elector to know what they would be signing. He further stated he would be voting against the proposed recall language based on the lack of clarity.

Treasurer Schertzing explained to the petitioner that there was a pathway to figuring out the clarity of the wording.

Treasurer Schertzing stated he agreed with Judge Garcia.

Clerk Byrum stated she agreed with Judge Garcia.

Discussion.

Moved by Judge Garcia, supported by Treasurer Schertzing, to deny the request because of the lack of clarity due to the use of school policy numbers on the face of the recall petition.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Discussion.

Judge Garcia advised the petitioner that he could appeal the Election Commission's decision or submit a new recall petition.

Public Comment:

Mr. Brandt asked if he could submit a new petition to the County Clerk.

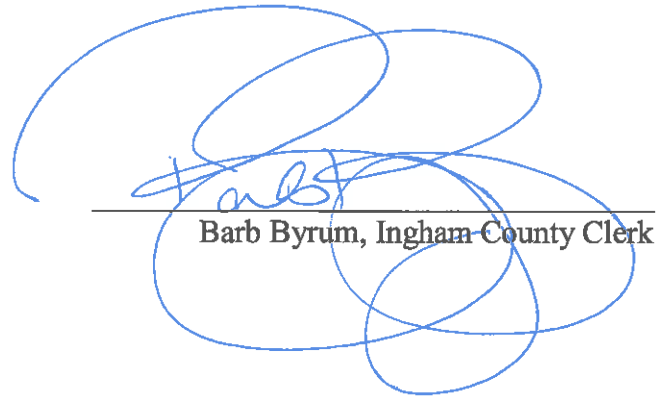
Judge Garcia stated he could submit as many petitions as he would like.

Adjournment:

Moved by Judge Garcia, supported by Clerk Byrum, to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:52 p.m.



Barb Byrum, Ingham County Clerk

