BCCON

BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS FOR THE CITY OF CHICAGO AS A DULY CONSTITUTED ELECTORAL BOARD

Objections of: JAMES HUDSON	)	
	)	
	)	
To the Nomination	)	No.: 24-EB-SBD-013
Papers of: JESSICA BIGGS	)	
	)	
Candidate for the office of	)	
Member of the Chicago Board of Education,	)	
6th District of the City of Chicago	)	

FINDINGS AND DECISION

The duly constituted Electoral Board, consisting of the Board of the Election Commissioners for the City of Chicago, Commissioners Marisel A. Hernandez, William J. Kresse and June A. Brown, organized by law in response to a Call issued by Marisel A. Hernandez, Chair of said Electoral Board, for the purpose of hearing and passing upon objections ("Objections") of JAMES HUDSON ("Objector") to the nomination papers ("Nomination Papers") of JESSICA BIGGS, candidate for the office of Member of the Chicago Board of Education, 6th District in the City of Chicago ("Candidate") at the General Election to be held on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, having convened on Tuesday, July 9, 2024, at 10:30 a.m., in Room 800, 69 West Washington Street, Chicago Illinois, and having heard and determined the Objections to the Nomination Papers in the above-entitled matter, finds that:

1. Objections to the Nomination Papers of the Candidate were duly and timely filed.

2. The Electoral Board was constituted according to the laws of the State of Illinois.

3. A Call to the hearing on said Objections was duly issued by the Chair of the Electoral Board and served upon the members of the Electoral Board, the Objector and the

Candidate, by registered or certified mail and by Sheriff's service, as provided by statute or statutory service was waived and service by email was authorized.

4. A public hearing held on these Objections commenced on Tuesday, July 9, 2024 and was continued from time to time. The Electoral Board assigned this matter to Hearing Officer Demetrius Carney for further hearings and proceedings.

5. The Objector and the Candidate were directed by the Electoral Board's Call served upon them to appear before the Hearing Officer on the date and at the time designated in the Hearing Schedule. Appearances were filed by or on behalf of the following persons: the Objector, JAMES HUDSON, by Attorneys KEVIN MORPHEW, STEVEN H. FINE, MICHAEL KRELOFF, AND MICHAEL J. KASPER; and the Candidate, JESSICA BIGGS, by Attorney TIFFANY NELSON-JAWORSKI.

6. The Hearing Officer ordered that an examination of the voter registration records be conducted by clerks and agents under the Board's direction and supervision, in accordance with the laws of Illinois and the rules of the Board.

7. The Hearing Officer directed all parties to appear and be present, either personally and/or by their authorized representatives during this records examination.

8. The Candidate and/or her duly authorized representative was present during the examination of the registration records or waived their right to do so.

9. The Objector and/or his duly authorized representative was present during the examination of the registration records or waived their right to do so.

10. The examination of the registration records was completed and the Electoral Board hereby adopts and incorporates by reference the results of the records examination conducted by its clerks and agents. The written report of the result of the registration records

examination is contained in the Board's file in this case and a copy has been provided or made available to the parties.

11. The results of the records examination indicate that:

A. The minimum number of valid signatures required by law for placement on the ballot for the office in question is 1,000.

B. The number of purportedly valid signatures appearing on the nominating petition filed by the Candidate total 1,656.

C. The number of signatures deemed invalid because of objections sustained as a result of the records examination total 519.

D. The remaining number of signatures deemed valid as a result of the records examination total 1,137.

12. The Electoral Board finds that the number of valid signatures appearing on the Candidate's nominating petition following completion of the records examination exceeds the minimum number of valid signatures required by law to be placed upon the ballot as a candidate for the office of Member of the Chicago Board of Education, 6th District, City of Chicago.

13. No motions were filed pursuant to Rule 8 of the Electoral Board's Rules of Procedure and no Rule 8 hearing was held.

14. The Hearing Officer has tendered to the Electoral Board a report and recommended decision. Based upon the evidence presented, the Hearing Officer found that the Candidate's Nomination Papers contained 1,137 valid signatures, which exceeds the minimum number of valid signatures required by law to be placed upon the ballot as a candidate for the office of Member of the Chicago Board of Education, 6th District, City of Chicago, and that the Candidate's Nomination Papers should be found valid.

BOARD OF ELECTION COMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO AS THE DULY CONSTITUTED ELECTED BOARD FOR THE HEARING AND PASSING UPON OBJECTIONS TO THE NOMINATION PAPERS OF CANDIDATES FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 5, 2024 FOR THE OFFICE OF BOARD MEMBER FOR THE CHICAGO BOARD OF EDUCATION CITY OF CHICAGO, STATE OF ILLINOIS

Objections of:	)	
	)	
JAMES HUDSON	)	
	)	
PETITIONER - OBJECTOR		
	)	
	)	
	)	
To the Nomination Papers of:		
JESSICA BIGGS	)	**No. 24 – EB- SBD -013**
	)	
	)	
Candidate for the Office of Board Member For the 6th District of the Chicago Board of Education	)	**DEMETRIUS CARNEY**
	)	**HEARING OFFICER**

HEARING OFFICER'S REPORT AND RECOMMENDED DECISION

This matter coming before the Board of Election Commissioners of the City of Chicago (CBEC or the Board) on the verified objections (Objection or Objections) of **James Hudson** (Objector or Petitioner) to the nomination papers (Nominating Papers) of **Jessica Biggs** candidate for the office of Board Member representing the 6th District of the Chicago Board of Education, City of Chicago, State of

Illinois (Candidate). The hearing having convened on July 9, 2024. Demetrius E. Carney, Esq., the duly appointed Hearing Officer, hereby makes the following findings:

1. The Candidate filed Nomination Papers with the CBEC for the office of Board Member for the 6th District of the Chicago Board of Education for the General Election to be held on November 5, 2024. Such Nomination Papers consisted of:
    a) A Statement of Candidacy;
    b) Loyalty Oath; and
    c) 127 Nominating Petition Sheets containing a total of 1656 signatures.

2. Objections to the Nomination Papers of the Candidate herein were duly and timely filed. A public hearing, (i.e., initial case management conference) on the Objections commenced on July 9, 2024. The Candidate was represented by Counsel – Tiffany Nelson Jaworski. The Objector was represented by Counsel – Kevin Morphew. The Objector and Candidate timely filed their respective Appearance and Non-Disclosure and Confidentiality Agreement. Both parties agreed that all communications for the matter will be by email communication. The basis of the Objector's petition – the Candidate lacks the necessary valid signatures to appear on the ballot. Candidate stated that the objection review process will be by line-by-line objection. Neither party had any intentions to file any dispositive motions. The Objector and the Candidate agreed to a Records Examination (Records Exam) scheduled for Wednesday July 10, 2024 at 9:45 AM.
    The Board entered a notice for a Continued Hearing on the matter to Wednesday July 17, 2024 at 1PM.

I Status Hearing July 17, 2024

The Objector's Counsel present and Candidate's Counsel also present for the hearing.

The results of the Records Exam received by all parties on July 16, 2024.

Results of the Records Exam are as follows:

a. Signatures required: 1000
b. Total Signatures: 1656
c. Total Objections: 1171
d. Total Objections Ruled On: 1171
e. Total valid signatures: 1137
f. 137 signatures more than the required minimum of 1000.

The Objector agreed to accept the results of the Records Exam.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above Records Exam disclosures the results of the Records Examination dated July 16, 2924 shall be deemed **FINAL.** It is my recommendation that the name of the **JESSICA BIGGS as Candidate for the Office of Board Member for the 6th District of the Chicago Board of Education SHALL BE PRINTED** on the ballot for the General Election to be held on November 5, 2024.

Respectfully Submitted,

Demetrius Carney, Hearing Officer
07-22-2024

15. The Electoral Board, having considered the evidence and arguments tendered by the parties and the Hearing Officer's report of recommended findings and conclusions of law, hereby adopts the Hearing Officer's recommended findings and conclusions of law and incorporates them herein.

16. For the reasons stated above, the Electoral Board finds that the Candidate has a sufficient number of valid signatures on her nominating petitions and that the Nomination Papers of JESSICA BIGGS are, therefore, valid.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Objections of JAMES HUDSON to the Nomination Papers of JESSICA BIGGS, candidate for the office of Member of the Chicago Board of Education, 6th District, City of Chicago are hereby OVERRULED and said Nomination Papers are hereby declared VALID and the name of JESSICA BIGGS SHALL be printed on the official ballot for the General Election to be held on Tuesday, November 5, 2024.

Dated: Chicago, Illinois, on Friday, July 26, 2024.

Marisel A. Hernandez, Chair

William J. Kresse, Commissioner

June A. Brown, Commissioner

NOTICE: Pursuant to Section 10-10.1 of the Election Code (10 ILCS 5/10-10.1) a party aggrieved by this decision and seeking judicial review of this decision must file a petition for judicial review with the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County within 5 days after service of the decision of the Electoral Board.