

Scott County Board of Supervisors
November 10, 2020 8:00 a.m.

The Board of Supervisors met pursuant to adjournment with Kinzer, Maxwell, Beck, Knobbe and Croken present. Due to social distancing concerns relating to COVID19, Supervisors and staff were spaced apart during the meeting with some staff participating electronically.

This special meeting was called for the purpose of canvassing the votes cast at the November 3, 2020 Scott County General Election.

Roxanna Moritz, County Auditor, said she wanted to thank the 472 pollworkers that worked the election, thank the Secretary of State who did a great job with all of the public service announcements and the \$48,000 from the Cares Act that was committed to County postage costs. She said she also wanted to thank her staff for working vigilantly for weeks to ensure that all of the laws and requirements were met.

She said, during this election, she had to move half of her staff out to the Tremont Warehouse, which proved to be very difficult. She said the absentee board had to be moved to the Tremont Warehouse for space and social distancing concerns, as well as be under camera.

Moritz said EMA worked a coordinated effort to make sure that on Election Day everything was going the way it was supposed to. She also said 11 of the rovers were from the Sheriff's Office and there were no confrontations or issues at the polling sites.

Moritz said Scott County had 64,142 early votes and on Election Day 28,911 voters showed up and we opened all of our precincts. She said we combined two precincts into one in Davenport and, in Bettendorf, three precincts were located individually at the Waterfront Convention Center. We were challenged with curbside voting on Election Day, with 150 people calling to request curbside voting due to having to quarantine or due to actually having COVID.

Supervisor Beck asked about the number of folks requesting an absentee ballot and did not vote.

Moritz said there is different anomalies, undeliverable and unreceivable, and 92 of the ballots that came in without a signature would not be fixed. She said more than one letter went out to the voters in regards to their signatures as well as phone calls and emails, if available. She said there were 115 ballots that were returned as undeliverable and after voter history is complete, we can see how many people that requested an absentee ballot and either didn't return it or went to the polls and voted.

Supervisor Croken congratulated Knobbe and Beck for their reelection wins, requested a proclamation congratulating the pollworkers on an outstanding job and thanked Moritz and her staff.

Supervisor Kinzer said he wanted to say thank you for everything, the poll-site was well run in Blue Grass and wanted to make sure this canvass doesn't deter a recount.

Moritz said no, that a post-election audit of one precinct will occur on Thursday between Thursday and Friday at 5pm, there is an opportunity for anyone that wants to ask for a recount to do so.

Beck said he appreciated Moritz's accessibility.

Supervisor Maxwell said good job to Moritz and her staff and thanked everyone.

Moritz said the Secretary of State had great programs in place for the election.

Croken asked Moritz to explain the recount.

Moritz said, with the Congressional District race being so close, either candidate can call for a recount either county wide or specific precincts.

Richard Bauer, Elections Supervisor, said there was a tie in the Buffalo Township Clerk race with all seven of the top write-in names each getting two votes. He said there was also a tie in the Lincoln Township Trustee race.

Knobbe drew Darla Roe's name for the Buffalo Township Clerk and drew Kent Krambeck for the Lincoln Township Trustee.

Moved by Beck, seconded by Maxwell a motion to certify the results of the November 3, 2020 Scott County General Election.

Ian Russell said he is here on behalf of Rita Hart's campaign, and had a couple of follow-up questions for Moritz. He asked about the 142 absentee ballots that were looked at yesterday but only 15 were accepted.

Moritz said 92 ballots were received without signatures and were sent a letter.

Russell asked Moritz to explain the bar codes and asked if they were all scanned into the system.

Moritz said each ballot envelope has a bar code for use with the I-voters system and an intelligent bar code tracked through the Postal Service.

Maxwell Shefter asked about the discussion yesterday with the Absentee Board regarding signatures and wanted to confirm that there was no signature vouching going on.

Moritz said there is no signature verification in Iowa and we accept everything that has a signature.

Bauer said the two ballots were presented to the Absentee Board and they singled those out and said he believes it was that the husband signed for the wife.

Shefter asked if the husband had signed the wife's ballot, would that be signature matching and be disqualified.

Moritz said the Absentee Board is autonomous of her and she would check on those particular ballots and contact the Secretary of State.

Moved by Croken, seconded by Kinzer at 8:51 a.m. a motion to take a 15 minute recess for Auditor Moritz to contact the Secretary of State. All Ayes.

The Board returned from the recess at 9:03 a.m.

Moritz said, in regards to the two ballots in question, the husband signed both ballots.

The Board Voted on the motion to certify the results of the November 3, 2020 Scott County General Election. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Moved by Kinzer, seconded by Beck at 9:07 a.m. a motion to adjourn the special meeting. All Ayes.

Tony Knobbe, Chair of the Board
Scott County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST: Roxanna Moritz
Scott County Auditor