



Jon Husted
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Via Electronic Mail and Regular Mail

July 10, 2014

Jon Stainbrook, Chairman
Lucas County Republican Party
1758 Meadowlark Avenue
Toledo, Ohio 43614

Steven Steel, Chairman
Lucas County Democratic Party
1817 Madison Avenue
Toledo, Ohio 43604

Dear Chairman Stainbrook and Chairman Steel:

As you know, there are currently three vacancies on the Lucas County Board of Elections. Further, the Lucas County Republican Executive Committee has chosen to pursue litigation in lieu of recommending competent board members to serve. With utmost deference to the Ohio Supreme Court as I await a decision, I am focused on maintaining smooth operation of the Lucas County Board of Elections.

The Lucas County Board of Elections staff is busy preparing for a special election on August 5, 2014. Administration of that election, including the unofficial and official canvassing of votes, certification of the election results, and any possible recounts, requires action by members of the board of elections. In order to facilitate these statutory processes without interfering with the court's proceedings, it is necessary for me to appoint board members.

The people of Lucas County must have a functioning Board today in the interest of ensuring proper administration of the August 5, 2014 Special Election. It is with this in mind that I am appointing Judge Peter Handwork and Mr. Mark Wagoner, Sr. as members of the Lucas County Board of Elections.

Additionally, my office has completed its review of Ms. Brenda Hill, the Democratic nominee for the Lucas County Board of Elections. Finding nothing in Ms. Hill's background that links her to the prior dysfunction at the board of elections, and finding that Ms. Hill is competent to serve, I am appointing Ms. Hill as well.

With a full Board now in place and the special election just around the corner, I am also removing Mr. John Irish from suspension, and allowing him to resume his role on the Lucas County Board of Elections. Mr. Irish is well aware of the problems and should know that I expect him to be part of the solution now that he is reinstated.

Materials have been sent to Ms. Hill, Judge Handwork, and Mr. Wagoner to be executed and filed with the Lucas County Clerk of Courts immediately. My office will stand at the ready to help the Lucas County Board of Elections as they work toward administering the upcoming special election.

As I have said time and time again, it had been my hope that these issues could be settled locally; however, that solution remains elusive. With litigation pending, it is my hope that we will reach resolution sooner rather than later. As I have in all other litigation, I will abide by the court's order, but until the matter is resolved, I am charged with ensuring that the board of elections remains operational, and it cannot do so without this action today.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jon Husted". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "J".

Jon Husted

cc: The Honorable Peter Handwork
Brenda Hill
John Irish
Mark Wagoner, Sr.
Lucas County Board of Elections