



BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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ELECTIONS BOARD BEGINS WORK TO SET IN-PERSON ABSENTEE VOTING HOURS SATURDAY AND SUNDAY SCHEDULE PENDING

(Columbus) The Franklin County Board of Elections today approved a minimum weekday schedule for absentee voters to cast their ballots this fall under standards prescribed by the Ohio Secretary of State's office, but delayed deciding on extended weekday evening and weekend absentee hours until further research is conducted.

Voters will be able to cast absentee ballots at Franklin County Veterans Memorial Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., beginning Sept. 30 and ending Nov. 3. The Board asked staff for more information before considering a longer evening and weekend schedule. A final absentee voting schedule must be approved by Sept. 15, fifty days prior to the election.

A record number of voters casting absentee ballots in the March primary led to extended voting hours at the board of elections. Absentee voting has since been moved from Memorial Hall to the Veterans Memorial to accommodate even larger crowds anticipated for November. Election officials recommend casting absentee ballots by mail to avoid standing in line. Franklin County will mail absentee applications to every registered voter beginning September 5.

In other Board action, Board members approved a policy shortening some language on the general election ballot to reduce the time it will take for voters to consider an issue and cast a ballot at the polls. The original longer description of each issue will still be posted, in a conspicuous location, in the polling place for voters to review.

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