

Lorain County Board of Elections Spanish- Language Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

September 6, 2012

Lorain County Board of Elections

- 1. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by David Arredondo at 7:00pm with a welcome and introduction of guests. Mr. Arredondo reminded and stressed to the committee that the primary role of the Spanish Language Advisory Committee is to provide expertise and advice to the BOE regarding the Spanish community.
- 2. Attendance:** David Arredondo, Rigoberto Reveron, Sheila Soptelean, Richard Turner, Mildred Narvaez, Nellie Caraballo, Wilfredo Lozano
Guest: Jeffrey Campbell
Staff: Paul R. Adams, James Kramer, Janet Sutter, Barb Aldridge
- 3. Review & Approval of Minutes:** A motion to accept the June 28, 2012 meeting minutes was made by Lozano and seconded by Reveron, motion carried 7-0.
- 4. Remarks: Paul R. Adams, Director**
Paul stated that the costs associated with the implementation of the Department of Justice bilingual requirements resulted in an additional 21% budget increase for the March 3, Primary Election. Due to the projected increase in voter turnout for the November 6, 2012 General Election the BOE will request additional funds from the County Commissioners to cover the increased costs. The increased costs will include the expanded ballot pages, the number of pages required to include both languages and approximately 60 issues which will significantly impact the printing and postage costs for the entire county. A question was posed by Fred Lozano regarding how the DOJ determines the number of Spanish language voters and the need for bilingual poll workers and interpreters. Adams responded that the DOJ bases its recommendations on the number of registered voters with Hispanic surnames in each precinct.
- 5. Remarks: James Kramer, Deputy Director**
Kramer thanked the committee for their hard work and diligence in reviewing the ballot and making recommendations of the Official General Election Ballot for November 6, 2012. The Secretary of State's office has not provided the ballot language for State Issues 1 and 2. The Lorain County Board of Elections has selected a new provider for translation services that is more in alignment with the dialect that is most common among bilingual voters in Lorain County.

6. Ballot Language Changes

After much discussion regarding the intricacies of the Spanish language and it's various dialects in the Latino communities the committee resolved to make the following changes.

A motion was made by Rigo Reveron that on page 1, the translation for Sheriff will remain "Aguacil" and the translation for Coronor will change to "Juez Forense", seconded by Millie Narvaez, motion carried 6-0. On page 2, a motion was made by Sheila Soptelean and seconded by Richard Turner to make the following changes:

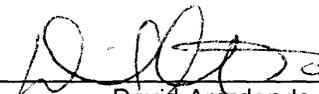
- *Vicepresidente* should be two words, "vice presidente"
- Do not vote for more than one, translation "no vote por mas de un"
- Change "problemas" as translation for issues to "asuntas". Motion carried 6-0.
- On page 3 a motion was made by Nellie Narvaez and seconded by Fred Lozano to make gender suffix corrections to the political parties for candidates, i.e. republicano, republicana and to make all of the dates contained in the ballot consistent, i.e., month, day, and year. Motion carried 7-0.

The committee will review the remaining ballot language and submit recommendations for changes to Mr. Kramer by Monday, September 10, 2012.

7. Next Meeting: The next meeting will take place on Thursday, December 13, 2012, 7:00pm.

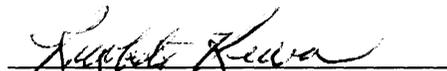
8. Adjournment: A motion was made by Mr. Turner to adjourn the meeting at 8:30pm, seconded by Sheila Sopetelean. Motion carried 7-0.

ATTEST:



David Arredondo, Chairman

ATTEST:


Rigoberto Reveron, Secretary