

**Butler County Board of Elections
Board Meeting Minutes
August 29, 2017**

The Butler County Board of Elections met on Tuesday, August 29, 2017, at 9:00 a.m. for a special meeting. Roll call was taken and present were Member Kathy Wyenandt, Member Todd Hall, Member Chris Wunnenberg, Deputy Director Jocelyn Bucaro, Election Services Manager Mickey Smith, Early Voting Administrator Eric Corbin, Secretary of State Regional Liaison Beth Hamad, Candidate for Hamilton City Mayor Ramon Batista, his wife Carmen Batista, St. Clair Township Fiscal Officer Doug Wheelwright, St. Clair Township Solicitor Gary Sheets, and Journal News Reporter Mike Pitman. Member Wyenandt is acting Chairman.

Under Election Business Member Wyenandt submitted candidates to be certified to the November 7, 2017 General Election listed on Document 1 below. Deputy Director Bucaro explained that two candidates are being certified at this meeting because the City of Middletown's Charter deadline to file was August 24, 2017. And two candidates who filed as write-in candidates are being certified. The write-in deadline was August 28, 2017. Member Wunnenberg moved to certify all of the candidates for the November 7, 2017 General Election; seconded by Member Hall. Roll call:

Chairman Cloud	absent
Member Wyenandt	yea
Member Hall	yea
Member Wunnenberg	yea

All in favor; motion carried.

Document 1 *EC 8-29-17*

Certified
Admin. Sign & Date

November 7th, General Election
Candidates
August 29th, 2017

CITY OF MIDDLETOWN For Member of Council at Large
Amy Vitori Mark Barker
BUTLER COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER- Full Term 01/01/2018 For Member of Governing Board of Educational Service Center
Tawana Lynn Keels (write-in)
BUTLER COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER- Unexpired Term Ending 12/31/2019 For Member of Governing Board of Educational Service Center
Steven M. Feldmann (write-in)

Deputy Director Bucaro submitted the Trenton Charter Amendment to be certified to the November 7, 2017 General Election listed on Document 2. She explained the City of Trenton had previously filed this charter amendment but failed to list the date of the election, and that the city filed a corrective action on August 29, 2017 before the meeting. The deadline to file these amendment has not yet passed. Member Hall moved to certify the City of Trenton Charter Amendment to the November 7, 2017 General Election; seconded by Member Wunnenberg. Roll call:

Chairman Cloud	absent
Member Wyenandt	yea
Member Hall	yea

Member Wunnenberg yea

All in favor; motion carried.

Document 2

Certified EC 8-29-17

Admin. Sign & Date

Butler County Board of Elections
November 7th, 2017 General Election

Board Certification

Issues

August 29, 2017

Issues

City of Trenton– Charter Amendment

- Eight precincts

08/28/2017 4:26 PM 1

Deputy Director Bucaro submitted petitions in question to be certified to the November 7, 2017 General Election listed on Document 3. She explained that Ramon Batista, candidate for Hamilton City Mayor, did not sign the circulator's statement on his petition form. She reminded the Board that the staff has had multiple problems with this petition form and that the staff continues to communicate with the city about these issues. Ramon Batista addressed the Board and explained this is his first time running for elected office and has worked very hard collecting his signatures, despite making this innocent mistake. He

thanked the Board for taking time to consider his case. Member Hall asked for the staff recommendation. Deputy Director Bucaro indicated that the petition causes trouble for the staff. Member Wunnenberg moved to certify Ramon Batista, candidate for Hamilton City Mayor, to the November 7, 2017 General Election; seconded by Member Hall. Roll call:

Chairman Cloud	absent
Member Wyenandt	yea
Member Hall	yea
Member Wunnenberg	yea

All in favor; motion carried.

Document 3

Certified EC 8-29-17

Admin. Sign & Date

Butler County Board of Elections
November 7, 2017 General Election
Petition in Question:
August 29, 2017

Ramon Batista – Hamilton City Mayor

Certified Not Certified

- Circulator Statement - signature line in question
- Provided one circulator statement instead of two
- Signatures
 - Number of valid signatures required – 100
 - Number of signatures submitted – 198
 - Number of valid signatures – 108

Deputy Director Bucaro submitted Document 4 to reconsider the certification status of the St. Clair Township Fire Levy Renewal. After the last Board meeting, the staff was able to review the issue and recommend certification. On the original resolution, the date of the election was listed on the document two times, once as November 7, 2012 and once as November 7, 2017. The staff believes the intended election date can be determined and does not need to rely on the corrective resolution that was filed but signed by someone other than the Township Fiscal Officer. Member Wunnenberg moved to certify the St. Clair Township Fire Levy to the November 7, 2017 General Election; seconded by Member Hall.

Roll call:

Chairman Cloud	absent
Member Wyenandt	yea
Member Hall	yea
Member Wunnenberg	yea

All in favor; motion carried.

Document 4

Certified EC 8-29-17

Admin. Sign & Date

Butler County Board of Elections
November 7th, 2017 General Election

Reconsider Certification

August 29, 2017

Issue

St. Clair Township – Fire (Renewal)

Certified Not Certified

- Four precincts

08/28/2017 4:15 PM 1

Deputy Director Bucaro informed the Board they could bring up any other issues for consideration if desired. St. Clair Township Fiscal Officer Douglas Wheelwright shared a letter with the Board explaining that when the correcting resolution was ready for his signature he was not in town to sign the document. He gave the township solicitor authority to sign the correcting resolution via text message. He explained how important this levy is to the constituency of St. Clair Township and that he had signed the original resolutions attempting to place a levy on the ballot.

Member Wunnenberg asked when the deadline was to file resolutions. Deputy Director Bucaro stated August 9, 2017. Member Hall asked Wheelwright about St. Clair Township's staff. Wheelwright explained, excluding the road crew, he and one office administrator are the entire staff. Member Wunnenberg asked what the first error was that caused the issue. Deputy Director Bucaro explained that the township did not correctly specify which year the tax would begin to be collected. Wheelwright clarified that the issue is a renewal and indicated the tax year to collect would be the one following the last year included when the issue was on the ballot last. Deputy Director Bucaro noted the prosecutor's office advised that the tax collection year could not be determined by the Board.

St. Clair Township Solicitor Gary Sheets addressed the Board. He explained that, although the tax collection year in the resolution is incorrect, the accompanying Auditor's Certificate provides calculations for the correct taxing year, and therefore the intent of the township is clear. Member Wunnenberg stated that it is important the people of St. Clair Township have the opportunity to vote on the issue and the paperwork should have been correct. Member Wunnenberg moved to certify the St. Clair Township EMS Levy to the November 7, 2017

General Election; seconded by Member Hall. Roll call:

Chairman Cloud	absent
Member Wyenandt	yea
Member Hall	yea
Member Wunnenberg	yea

All in favor; motion carried.

With no further business, Member Hall moved to adjourn; seconded by Member

Wunnenberg. Roll call:

Chairman Cloud	yea
Member Wyenandt	yea
Member Hall	yea
Member Wunnenberg	yea

All in favor; motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:35 a.m.

ABSENT

_____	_____
Frank Cloud, Chairman	Diane Noonan, Director
_____	_____
Todd Hall, Member	Chris Wunnenberg, III Member

Kathleen Wyenandt, Member	