**BOARD OF ELECTIONS** 

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# November 2023 Post-Election Audit Summary

### Purpose

Election audits are conducted to ensure that election voting tabulators are operating accurately and complying with regulations or internal policies, and to promote voter confidence in the election administration process. (<u>United States Election Assistance Commission</u>)

#### **Process**

#### **Timeline**

According to Ohio Secretary of State <u>Directive 2023-31</u>, if a recount is conducted, the post-election audit shall begin immediately after the board certifies the results of the recount. When the Board of Elections certified the results of the November 7, 2023, General Election on November 28, 2023, it was determined that a recount was required for Member of Board of Education for Mason City Schools and Issue 9 Ross Township Police Levy. The recount was automatically required because the margin of the declared outcome of each race was less than one-half percent (0.05%) of the total votes cast in the contest. The recount was scheduled to begin December 5, 2023. The recount was completed and then certified on Monday, December 11, 2023. On November 28, 2023, the Board members randomly selected tabulators to be audited. The post-election audit began on Monday, December 11, 2023. The audit results were certified on Monday, December 18, 2023.

## Preparations for the Post-Election Audit

The official canvass of the election included 117,145 ballots. To meet the five percent requirement at least 5,857 ballots had to be included in the audit.

The Board selected the following races to audit, the results of State Issue 1, State Issue 2, and Member of Butler County Educational Resource Center. During the board meeting on November 20, 2023, it was determined that the audit would be conducted by tabulator. This means the audit will be conducted by counting the votes on individual voting machines. There are five methods a voter in Butler County can cast their ballot,

DIRECTOR Nicole Unzicker

DEPUTY DIRECTOR Eric Corbin



- in-person at the polls on an electronic voting machine
- in-person at the polls on a paper ballot
- in-person early at the Board of Elections
- by mail
- casting a provisional ballot

Ballots from all five voting methods were included in the audit selection to ensure the election results are correct on different types of tabulators.

The Members of the Board alternated turns randomly pulling tickets from a bin to select tabulators to include in the audit. As each ticket was pulled, the ticket's barcode was scanned into a spreadsheet to calculate the total ballots selected. When the 55<sup>th</sup> ticket was pulled, 5,933 ballots had been selected which accounted for 5.06% of the total votes cast in the election.

November 7, 2023 General Election Audit Batch Selection

117,145 Total Ballots Cast 5,857 5% of Ballots Cast

	Progress Indication	Batches Selected	Ballots Selected	Percent of Total Ballots	Remaining Ballots to Select
I	Enough batches have been selected	55	5,933	5.06%	76 Over

Draw Number	Tabulator Name	Batch	Ballots Cast	Percent of a
				votes
	PROV ICC 2	6	97	0.08
	ABS ICC 2	41	164	0.14
	TALAWANDA MIDDLE SCHOOL-ICX 14	1	41	0.03
2293	P@P ICC 3	15	13	0.01
	ABSENTEE 33	1	668	0.57
	ABS ICC 2	31	123	0.10
	BOGAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-ICX 12	1	61	0.05
	EDGEWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL-ICX 12	1	79	0.07
	EDGEWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL-ICX 22	1	23	0.02
	WAYNE TWP FIRE DEPT-ICX 10	1	57	0.05
2000		1	72	0.06
	MIAMI UNIVERSITY - HAMILTON ICX 11	1	45	0.04
1476	HERITAGE EARLY CHILDHOOD ICX 6	1	69	0.06
1233	EDGEWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL-ICX 32	1	61	0.05
2068	WAYNE TOWNSHIP HALL-ICX 3	1	86	0.07
1359	FAIRFIELD SOUTH ELEMENTARY-ICX 12	1	107	0.09
2124	WILSON MIDDLE SCHOOL-ICX 8	1	56	0.05
1657	LAKOTA WEST FRESHMAN SCHOOL-ICX 20	1	108	0.09
2134	WYANDOT EARLY CHILDHOOD-ICX 7	1	39	0.03
1944	ROSS MIDDLE SCHOOL-ICX 6	1	104	0.09
2012	UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-ICX 3	1	30	0.03
2170	ABSENTEE 30	1	900	0.77
1914	RIDGEWAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-ICX 9	1	48	0.04
2064	VOICE OF AMERICA - METRO PARKS ICX 18	1	52	0.04
1055	BOGAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-ICX 11	1	80	0.0
1430	HAMILTON CHRISTIAN CENTER-ICX 5	1	109	0.09
1603	LAKOTA EAST HIGH SCHOOL-ICX 12	1	11	0.01
1835	MORGAN TWP COMMUNITY CTR-ICX 1	1	49	0.04
	UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-ICX 9	1	153	0.13
1970	SHAWNEE EARLY CHILDHOOD SCHOOL-ICX 12	1	102	0.09
	MORGAN TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATION-ICX 5	1	134	0.11
1830	MORGAN TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATION-ICX 4	1	117	0.10
	MORGAN TOWNSHIP ADMINISTRATION-ICX 8	î	121	0.10
2029		1	105	0.09
	ABSENTEE 3	1	58	0.05
	LAKOTA WEST HIGH SCHOOL-ICX 9	1	142	0.12
	ABS ICC 2	21	117	0.10
	CHEROKEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ICX 1	1	109	0.09
	MONROE NAZARENE CHURCH-ICX 3	ī	127	0.11
	AMANDA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-ICX 11	î	30	0.03
	CHEROKEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-ICX 2	ī	66	0.06
	FAIRFIELD GREENS SOUTH TRACE-ICX 2	1	109	0.00
	CENTRAL ACADEMY-ICX 10	1	108	0.09
	RIDGEWAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-ICX 10	1	70	0.06
	HAMILTON FRESHMAN SCHOOL-ICX 14	1	95	0.08
	BUTLER TECH LIBERTY TWP CAMPUS-ICX 12	1	110	0.00
	RIDGEWAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-ICX 11	1	42	0.04
	CREEKVIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-ICX 9	1 1	81	0.07
	BOARD OF ELECTIONS ICX 4	1	25	0.07

November 7, 2023 General Election Audit Batch Selection

Progress Indication

Enough batches have been selected

117,145 Total Ballots Cast 5,857 5% of Ballots Cast

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Draw Number	Tabulator Name	Batch	Ballots Cast	Percent of all votes	
1059	BRIDGEPORT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-ICX 2	1	76	0.06%	
2137	WYANDOT EARLY CHILDHOOD-ICX 10	1	86	0.07%	
1789	MILLER RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-ICX 9	1	115	0.10%	
1971	SHAWNEE EARLY CHILDHOOD SCHOOL-ICX 13	1	91	0.08%	
2117	WILSON MIDDLE SCHOOL-ICX 1	1	101	0.09%	
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After the audit criteria was selected, election officials began to collect all the paper ballots from the selected tabulators to be hand counted.

## Conducting the Hand Count

Teams of election officials composed of a member of each of the major political parties counted the votes of the selected tabulators. Teams slowly reviewed either the paper ballots or the Voter Verified Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) and marked each vote on a tally sheet. When the count was complete for each tabulator, the ballots were returned to the appropriate storage area and the tally sheet was given to a separate team for entry into an audit spreadsheet to compare the results of the official canvass to the hand count.

#### Results

The results of both the official canvass and the audit (hand count) are listed in the tables below.

State Issue 1						
	Official	Audit (Hand				
Responses	Certification	Count) Vote	Difference	Explanation of difference		
	Vote Total	Total				
Yes	2,940	2,940	0			
No	2,965	2,965	0			
Over Votes	0	0	0			
Under Votes	28	28	0			
Total Votes	5,933	5,933	0			

State Issue 2						
	Official	Audit (Hand				
Responses	Certification	Count) Vote	Difference	Explanation of difference		
	Vote Total	Total				
Yes	3,195	3,195	0			
No	2,489	2,489	0			
Over Votes	0	0	0			
Under Votes	249	249	0			
Total Votes	5,933	5,933	0			

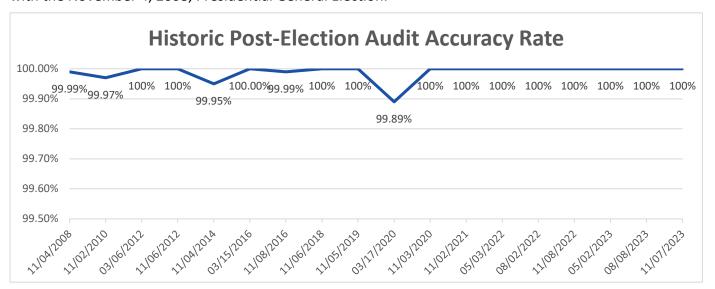
Butler County Educational Resource Center						
Official Audit (Hand						
Candidates	Certification	Count) Vote	Difference	Explanation of difference		
	Vote Total	Total				
Steve Feldmann	1,207	1,207	0			



Michael Hudson	1,064	1,064	0	
Benita E. Mudd	916	916	0	
Over Votes	0	0	0	
Under Votes	2,785	2,785	0	
Total Votes	5,972	5,972	0	

#### Historical Results

Below is a graph providing the accuracy rate of each post-election audit conducted in Butler County beginning with the November 4, 2008, Presidential General Election.



#### Conclusion

Election Officials completed the post-election audit of the November 7, 2023, General Election and found no discrepancies in the data from the official canvass to the hand count. The results of the audit show the accuracy rate to be 100%.