

Charles County Board of Canvassers
201 East Charles Street, La Plata, MD 20646

May 24, 2024- Mail-In Ballot Canvass 2 - Final Canvass Day

ATTENDEES

Board of Canvassers

Name	Position	Party
Jacqueline Gray	Board of Canvassers Chairman	Democrat
Norris Hanes	Board of Canvassers Secretary	Republican
Norma Jean Gibson	Board of Canvassers Member	Republican
Sharon L. Hancock	Board of Canvassers Member	Democrat
Melanie Boston-Holland	Board of Canvassers Member	Democrat
Karen Selby	Board of Canvassers Attorney	Democrat

LBE Staff (in person):

Name	Position
Tracy Dickerson	Election Director II
Chris McDougal	Deputy Election Director II
D. Wade Beswick	IT Program Manager II
Alexandria Horn	Election Program Assistant I
LaVon Brown	Election Program Assistant II
Kevin Meador	IT Specialist I
Luke Beswick	County Technician

All canvassing teams, duplicating team members, and ballot scanner operating team members in attendance are listed under the Canvass Participants section below.

RECONVENING THE MEETING

The vote by mail canvass reconvened on May 24, 2024 at 10 a.m. A quorum of the Board of Canvassers was present.

CONFIRMATION OF OATH

Lisa Yates, the Clerk of the Court for Charles County, administered and recorded the oath of each member of the Board of Canvassers on April 22, 2024 at 10 a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF OFFICERS

At a meeting on April 22, 2024, the Board of Canvassers elected Jacqueline Gray as Chairman of the Board of Canvassers and Norris Hanes as Secretary.

PUBLIC NOTICE OF CANVASS

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Director Dickerson noted that public notice of the mail-in ballot canvass was provided and that the notice was provided by email to the head of each Local Central Committee, State Central Committee, State Administrator and each Board of Education candidate on April 9, 2024. Notice was also posted on our web-site as well as our Facebook page.

VERIFICATION OF OPTICAL SCAN VOTING UNITS

Director Dickerson presented documents to the Board of Canvassers proving that the voting system ballot scanners being used in the canvass successfully passed Logic and Accuracy Testing on March 21, 2024. Director Dickerson reported that the memory sticks created for this canvass were placed in the ballot scanners and sealed. Director Dickerson provided the Board of Canvassers with the results from the Logic and Accuracy Testing. Director Dickerson noted the ballot scanner serial numbers and seal numbers from the Logic and Accuracy Testing documentation for each ballot scanner being used in the canvass.

Director Dickerson verified that the seals on the ballot scanners were intact and recorded the scanner's serial number and seal number on the Scanning Unit Opening Integrity Report. Director Dickerson noted that the ballot scanner's serial numbers and seal numbers from Logic and Accuracy Testing matched the ballot scanner's serial numbers and seal numbers before the canvass began.

The Board of Canvassers confirmed that the counts on the ballot scanners were zero. Director Dickerson posted one copy of the Zero Report from the ballot scanners for public viewing in the room where canvassing occurred. Director Dickerson printed a second copy of the Zero Report, which remained attached to the ballot scanners. The Board of Canvassers signed the Zero Report attached to the ballot scanners. Director Dickerson also confirmed that the ballot boxes were empty.

CANVASSING OF BALLOTS

Overview of Canvass Process

Director Dickerson explained the rules concerning public observation of the canvass, provided an overview of the canvassing process, and noted that the rules were posted in the canvass room.

For timely received ballots, each canvassing team determined whether the voter signed the oath. After verifying that the oath is signed, each canvassing team opened the envelopes. With the envelope face down, each canvassing team removed the ballot, taking care that the envelope stays face down. After removing all of the ballots in the batch, the ballot envelopes were set aside. Each canvassing team reviewed the ballots for compliance and tabulating acceptability.

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Web delivered ballots were duplicated by a bi-partisan ballot duplication team and verified for accuracy.

Ballots that were untimely or otherwise not in compliance were placed in a folder, with the canvassing team's number, or other information identifying the canvassing team to which the ballot belonged, and the reason(s) for the referral written on the envelope. The envelope with the ballots inside was referred to the Board of Canvassers for later review.

Those timely ballots that complied and could be read by the ballot scanner were referred to the Board of Canvassers for acceptance.

Canvass Participants

Canvasser	Names of Ballot Processing Canvassers
Team #1	Ruth Culver and Tammy Shoyeb
Team #2	Chris Malloy and Mary Lawson
Team #3	Patricia Wade and Nancy Svitess

BMD	Names of Duplicating Team Members
BMD #1	Luke Beswick
BMD #2	Christine Saoud
BMD #3	Joanne Vanwie

Scanner	Names of Ballot Scanner Operating Team
Scanner #1	Kevin Meador
Scanner #2	Mark Hashagen
Scanner #3	Nancy Svitess
Scanner #4	Ruth Culver
Scanner #5	Shawnecia Munson
Scanner #6	Patricia Wade

Deputy Director McDougal presented the Board with 8 ballots with the recommendation to reject due to no signature, 41 ballots with the recommendation to reject due to being late, and 2 ballots with the recommendation to reject due to no Primary ballots enclosed in envelope.

Member Hancock made a motion to reject the 51 ballots, seconded by Member Gibson. Unanimously approved.

Printing Canvass Results

After scanning all accepted ballots, canvassers locked the ballot scanners and printed an Election Results Report. The Board of Canvassers reviewed the daily canvass minutes and

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confirmed that for each day, the number of accepted ballots equaled the number of ballots counted by the ballot scanner. The Board of Canvassers signed the Voting Results Report and posted a second copy of the report on the wall near the entrance of the canvassing room.

DAILY CANVASSING RESULTS

Mail-In Ballot Canvass Statistics	Number of Ballots
A) Total Ballots Presented	390
B) Total Mail-in Ballots Presented	390
C) Total Provisional Ballots Presented (During Mail-in Ballot Canvass ONLY)	0
D) Total Ballots Accepted	339
E) Accepted in Full Provisional Ballots (During Mail-in Ballot Canvass ONLY)	0
F) Accepted in Part Provisional Ballots (During Mail-in Ballot Canvass ONLY)	0
G) Accepted Mail-in Ballots	339
H) Total Rejected Ballots	51
I) Rejected Provisional Ballots (During Mail-in Ballot Canvass ONLY)	0
J) Rejected Mail-in Ballots	51

RELEASE OF UNOFFICIAL RESULTS

Director Dickerson announced the results from the entire mail-in ballot canvass.

Mail-In Ballot Canvass Statistics	Number of Ballots
A) Total Ballots Presented	9,737
B) Total Mail-in Ballots Presented	9,737
C) Total Provisional Ballots Presented (During Mail-in Ballot Canvass ONLY)	0
D) Total Ballots Accepted	9,683
E) Accepted in Full Provisional Ballots (During Mail-in Ballot Canvass ONLY)	0
F) Accepted in Part Provisional Ballots (During Mail-in Ballot Canvass ONLY)	0
G) Accepted Mail-in Ballots	9,683
H) Total Rejected Ballots	54
I) Rejected Provisional Ballots (During Mail-in Ballot Canvass ONLY)	0

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J) Rejected Mail-in Ballots

54

VERIFICATION OF VOTE COUNT

Director Dickerson explained that staff conducted several post-election verifications and audits performed. Staff manually added the Voting Results Reports from each ballot scanner in the precincts previously randomly selected by the local board of elections and compared the manually added totals with the totals produced by the election database for those precincts. Director Dickerson confirmed that all of the numbers matched.

Director Dickerson explained that a similar verification was performed on each ballot scanner used on the canvassing day randomly selected by the Board of Canvassers for the canvass. Staff manually added the Voting Results Reports printed from each ballot scanner used on the canvassing day randomly selected by the Board of Canvassers for the canvass and compared the manually added totals to a report printed from the election database for the canvass. Director Dickerson confirmed that all of the numbers matched.

Director Dickerson presented the Board of Canvassers with the verification results, and the Board of Canvassers reviewed the results. Member Gibson made a motion to accept the verification results. Member Hancock seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

POST ELECTION AUDITS

Ms. Dickerson explained that post-election audits were performed on the polling places of certain randomly selected precincts, and on select mail-in and provisional ballots.

Director Dickerson explained that for the polling places, in the randomly selected precincts and any polling place where the difference between the number of voters that checked in to vote and ballots cast is five or more, that staff compared the number of signed voter authority cards for each ballot scanner against the number of ballots cast. Director Dickerson confirmed that all of the numbers matched.

Director Dickerson explained that staff reviewed a sample of accepted mail-in ballots to determine if the ballot was timely received. Staff also reviewed a sample of rejected mail-in ballots to determine if the ballot was untimely received or was rejected for another valid reason. Director Dickerson confirmed that all of the numbers matched.

Director Dickerson explained that a sample of accepted provisional ballots were reviewed to determine whether the provisional voter was registered to vote at the time of the election, voted the ballot for the precinct in which the voter resides, and all other applicable criteria were met. A sample of partially accepted provisional ballots was also reviewed to confirm that a voter was registered to vote at the time of the election, did not vote the ballot for the precinct in which the voter resides, and all other applicable criteria were met.

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Staff also reviewed a sample of rejected provisional ballots to confirm that the voter was not registered to vote at the time of the election or the voter's ballot was rejected for another valid reason. Director Dickerson confirmed that all of the numbers matched.

Director Dickerson explained that all ballot images from early voting, election day, and all mail-in ballots canvassed and tabulated prior to election day were sent to a third-party for re-tabulation. The vendor produces reports comparing precinct-level results from voting system against the precinct-level results from the re-tabulation, and these reports show any differences between the two sets of results. Director Dickerson showed the reports and confirmed that any differences between the two sets of results were less than 0.5%, the threshold for additional auditing.

CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION RESULTS

Director Dickerson explained that the post-election verifications and audits had no discrepancies and presented the Board of Canvassers with the election results. The Board of Canvassers reviewed the election results.

Member Gibson made a motion to certify the results of the 2024 Primary Presidential Election. Ms. Hancock seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Director Dickerson presented the canvass sheets to the Board of Canvassers. President Gray and Secretary Hanes signed the canvass sheets.

NEXT BOARD OF CANVASSERS' MEETING

If additional ballots are received, the Board of Canvassers will convene at the next meeting of local board of elections. The next meeting is scheduled for June 20th at 9 a.m. at the Charles County Board of Elections office.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:26 a.m.

