



WASHTENAW COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION

September 4, 2025

MINUTES

A meeting of the Washtenaw County Election Commission was held in-person in the lower-level large conference room at 200 N. Main Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48104.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lawrence Kestenbaum, Clerk/Register
Judge Darlene O'Brien
Latitia Lamelle Sharp, Treasurer

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Rena Basch, Director of Elections
James N. Allen, Deputy Clerk/Elections Program Manager
Debbie Swanson, Ypsilanti Township Clerk
Brenda Stumbo, Ypsilanti Township Supervisor

CALL TO ORDER

Judge O'Brien called the meeting to order at 3:50 pm.

INTRODUCTIONS

Judge O'Brien requested to move Introductions to the very beginning of the meeting. The Commission and members of the audience took turns introducing themselves.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 28, 2025 MEETING MINUTES

Kestenbaum moved, supported by Lamelle Sharp, to approve the minutes of the August 28, 2025 meeting.

Vote on the motion: 3 Yeas 0 Nays 0 Absent 0 Abstentions. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS - DISCUSSION REGARDING EARLY VOTING

The Commission held a discussion about Early Voting (EV). Elections Director Basch provided a summary of state election law as it pertains to EV, the County's agreement with conducting EV, and its recent history with administering it in the County. She explained that some communities were concerned that in an off year, where turnout and voter interest is much lower, that EV would not be a good use of taxpayer dollars.

Kestenbaum moved, supported by Lamelle Sharp to rescind the resolution from August, 28, 2025: *Approval of Early Voting Site Locations, Hours of Operation, and Inspector Rates of Pay.*

Judge O'Brien suggested if before rescinding the original approval, if the Commission should decide whether or not to conduct Early Voting for November. Clerk Kestenbaum agreed and withdrew his motion.

Kestenbaum moved, supported by Lamelle Sharp, to not hold Early Voting for November 2025.

Vote on the motion: 3 Yeas 0 Nays 0 Absent 0 Abstentions. Motion carried.

Kestenbaum moved, supported by Lamelle Sharp to rescind the resolution from August, 28, 2025: *Approval of Early Voting Site Locations, Hours of Operation, and Inspector Rates of Pay.*

Vote on the motion: 3 Yeas 0 Nays 0 Absent 0 Abstentions. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

O'Brien moved, supported by Kestenbaum, to adjourn the meeting at 4:06 pm.

Vote on the motion: 3 Yeas 0 Nays 0 Absent 0 Abstentions. Motion carried.

 2/11/26

Judge Darlene O'Brien

 2/11/26

Lawrence Kestenbaum, County Clerk/Register

Approved: 2/11/26