



# Carroll County Board of Elections



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## Carroll County Board of Elections Board Minutes May 18, 2022

### **Present**

#### *Board*

Griffith Manahan, President, in person  
Samuel Foster, Vice-President, in person  
John Woodley, Secretary, in person  
Carol Coley, in person  
Harvey Tegeler, in person

#### *Staff*

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

#### *Absent*

Jay Gullo, Attorney

#### *Members of the Public*

Carmen Amedori, Citizen, in person  
Darryl Varnum, Citizen, in person  
410-\*\*\*-\*\*81, did not identify their self

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

Mr. Manahan called the meeting to order at 10:04 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. No additions were added to the agenda.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The Board approved the minutes from the April 20, 2022 open meeting on a motion from Ms. Coley, seconded by Mr. Woodley. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board approved the minutes from the April 20, 2022 closed meeting on a motion from Mr. Woodley, seconded by Ms. Coley. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Public Comments**

Two members of the public were in attendance.

Mr. Varnum thanked the Board for the opportunity to address them. He distributed a copy of an article titled “Forensic Examination Proves Vote Manipulation and Illegal Destruction of Records on Dominion Voting Machines” by Jeffrey O’Donnell and Dr. Walter C. Daugherty. The article shows findings after examining a copy of the hard drive from Dominion Voting machines used in Mesa County, Colorado. Mr. Varnum wants to make sure the Board is aware of this article and wants to help “debunk” election fraud theories. Mr. Manahan thanked Mr. Varnum for his statements and explained that the voting equipment is owned by the State of Maryland.

Ms. Amedori did not address the Board, but she did ask questions. In response to her questions, the Board and staff stated that there is no difference between an absentee ballot and a mail-in ballot. Candidates can ask for a list of voters who requested a mail-in ballot.

### **Correspondence**

Ms. Berry reported that new correspondence will be addressed in the Director’s Report.

### **Attorney Report**

Mr. Manahan stated that there is no attorney report in Mr. Gullo’s absence. Ms. Berry reported that the attorney report will be addressed in the Director’s Report.

### **Election Director’s Report**

#### *Important Meetings*

A list of meetings was included on the report.

#### *Voter Registration*

Ms. Berry reported that voter registration applications were not processed during the redistricting process. However, over 1,000 applications (new registrations, change of address and change of party affiliation) were processed after redistricting was finished.

The monthly statistical reports will be available on the website on June 1<sup>st</sup>. The reports were not posted for the month of April since redistricting was completed in May. The reports posted on June 1<sup>st</sup> will reflect the voter registration numbers for May.

All voters should receive a new voter notification card by the end of May. The new voter notification card will include a message about redistricting.

The county is displaying the “pre-redistricting” maps on their website since voters are technically still represented by their current person in office. When the new representatives are sworn in after the general election, the county will update their website with the new redistricting maps.

The close of registration is Tuesday, June 28<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm. It was reminded that same day registration occurs during early voting and on election day.

All requests made during the redistricting period for voter data from candidates have been completed. The application to get voter data was revised to include the opportunity to get mail-in ballot requests weekly. The data for the mail-in ballot requests will show the voter's name, party affiliation, and address for voters who want to get a ballot via mail. However, if a voter asked to get a ballot via web delivery, the data will not show the voter's address. The address field only says "web delivery" for those voters.

The high school voter registration drives led by Ms. Mason and Mr. Zolkiewicz were not as successful as hoped. The interns worked with school administrators, but the schedule did not permit the interns to perform the outreach. However, future interns will continue the process.

In response to a question, Ms. Berry confirmed that the box drop schedule and locations will be added to the website.

#### *Ballots*

Ms. Berry stated that there are 150 ballot styles for the primary election. The in-person 17" ballots and 11" web delivery ballots were proofed and approved on Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup>. The audio ballot and the ballot marking device ballot were proofed, but some corrections needed to be made by the State Board of Elections (SBE). Once SBE makes the corrections, the audio ballot and the ballot marking device ballot will need to be proofed again. SBE certified and posted on their website all the ballots.

Voters with an active status and those who did not request a mail-in ballot can expect to get their sample ballot in late June. Voters who register to vote between June 23<sup>rd</sup> and June 28<sup>th</sup> and did not request a mail-in ballot can expect to get their sample ballot in early July. The draft of the sample ballot is waiting for SBE approval.

Several local boards received a PIA request for the cast vote records of ballots from the 2020 general election, including Carroll County. SBE is responding to this request since the State owns the voting equipment.

In response to several questions, Ms. Berry confirmed that voters can receive a ballot electronically and addresses will not show on data reports for voters who ask to get their ballot via web delivery. Central committees can no longer nominate candidates. Nonpartisan ballots will only have the Board of Education contest. The deadline for voters to change party affiliation is Tuesday, June 28<sup>th</sup> and voters cannot change party affiliation during early voting or on election day.

#### *Mail-in Voting*

Ms. Berry reported that the application for candidates to get voter data was revised to include the opportunity to get mail-in ballot requests weekly. The updated form can be

found on the website. SBE expects that all registered nonpartisan voters and voters who registered after December 21, 2021 will receive a mail-in ballot application by mid-June. It is estimated that approximately 30,000 applications will be mailed in June.

The Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act (MOVE) deadline is Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup>. This federal deadline requires ballots be sent to military and overseas voters who requested a ballot.

Drop boxes are expected to be delivered the week of June 6<sup>th</sup>. All six drop boxes will have 24/7 surveillance by the county's surveillance system at the senior centers and the office. Local boards are waiting for written guidance from SBE regarding the surveillance storage requirements and guidelines. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will be established between Carroll County Government and the office to store surveillance footage for the required amount of time. The Sheriff Department will also help with a security plan for the staff and ballot drop boxes.

Since there are six ballot drop boxes for more than 30 days, it is asked that Board members assist with picking up ballots. Once the ballot drop boxes are delivered, ballots can be picked up once a day until July 10<sup>th</sup>. Starting on July 10<sup>th</sup>, ballots must be picked up twice a day through 8:00 pm on election night. The ballot drop boxes must be locked and closed at 8:00 pm on election night. Security of the staff is a concern, since after the elections, the surveillance footage must be kept for 22 months.

There are two PIA requests for surveillance footage from the ballot drop boxes in 2020. The emergency guidelines and regulations put into place in 2020 did not include what kind of surveillance system to use or how long surveillance footage needed to be kept. Because of unclear guidance from SBE, the surveillance footage from the 2020 elections were kept for 30 days because of storage costs and security concerns with the ballot drop boxes at schools.

#### *Election Judges & Polling Places*

Ms. Berry stated election judge positions are being filled. Virtual training modules will be sent to election judges in coming week, and live training sessions will be scheduled as well. Early voting center and polling place evaluations are required. Board members will be assigned to locations, and a refresher training will occur after the June board meeting. The binders will be available too.

#### *IT/Warehouse*

Ms. Berry reported that the website has been updated to reflect the redistricting changes. The certified ballots will be on the homepage of our website. Supply packing for the election judges and relabeling the voting equipment continues. Preparation on the transportation routes to deliver early voting and election day supplies and equipment are in progress. There will be three trucks transporting election day equipment on Friday, July 15<sup>th</sup>. Board members are requested to escort the truck to each of the polling places. Delivery hours for the schools are approximately 7:00 am to 2:30 pm. Ms. Coley, Mr.

Foster, Mr. Tegeler, and Mr. Manahan confirmed that they will be available. The voting equipment for Winfield Fire Department may be delivered on Monday, July 18<sup>th</sup> because they are having their carnival on Friday, July 15<sup>th</sup>. Logic & Accuracy on the mail-in ballots that the vendor will be sending is scheduled to be around Thursday, May 26<sup>th</sup>. Logic & Accuracy on the in-person ballots is scheduled to begin around June 6<sup>th</sup>. The public demonstration of Logic & Accuracy will be held on Wednesday, June 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### *Personnel & Budget*

Ms. Berry welcomed our newest employee, Isaac Nogueron, who started today. One of the interns from 2020 will return to the office to help the office because of the condensed timeline.

#### *2022 Board Meeting Schedule*

Ms. Berry reviewed the dates of future Board meetings.

- June 15, 2022
- August 17, 2022
- September 14, 2022
- October 5, 2022
- December 7, 2022

There is a one-day MAEO Conference that will be held on Thursday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Anne Arundel County Board of Elections. Board members should contact Ms. Berry if they are interested in attending in-person or virtually. Mr. Foster and Ms. Coley stated that they would like to attend in-person. (UPDATE: After the meeting, Ms. Coley sent an email stating that she could not attend because of a prior commitment.)

#### *2022 Primary Election Dates*

- June 15, 2022 – Board Members Polling Place Evaluation review and Board of Canvassers Swearing-in.
- July 1 and July 5, 2022 – tentative Mail-in Ballot Canvass – quorum of the Board (possible Attorney) must be present
- July 7 – 14, 2022 - Early Voting – 7:00 am to 8:00 pm – Board will visit one center to do polling place evaluations
- July 19, 2022 – Election Day – Board will visit polling places to do polling place evaluations
- July 21 and July 29, 2022 – Mail-in Ballot Canvass – dates set in Election Law – quorum of the Board and Attorney must be present – Board decisions will be done at this time
- July 27, 2022 – Provisional Ballot Canvass – quorum of the Board and Attorney must be present

#### *2022 General Election Dates*

- October 21-25, 2022 – tentative Mail-in Ballot Canvass
- October 27 – November 3, 2022 – Early Voting

- November 8 – Election Day
- November 10 and 18, 2022 – Mail-in Ballot Canvass
- November 16, 2022 – Provisional Ballot Canvass

### **Unfinished Business**

Mr. Manahan stated that there is no unfinished business.

### **New Business**

Ms. Berry provided an update of the high school voter outreach program in the Director's Report.

### **Disclosure of Campaign Contributions**

Ms. Coley reported a campaign contribution of \$50.00 to Jamie Raskin. Mr. Tegeler reported a campaign contribution of \$250.00 to Haven Shoemaker and Jim DeWees and \$50.00 to April Rose. Mr. Woodley reported a campaign contribution of \$50.00 to Tom Gordon.

Mr. Manahan stated that he spoke at a meeting of the American Federation of Republican Women and received a nice email thanking him. There were about 25 people in attendance. Questions about mail-in ballot and in-person voting and voter ID were asked. On June 7<sup>th</sup>, he will be attending a meeting of the Carroll County Women's Republican Club.

### **Date of Next Meeting**

The next board meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mr. Foster, seconded by Mr. Woodley at 10:55 am. The motion passed unanimously.