



STATE OF MICHIGAN
BUREAU OF ELECTIONS
LANSING

**Meeting
of the
Board of State Canvassers
March 3, 2023**

Called to order: 10:00 a.m.

Members present: Mary Ellen Gurewitz – Chairperson
Richard Houskamp – Vice Chairperson
Jeannette Bradshaw
Anthony Daunt

Agenda item: Consideration of the meeting minutes for the February 1, 2023 meeting.

Board action on agenda item: The Board approved the minutes of the February 1, 2023 meeting as submitted. Moved by Bradshaw; supported by Daunt. Ayes: Bradshaw, Daunt, Gurewitz, Houskamp. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Agenda item: Consideration of the 75-word summary of the purpose of the initiative petition sponsored by Michigan Justice Advocacy.

Board action on agenda item: The Board temporarily moved agenda item 3 to when the Attorney General representative arrives. Moved by Bradshaw; supported by Daunt. Ayes: Bradshaw, Daunt, Gurewitz, Houskamp. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Agenda item: Consideration of the sufficiency of recall petition #1 submitted by Paul Foust against Thomas Whitener. The reasons for recall stated by the petition are as follows:

“Concerns were raised about Treasurer Whitener’s job performance after a backlog in the processing of receipts was discovered by the Kalamazoo County Commission. Whitener was unable to resolve the issue to the satisfaction of all County Commissioners.”

Board action on agenda item: The Board determined that the reasons for recall printed on petition #1 submitted by Paul Foust against Thomas Whitener on February 15, 2023 are not factual and sufficiently clear because it is difficult to understand the reasoning being put forth in the recall and because the reasons alleged were not based on Mr. Whitener’s conduct. Moved by Daunt; supported by Bradshaw. Ayes: Bradshaw, Daunt, Gurewitz, Houskamp. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Agenda item: Consideration of the sufficiency of recall petition #2 submitted by Paul Foust against Thomas Whitener. The reasons for recall stated by the petition are as follows:

“Treasurer Whitener appointed Michael Budram to serve as his Deputy Treasurer. Mr. Budram had little experience in matters of public finance when assuming the position, and ended up resigning after job performance issues arose.”

Board action on agenda item: The Board determine that the reasons for recall printed on petition #2 submitted by Paul Foust against Thomas Whitener on February 15, 2023 are not factual and sufficiently clear because the language goes to 3 different points and therefore does not make it sufficiently clear. Moved by Bradshaw; supported by Daunt. Ayes: Bradshaw, Daunt, Gurewitz, Houskamp. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Agenda item: Consideration of the 75-word summary of the purpose of the initiative petition sponsored by Michigan Justice Advocacy.

Board action on agenda item: The Board moved to return back to agenda item 3. Moved by Bradshaw; supported by Daunt. Ayes: Bradshaw, Daunt, Gurewitz, Houskamp. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Board action on agenda item: the Board approved the summary of the purpose of the initiative petition sponsored by Michigan Justice Advocacy as drafted by the Director of Elections and presented by the Director on March 3, 2023. The language is as follows:

Initiation of legislation to: reinstate a good time credit program that allows prisoners to earn good time credits that reduce sentences by 30 days per month in each month a prisoner is not found guilty of a major misconduct such as violent or dangerous activity, and repeal portions of Truth in Sentencing law that established mandatory minimum sentences extended by disciplinary time for misconduct; apply law retroactively to all prisoners in the Michigan Department of Corrections.

Moved by Bradshaw; supported by Daunt. Ayes: Bradshaw, Daunt, Gurewitz, Houskamp. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Agenda item: Discussion of proposed updated petition processing procedures.

Board action on agenda item: The Board took no action on proposed updated petition processing procedures.

Adjourned: 12:42 p.m.

Board action on agenda item: The Board motioned to adjourn the meeting. Moved by Bradshaw; supported by Daunt. Ayes: Bradshaw, Daunt, Gurewitz, Houskamp. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Mary Ellen Gurewitz
Chair Gurewitz

Richard Houskamp
Vice-Chair Houskamp

Janette L. Bradshaw
Member Bradshaw

Anthony R. Dant
Member Dant

3/20/23
Date