

Carroll County Board of Canvassers  
300 S. Center St, Room 215  
Westminster, MD 21157

December 21, 2016 - Minutes

**ATTENDEES:**

Board of Canvassers: Griffith Manahan, Chair (R), Harvey Tegeler, Secretary (R), Samuel Foster (D), Laura O'Callaghan (D), Larry Shipley (R)

LBE Staff: Terry Berger, Esq., Katherine Berry, Director, Paula Troxell, Deputy Director

Public: None

Absent: None

**DECLARATION OF QUORUM PRESENT**

The meeting of the Board of Canvassers began at 10:49 a.m. on Wednesday, December 21, 2016 at 300 S. Center Street, Room 215, Westminster. 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**

Donald Sealing II, the Clerk of the Court for Carroll County, administered and recorded the oath of each member of the Board of Canvassers on 10/19/2016.

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF OFFICERS**

At its meeting on 11/08/2016, the Board of Canvassers elected Griffith Manahan as Chairman of the Board of Canvassers, and Harvey Tegeler as Secretary.

**PUBLIC NOTICE OF CANVASS**

Katherine Berry, Director noted that the public notice of this canvass was provided and that the notice was provided by posting on the Carroll County Board of Election's website.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Katherine Berry, Director presented the minutes from the November 8, 2016 and November 30, 2016 meetings. Ms. O'Callaghan made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Foster seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

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## CANVASSING

### Overview of Canvass Process

Katherine Berry, Director 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. Katherine Berry, Director explained the process to provide information to the Board of Canvassers or challenge a decision of the Board.

### Canvassing of Absentee Ballots

Katherine Berry, Director reported that 5 absentee ballots were received after the certification of the election. Mr. Tegeler made a motion to reject these absentee ballots as being untimely. Mr. Shipley seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

## CANVASSING STATISTICS

Katherine Berry, Director reported that 5 absentee ballots were presented for canvassing and 5 absentee ballots were rejected for being untimely.

Katherine Berry, Director submitted the following statistics for rejected absentee and provisional ballots.

State Absentee Ballots – Rejection Reason	# of Ballots				Total
	Abs 1	Abs 2	11/30	Today	
Ballot was late for election		60	4	5	69
No signature on oath	3	9			12
Voter died before election day					
More than one ballot in same envelope					
More than one ballot received but one was counted					
Identifying mark on ballot	1	2			3
Used agent and ballot envelope was not sealed		1			1
Unsealed envelope & indication that integrity compromised					
Not registered voter					
No absentee ballot application on file					
Regular ballot received & rejected FWAB					
Envelope did not contain a ballot					
Other – Voted More than Once		3			3

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Federal Write-In Absentee Ballots – Rejection Reason	# of Ballots				Total
	Abs 1	Abs 2	11/30	Today	
State absentee ballot was received		1			1
No signature on declaration		1			1
No absentee ballot application		1			1
Not registered voter		1			1
Late for election			1		1
Voted wrong ballot style					
Used agent and ballot envelope was not sealed					
Voter cancelled					
Voter deceased					
Voter is convicted felon					
Identifying mark on ballot					
Voted more than one FWAB					
Board Action [specify]					

Provisional Ballots – Rejection Reasons	# of Ballots
Applicant is not registered to vote	121
Applicant returned a voted absentee ballot or already voted	4
Applicant voted the wrong party primary ballot (primary elections only)	
No signature on application	3
Applicant not eligible to receive a provisional ballot	
Identification or DL# or SS# was not timely received	
Incomplete information was provided on application	
Identification was received but did not satisfy the identification requirements	
No provisional ballot in envelope or more than one ballot in envelope	
No evidence to support alleged voting unit malfunction	
Identity challenge was upheld	
Order extending voting hours was invalidated	
Identifying mark on the ballot	
Applicant is not or will not be 18 years old or older by the general election	2
Proof of residency was not timely received	15
Proof of residency was received but did not satisfy the requirement	1

At the November 16, 2016 provisional ballot canvass, 1 absentee ballot was rejected because of “no signature on oath”. The voter returned the unsigned absentee ballot and voted a provisional ballot. Terry Berger and Nikki Charlson at SBE had a discussion regarding what is considered a “vote” when an absentee ballot is returned unsigned. After Mr. Berger and Ms. Charlson discussion, the Board of Canvassers decided to accept the provisional ballot and reject the absentee ballot. The rejected absentee ballot is not included in the totals listed above.

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At the November 18, 2016 absentee ballot canvass 2, 1 absentee ballot was rejected because a voter returned a voted absentee ballot that was sent to their neighbor. The voter did not request the absentee ballot. Per Nikki Charlson, enter the absentee ballot as a provisional ballot and reject the ballot. The rejected absentee ballot is not included in the totals listed above.

#### **NEXT BOARD OF CANVASSERS' MEETING**

If additional absentee ballots are received, the Board of Canvassers will convene after the next meeting of local board of elections. The next meeting is scheduled for March 15, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at 300 S. Center Street, Room 215, Westminster.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.