

**Baltimore County Board of Canvassers
106 Bloomsbury Avenue
Catonsville, Maryland 21228**

MINUTES

June 26, 2014

1st Absentee Canvass

ATTENDEES:

Board of Canvassers:

Bruce Harris, President	Democrat
Leronia Josey, Vice President	Democrat
Joseph Karey, Secretary	Republican
Jeanne Turnock, Substitute	Republican
Timothy Hickman, Substitute	Democrat

Staff:

Andrew Bailey, Board Counsel
Katie A. Brown, Director
Rena' M. Waggoner, Deputy Director
Denard Allen, Election Office Clerk
Marie Allen, Data Entry Operator
Doug Aus, Data Entry Operator
Olaoluwa Bello, Election Data Application Specialist
C. Yvette Finch, Election Data Application Specialist
Tiffany Guthrie, Election Supervisor
Therese Krupnick, Canvasser
Ruie Marie Lavoie, Administrative Officer
Joi Matthews, Data Entry Operator
Diana Moran, Election Supervisor II
Kevin Mulligan, Canvasser
John O'Hara, Canvasser
Gayle Scott, Data Entry Operator
Roy Smith, Election Office Clerk
Jeffrey Stevens, Election Information System Specialist
Sandra Turner, Election Data Application Specialist
Mary-Frances Vavra-Alcoser, Election Data Application Specialist
Rita Walczyk Evans, Election Data Application Specialist
John Wales, Election Data Application Specialist

Public:

Mark Adams
Aaron Barnett
Tony Campbell
Al Friedman
George Harman
Jay Jalisi
Phillip Mills
Jake Mohorovic
John Olszewski, Jr.
Patricia Payne

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Public, continued: James Persh
Nicole Ruocco
Fatima Smith
Edith Sorrell
Meghan Young
Pat Young

DECLARATION OF QUORUM PRESENT

The Meeting of the Board of Canvassers began at 10:02 am on Thursday, June 26, 2014 at the Baltimore County Board of Elections located on the 3rd floor of the Bloomsbury Community Center, 106 Bloomsbury Avenue in Catonsville, Maryland. There was a quorum of the Board of Canvassers, and at least one member of the Board of Canvassers who is a registered voter of the principal minority party was present.

CONFIRMATION OF OATH

James McCormick, Clerk of the Court for Baltimore County administered and recorded the oath of each member of the Board of Canvassers on June 9, 2014. Substitute members of the Board of Elections were also sworn-in on the same day. Bruce Harris administered and recorded the oath of all Baltimore County Election Staff present.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Joseph Karey made a motion that Bruce Harris serve as Chairman of the Board of Canvassers. Leronia Josey seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously. Leronia Josey made a motion that Joseph Karey serve as Secretary for the Board of Canvassers. Joseph Karey seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

PUBLIC NOTICE OF CANVASS

Katie Brown, Director noted that public notice of the First Absentee Canvass was provided and that the notice was provided by posting in public view in the lobby of the Board of Election office and posted on the Baltimore County Election website.

VERIFICATION OF OPTICAL SCAN VOTING UNIT(S)

Katie Brown presented documents to the Board of Canvassers showing the optical scan voting units being used in the canvass successfully passed Logic and Accuracy Testing on June 9, 2014 and June 10, 2014. Jeffrey Stevens reported that the memory cards created for this Canvass were placed in the optical scan voting units and sealed. Jeffrey Stevens provided the Board of Canvassers with the results from the Logic and Accuracy Testing.

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Ruie Marie Lavoie noted the following information from Logic and Accuracy Testing documentation for each optical scan voting unit being used in the canvass:

Optical Scan Voting Unit Serial Numbers	Seal Numbers	Tamper Tape
87653	59702	04-002245
87677	59702	00-028872

Andrew Bailey and Denard Allen verified the seals on the optical scan voting units were intact, and Ruie Lavoie recorded the optical scan voting unit's serial number and seal number.

Optical Scan Voting Unit Serial Numbers	Seal Numbers	Tamper Tape
87653	59702	04-002245
87677	59702	00-028872

Ruie Lavoie noted the optical scan voting units' serial numbers and seal numbers from Logic and Accuracy Testing matched the voting units' serial numbers and seal numbers before the canvass began.

The Board of Canvassers and Katie Brown confirmed that the counts on the optical scan voting units were zero. A copy of the Zero Report from the optical scan voting units was posted on the wall at the entrance to the room where canvassing occurred. Mr. Stevens printed a second copy of the Zero Report, which remained attached to the optical scan voting units. The Board of Canvassers signed the Zero Report attached to the optical scan voting units. The Board of Canvassers confirmed the ballot boxes were empty.

CANVASSING

Overview of Canvass Process

Katie Brown 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. Ballots are distributed to the ballot processing teams in batches. Each team reviews the envelope first to determine whether it was timely received.

For timely received ballots, each team opens the flap on the envelope and determines whether the voter signed the oath. After verifying that the oath is signed, each team opens the envelope. With the envelope face down, each team removes the ballot, taking care that the envelope stays face down. After removing all of the ballots in the batch, the ballot envelopes are set aside. Each team reviews the ballots for compliance and tabulating acceptability.

Those timely ballots that are in compliance and can be read by the optical scan voting unit are referred to the Board of Canvassers for acceptance. All other ballots are placed in a plain envelope, with the team number written on the outside.

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The envelope with the ballots inside is referred to the Board of Canvassers. The Board of Canvassers rules on whether to accept or unanimously reject the referred ballots.

Bruce Harris explained the process to provide information to the Board of Canvassers or challenge a decision of the Board.

Canvass Participants

The members of the ballot processing, duplicating, and optical scan voting unit operating teams are listed below.

Team	Names of Bi-Partisan Ballot Processing Team Members
Team #1	John O’Hara (Republican) and Olaoluwa Bello (Unaffiliated)
Team #2	Doug Aus (Democrat) and Therese Krupnick (Republican)
Team #3	Kevin Mulligan (Republican) and Marie Allen (Democrat)
Team #4	Joi Matthews (Republican) and Sandra Turner (Democrat)

Team	Names of Bi-Partisan Duplicating Team Members
Team #1	Timothy Hickman (Democrat) and Rita Walczyk Evans (Republican)
Team #2	Mary-Frances Vavra- Alcoser (Democrat) and Roy Smith (Republican)
Team # 3	Tiffany Guthrie (Republican) and Gayle Scott (Democrat)
Team # 4	Leronia Josey (Democrat) and Jeanne Turnock (Republican)
Team # 5	Rena’ Waggoner (Republican) and Andrew Bailey (Democrat)

Team	Names of Optical Scan Operating Team Members
Team #1	Andrew Bailey (Democrat) and Denard Allen (Unaffiliated)

Canvassing of Absentee Ballots

Katie Brown reported that, to preserve the secrecy of the ballot for the remaining canvasses, five absentee ballots of each ballot style were held back for the Provisional Canvass, and five ballots of each ballot style were held back for the Second Absentee Canvass. 1,089 absentee ballots were presented for canvassing at this canvass.

Leronia Josey made a motion to accept and approve the opening and tabulation of the ballots. Joseph Karey seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

17 absentee ballots were not able to be read by the optical scan voting unit due to pencils smears from a folded ballot. The Board of Canvassers reviewed each of the 17 ballots. The Board of Canvassers determined 16 ballots should be accepted and duplicated for tabulation in the optical scan voting unit. 1 ballot should be accepted with an over-vote of one contest and tabulated through the voting unit.

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8 absentee ballots were referred to the Board of Canvassers for review. 4 absentee ballots were received with a signed oath, but the signature was not dated. After discussion and clarification from Andrew Bailey, the Board of Canvassers unanimously accepted the 4 absentee ballots for tabulation through the voting unit.

1 absentee ballot was unanimously rejected because the voter did not include an oath with the ballot.

1 absentee ballot was unanimously rejected by the Board of Canvassers because the ballot contained an identifying mark.

A total of 2 absentee ballots were unanimously rejected by the Board of Canvassers.

Printing Canvass Results

After scanning all accepted absentee ballots, the optical scan voting units were locked and an Election Results Report was printed. The Board of Canvassers confirmed that the number of accepted ballots equaled the number of ballots counted by the optical scan voting units. The Board of Canvassers signed the Election Results Report and posted a second copy of the report on wall at the entrance to the room next to the Zero Reports posted earlier.

RELEASE OF UNOFFICIAL RESULTS

Bruce Harris announced the results from the First Absentee Canvass and announced the following statistics:

Absentee 1 Canvass Statistics	Number of Ballots
Total Absentee Ballots Presented at 1 st Absentee Canvass	1089
Accepted Ballots	1087
Rejected Ballots	2

NEXT BOARD OF CANVASSERS' MEETING

The Board of Canvassers will meet on Wednesday, July 2, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. to canvass provisional ballots.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:24 pm.

Approved this 14th day of August, 2014