

Lorain County Board of Elections Spanish- Language Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

December 13, 2012

Lorain County Board of Elections

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Rigoberto Reveron at 7:00pm.
2. **Attendance:** Rigoberto Reveron, Sheila Soptelean, Richard Turner, Mildred Narvaez, Nellie Caraballo, Wilfredo Lozano
Staff: Paul R. Adams, Janet Sutter, Barb Aldridge
3. **Review & Approval of Minutes:** A motion to accept the September 6, 2012 meeting minutes was made by Fred Lozano and seconded by Sheila Soptelean, motion carried 6-0.
4. **Remarks: Paul R. Adams, Director**

The increased costs for the Nov 6, General Election were due to the expanded ballot pages, the printing of said pages and additional postage costs for the absentee ballots \$20,000. The total costs associated with DOJ compliance were including the audio services required for the TSX machines, staff and precinct officials was \$225,000. The DOJ observers were here again to observe the election. We will receive a report within 90 days. One of the issues that we can expect to see in the report involved the waiting at Sacred Heart Voting Center for the one and only republican interpreter. Although bi-partisan representation of interpreters is not required by the DOJ the LCBOE attempts to meet the guidelines of the Ohio SOS. The Advisory Committee's expertise will be useful in developing a plan to recruit additional republican Spanish speaking interpreters.
5. **Post Election Discussion:**

Rigo Reveron worked as a technician in the city of Lorain and talked about how he and the trainer had to work together to get the Senior Center vote center up and running due to the delayed arrival of the alpha presiding judge. Nellie Caraballo voted an absentee ballot and her 86 year old father-in-law felt that it was helpful to have the ballot in Spanish. She did not have a chance to get out to the polls; however she does not expect to hear anything out of the ordinary. Fred Lozano filled out an Unable to Mark Ballot form to assist a voter and was able to assist a family member at the voting machine. Mildred Narvaez served as an interpreter at Sacred Heart Chapel, she was busy all day due to the fact she was the only republican interpreter. Nellie expressed a concern regarding the number of voters that had requested an absentee ballot and showed up at the polls. This caused a large number of Provisionals. She felt that the alpha presiding judge was a disorganized and perhaps a bit overwhelmed. Overall she stated that she had a good time and felt like everyone

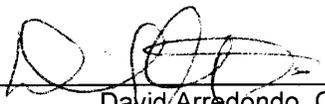
worked as a team and was impressed with the voter turnout. Mr. Richard Turner voted in Avon Lake City on the TSX machine and was not pleased with the Spanish – English translation. He would like to see the instructions revised. Jim Kramer has had some discussion with the manufacturer/vendor to look into what can be done to make changes.

**6. New Business:
Ballot Language**

The committee reviewed the ballot language for the February 5, 2013 Special Election for Midview School District. A motion was made by Nellie Caraballo to change the phrase from "*que las permitidas*" to "*de las permitidas*", in the voter instructions, seconded by Richard Turner. Motion carried 6-0. A motion was made by Richard Turner and seconded by Millie Narvaez to change "*milesimos*" to "*milesimas*" in the text of the proposed tax levy. Motion carried. 6-0. It was motioned by Rigo Reveron to approve a two part training program for bilingual poll workers, regular poll worker training and the specialized Spanish assistance training seconded by Millie Narvaez. Motion carried, 6-0.

7. Meeting Schedule: The Spanish Language Advisory committee will meet twice before the May 7, 2013 Primary Election. The first meeting will take place on Wednesday, February 27, 2013, 7:00pm. The second meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 14, 2013. Post-election meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 20, 2013, 7:00pm.

8. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Mr. Turner at 8:00pm, seconded by Nellie Caraballo. Motion carried 6-0.

ATTEST: 
David Arredondo, Chairman

ATTEST: 
Rigoberto Reveron, Secretary