**Orange County Canvassing Board Minutes**

**For the August 18, 2020, Primary Election**

**Monday, August 10, 2020 at 2:00 PM**

**Attendance**

Jeanette Bigney, County Judge, Board Chair

Victoria Siplin, County Commissioner

Bill Cowles, Supervisor of Elections

Steve Jewett, Alternate County Judge

Tina Caraballo, Alternate County Judge

Whitney Evers, Canvassing Board Attorney

Nick Shannin, SOE Attorney

Silvana Bermudez, Recording Secretary

**Public Attendees**

Leigh Zehnder, Florida Dems Party Orange Voter Protection Lead

Michael Sasso, Voter

Mary Nardella, Voter

**Canvassing Board Business**

The meeting was called to order at 2:03 p.m.

Acknowledgement of Public Notification advertisements published in the Orlando Sentinel on July 29, 2020.

Meeting Minutes from July 24, 2020, Orange County Public Test for the Voting Equipment for the Primary Election were reviewed. A correction was made to the F.S. 101.5612(2) number. **Jeannette Bigney, County Judge Chair, made a motion to approve the Minutes.** **Bill Cowles, Supervisor of Elections, seconded the motion. Motion approved.**

Two public members made a formal appearance.

Leigh Zehnder

Michael Sasso

The winning Vote-by-Mail video was shown to the Board.

Nick Shannin, Supervisor’s Attorney, shared his opinion issued to the SOE concerning ­­­ F.S. 101.68. (1) - Canvassing of the vote-by-mail ballot. The opinion confirms what documents can be used to verify a Vote-by-Mail voter’s signature.

Whitney Evers, Canvassing Board Attorney, recommends the Canvassing Board move to approve adding “Time may be modified at the discretion of the Chair. Please refer to Orange County Canvassing Board Rules Governing Public Comment adopted by the Canvassing Board on March 9, 2020 pursuant to section 286.0114, Florida Statutes.” to the Public Appearance Request Form. **Bill Cowles, Supervisor of Elections, made a motion to approve the adding the reference to the Public Appearance Request Form.** **Jeannette Bigney, County Judge Chair, seconded the motion. Motion approved.**

Review of Agenda for today’s meeting given by Bill Cowles, Supervisor of Elections.

The Canvassing Board canvassed Vote-By-Mail Ballots, including these categories:

* No Signatures
* Unusual/Other Issues
  + Ballots rejected, were rejected contingent on no affidavit being received from the voter prior to 5:00 p.m. Thursday, August 20, 2020.
* Signature No Match
* Signed Wrong Ballot Envelope
* Party change issues

See attachment for the actions taken for each of the categories above.

Bill Cowles, Supervisor of Elections, asked the Board about moving the Manual Audit date to Wednesday, August 26, 2020, from Monday, August 31, 2020. The Board proofed the Legal Ad with the date change that will be published on August 16, 2020. **All voted in favor; date changes passed unanimously.**

Bill Cowles, Supervisor of Elections, gave update on Vote by Mail Ballots.

Bill Cowles, Supervisor of Elections, gave an update on the Special Election for the City of Apopka; the Orange County Canvassing Board will be canvassing the Special Election for the Apopka City Council during the November Election.

Canvassing Board will re-convene on Monday, August 17, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.

There being no further business, **Bill Cowles, Supervisor of Elections, made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Jeanette Bigney, County Judge, seconded the motion. All voted in favor, motion approved.**

The meeting adjourned 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Silvana Bermudez, Recording Secretary