



# Carroll County Board of Elections



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## Carroll County Board of Elections Board Minutes February 15, 2023

### **Present**

#### *Board*

Griffith Manahan, President, in person  
Samuel Foster, Vice-President, in person  
John Woodley, Secretary, by virtual  
Carol Coley, Member, in person

#### *Staff*

Katherine Berry, Election Director, in person  
Erin Perrone, Deputy Director, in person

#### *Absent*

Harvey Tegeler, Member  
Jay Gullo, Attorney

#### *Public*

Corynne Courpas, Carroll County Democratic Central Committee  
Mitch Edelman, Citizen  
Stacey Jones, Citizen  
Cheryl Steinbacher, Co-chair, League of Women Voters, Carroll County

### **Call to Order & Declaration of Quorum**

Mr. Manahan called the meeting to order at 10:00 am and declared that a quorum was present.

### **Welcome**

Mr. Manahan welcomed those in attendance.

### **Additions to the Agenda**

Mr. Manahan asked if any there were any additions to the agenda. There were no additions added to the agenda.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The Board approved the minutes from the December 7, 2022 meeting on a motion from Ms. Coley, seconded by Mr. Foster. The motion carried unanimously.

## **Public Comments**

Cheryl Steinbacher, the Co-chair of the League of Women Voters (LWV) of Carroll County, thanked the Board for welcoming her to the meetings. Corynne Courpas also thanked the Board and the staff for their hard work during the 2022 elections. She expressed how proud it is to be a resident of Carroll County. Mitch Edelman expressed his appreciation to the Board.

## **Correspondence**

Ms. Berry reported that a request to get the 2020 and 2022 EL45A results report was submitted. It was a statewide request that the State Board of Elections has fulfilled. In response to a question, Ms. Berry stated that there are no outstanding PIA requests.

## **Attorney Report**

There was no report in Mr. Gullo's absence.

## **Election Director's Report**

### *Important Meetings*

December 8 – NSGIC Election Geo-Summit

December 15, January 19 – Election Directors' Meeting

January 13 – Delegation/Commissioners Meeting – Ms. Berry explained that this meeting was to discuss the micro precincts that were formed because of redistricting. These micro precincts threaten the secrecy of the ballot for the voters who live in these precincts. Ms. Courpas stated that she had the opportunity to explain that the Board cannot change district lines.

January 17 – SBE briefing to the Ways & Means Committee – Ms. Berry stated that SBE's briefing to the Senate is Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

January 18 – Meeting with Budget Analyst

January 19 – New Pollbook Case Discussion

January 19 – State Board Meeting

January 24 – MAEO Meeting

February 9 – Agency Overview Hearing with Commissioners

February 13 – Meeting with county space and land acquisition staff

March 14 – South Carroll Republican Club Meeting

### *Voter Registration*

Ms. Berry stated that the monthly statistical reports are available on our website. The link to the reports is <https://elections.carrollcountymd.gov/monthlyStats.aspx>.

Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC) reports were completed in early February.

Brett Paradise has been hired by the State Board of Elections (SBE) as the new Director of Voter Registration.

Preparations for the municipal elections has begun. The close of registration dates are in April and election days will be held in May. Voter notification cards will be mailed to voters who live in several municipalities where the polling place was changed.

### *Election Judges*

Ms. Berry reported that a post-election survey was sent to the election judges who served during the 2022 elections. Their responses helped staff develop lessons learned and best practices in preparation from the 2024 elections.

Election judges were hired to help with the manual audit that occurred.

### *IT/Warehouse*

Ms. Berry stated that Post Election Maintenance (PEM) has begun on the scanning units, ballot marking devices, voting booths, and electronic pollbooks.

The website has been updated to include current elected officials, information about the 2024 elections, and information about the municipal elections. In response to a question, Ms. Perrone explained the layout of the information and the disclosure notice at the top of the page stating that the Carroll County Board of Elections does not oversee any municipal election.

Preparations have begun for the new electronic pollbook deployment which is expected in June. The current electronic pollbook cases will likely be used for storage and polling place deployment.

SBE will be procuring a new voting system to be used beginning in the 2026 elections and a new voter registration database to be used beginning in the 2028 election.

### *Legislation*

<b>Bill Number</b>	<b>Bill Sponsor</b>	<b>Bill Title</b>
<a href="#">HB0054</a>	Delegate Cardin	Sports Wagering Campaign Contributions Party Act of 2023
<a href="#">HB0095</a>	Delegate Hill	Election Judges - Training & Signs - Accommodations for Voters in Need of Assistance
<a href="#">HB0022</a>	Delegate Long	Election Law - Absentee Ballots - Signature Requirements & Verification
<a href="#">HB0041</a>	Delegate Williams	Election Law - Curbside Voting - Establishment
<a href="#">HB0130</a>	Delegate Rosenberg	Election Law - Foreign Manufacture of Election Systems - Notification and Termination of Contract
<a href="#">HB0176</a>	Delegate Feldmark	Local Public Campaign Financing - Expansion to Additional Offices
<a href="#">HB0213</a>	Delegate Watson	Election Law - Local Public Campaign Financing - Boards of Education
<a href="#">HB0269</a>	Delegate Moon	Municipal Elections - Voter Eligibility - Prohibitions

<b>Bill Number</b>	<b>Bill Sponsor</b>	<b>Bill Title</b>
<a href="#">HB0334</a>	Montgomery County Delegation	Voting Systems - Ranked Choice Voting and Inclusion of City of Takoma Park Municipal Elections on the State Ballot MC 7-23
<a href="#">HB0344</a>	Montgomery County Delegation	Montgomery County – Voting Methods MC 03–23
<a href="#">SB0195</a>	Senator West	Orphans' Court Judges – Election
<a href="#">HB0410</a>	Delegate Rosenberg	Election Reform Act of 2023
<a href="#">HB0417</a>	Delegate Foley	General Assembly - Special Election to Fill a Vacancy in Office
<a href="#">HB0447</a>	Delegate Crosby	Local Elections - County Commissioner - District Voting
<a href="#">HB0468</a>	Delegate Fair	County Boards of Education - Voter Registration Link - Posting Requirement
<a href="#">HB0528/ SB421</a>	Delegate Forbes/Senator Hettleman	State Personnel – Teleworking Programs, Policies, and Guidelines – Requirements
<a href="#">HB0542/ SB605</a>	Delegate Fair/Senator Lewis Young	Election Law - Citizens Who Live Overseas - Right to Vote
<a href="#">SB0287/ HB509</a>	Senator Gallion/Delegate Tomlinson	State Board of Elections - Municipal Elections - Publication of Results on Website
<a href="#">SB379/ HB535</a>	Senator Kagan et al./Delegate Feldmark et al.	Election Law - Ballots - Processing and Reporting Procedures
<a href="#">SB0035/ HB58</a>	Senator Kagan/ Delegate Korman	Open Meetings Act - State Ethics Commission
<a href="#">HB0192/ SB0269</a>	Delegate Palakovich Carr/Senator Rosapepe	Cryptocurrency - Campaign Finance Prohibitions - Disclosures by Financial Institutions
<a href="#">SB0089/ HB177</a>	Senator Carter/ Delegate Feldmark	Elections - Ballot Questions - Publication of Proposed Laws
<a href="#">SB0039/ HB114</a>	Senator Kagan/ Delegate Qi	Ballot Access - Affiliating With a Party- Unaffiliated Voters
<a href="#">SB0111/ HB0441</a>	Senator Kagan/Delegate Jones	Election Law - Campaign Finance - Draft Committees and Exploratory Committees
<a href="#">SB0132</a>	Senator Jackson	State's Attorney, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Register of Wills, Sheriff, and Judge of the Orphans' Court - Nonpartisan Elections
<a href="#">SB0176/ HB643</a>	Senator Kagan	Election Law - Insufficient Number of Candidates for a Primary Election
<a href="#">SB0329</a>	Senator Ready	Election Law - Casting General Election Ballot in Multiple States - Prohibition
<a href="#">SB339/ HB642</a>	Senator Kagan	Election Law – Recounts – Procedures
<a href="#">SB366/ HB563</a>	Senator Lam/Delegate Palakovich Carr	General Assembly Vacancy - Political Party Central Committees - Procedures

<b>Bill Number</b>	<b>Bill Sponsor</b>	<b>Bill Title</b>
<a href="#">SB863/ HB899</a>	Senator Kagan/ Delegate Jones	State Administrator of Elections - Removal from Office
<a href="#">HB572</a>	Delegate Kaiser	Election Law - Postelection Tabulation Audits - Risk-Limiting Audits
<a href="#">HB580</a>	Delegate Henson	Election Law – Polling Sites – Firearms Prohibitions
<a href="#">HB594</a>	Delegate Fair	Election Law – Ascertainment of Results – Process
<a href="#">HB597</a>	St. Mary's Delegation	St. Mary's County - County Commissioners Election Method - Straw Ballot
<a href="#">HB616</a>	Delegate Barnes	Election Law – Early Voting – Number of Days
<a href="#">SB860/ HB752</a>	Senator Kagan/ Delegate Vogel	State Board of Elections - Procurement Oversight
<a href="#">Live Link</a>		SBE Briefing in EEE
SB488/ HB645	Senator Brooks	Election Law - Electronic Ballot Return System - Study and Request for Proposals
<a href="#">SB864</a>	Senator Kagan	Election Reform Act of 2023
<a href="#">SB733/HB879</a>	Carroll County Senators/Delegate Rose	Carroll County - County Commissioner Districts - Alterations
<a href="#">HB636</a>	Delegate Guzzone	Public Information Act - Inspection of E-Mail Addresses and Telephone Numbers
<a href="#">SB750/ HB1216</a>	Senator Folden/ Delegate Miller	Election Law - Voting - Proof of Identity
<a href="#">HB0035/ SB567</a>	Delegate Long/Senator Ready	Elections - In Person Voting - Proof of Identity
<a href="#">SB878/HB1104</a>	Senator Sydnor/ Delegate Smith	Voting Rights Act of 2023 - Counties and Municipalities
<a href="#">HB894</a>	Delegate Chisholm	Election Law - Voting Systems - Sourced, Manufactured, and Assembled in the US
<a href="#">HB926</a>	Delegate Long	Election Law - Polling Places - Establishing Voter Identity (Voter Privacy Act of 2023)
<a href="#">HB943</a>	Delegate Long	Election Law – Voter Registration List – Absentee Voters (Absentee Ballot Transparency Act of 2023)
<a href="#">HB951</a>	Delegate Jones	Election Law – Election Officials and Workers – Prohibitions Against Interference and Disclosure of Personal Information
<a href="#">HB979</a>	Delegate Terrasa	Municipal Elections – Candidates – Reports of Donations and Disbursements
<a href="#">HB982</a>	Speaker	State Employees – Programs and Scholarships for Human Services Careers and Probation Agents and State Contributions to Supplemental Retirement Plans
<a href="#">HB1024</a>	Howard County Delegation	Elections in Villages of Columbia - Voting Rights Ho. Co. 17-23
<a href="#">HB1092</a>	Delegate Metzgar	Election Law – Early Voting – Number of Days
<a href="#">HB1120</a>	Delegate McComas	Election Law - Candidate Truthfulness - Oath

<b>Bill Number</b>	<b>Bill Sponsor</b>	<b>Bill Title</b>
<a href="#">HB1112</a>	Delegate Ruth	Election Law - Registered Voter List and Petitions (Ballot Petition Modernization Act)
<a href="#">HB1200</a>	Delegate Jones	Elections - Election Judges - Minimum Compensation
<a href="#">HB1212</a>	Delegate Arentz	Election Law - Voter Registration List - Right to Opt Out of the Sale of Personally Identifiable Information

Ms. Berry gave a summary of some of the election bills currently being considered in the General Assembly.

#### *Personnel & Budget*

Ms. Berry reported that the funds granted to update the security of the office has been put on hold since there is much discussion about needing a new space.

The FY24 budget approval is in process. It is planned that a meeting with the Commissioners will be scheduled before April.

#### *2023 Board Meetings*

- April 19<sup>th</sup>
- May 31<sup>st</sup> – Final meeting of the current board
- June 21<sup>st</sup> – First meeting of the new board

#### **Unfinished Business**

There is no unfinished business.

#### **New Business**

Ms. Coley expressed her concern regarding web delivery ballots that must be duplicated during the canvass. She reminded everyone that it took one whole day to recreate the web delivery ballots and slowed down the canvassing process. Ms. Jones reiterated that it is a very time-consuming process. Mr. Manahan stated that the process is very prone to human error as well.

#### **Disclosure of Campaign Contributions**

No contributions were reported.

#### **Date of Next Meeting**

The next board meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Ms. Coley, seconded by Mr. Foster at 11:03 am. The motion passed unanimously.