



Carroll County Board of Elections



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Carroll County Board of Elections Board Minutes August 19, 2026

Present

Board

Samuel Foster, President, in person
Karen Donaldson, Vice-President, in person
Mitch Edelman, Secretary, in person
Gina Miller, Member, in person,
Ben Watson, Member, virtual

Staff

Erin Perrone, Election Director, in person

Absent

Jay Gullo, Attorney

Public

Corynne Courpas, Citizen, in person
Cheryl Steinbacher, League of Women Voters Carroll County, in person

Call to Order & Declaration of Quorum

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

Welcome

Mr. Foster welcomed the members of the public who were in attendance, Ms. Courpas and Ms. Steinbacher.

Additions to the Agenda

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

Approval of Minutes

The Board approved the minutes of the meeting held on July 15, 2026, on a motion from Mr. Edelman, seconded by Ms. Miller. The motion was carried out unanimously.

Correspondence

Mr. Foster asked if there were any correspondence to share. Ms. Perrone shared two press releases from the State Board of Elections (SBE). The press releases were:

- *Board of State Canvassers Certifies Federal and State Primary Election Results*
- *Marylanders Encouraged to Serve as Election Judges and Election Pages in the 2026 Election*

Attorney Report

There was no Attorney Report.

Election Director's Report

Public Information Requests

- Nothing to report

Important Meetings and Events

- July 20th – Risk-Limiting Audit
- July 31st – Erin & Jen – Mt Airy Board of Supervisors of Elections Meeting
- August 20th – Erin & Jen – SBE/LBE Collaboration Meeting
- September 7th – Holiday – Labor Day – Office is Closed
- Mt. Airy Special Election in the fall

Voter Registration

- Voter Registration was reopened on Friday, July 24th
- Monthly statistical reports are available on our website. The link to the reports is <https://elections.carrollcountymd.gov/monthlyStats.aspx>.

As of 07/31/2026	DEM	REP	UNA & OTHER	TOTAL
Active Voters	32,965	64,310	34,442	131,717
Inactive Voters	1,845	3,591	2,359	7,795
TOTAL	34,810	67,901	36,801	139,512

Volunteer Registration Virtual Training

- Nothing to report

Voter Outreach Events

- Woofstock – Saturday, 9/19 from 9 am to 3 pm – Mark, Mia, and Olivia
- Aging Your Way Expo – Wednesday, 9/23 from 9 am to 2 pm – Olivia, Mark, and Jen

Mail-in Ballots

2026 Gubernatorial General Election

Date	Total MIBs	Domestic	UOCAVA	Non- Perm MIBs	Perm MIBs	Mailed	Print-at- Home	In Person	Agent	Large Print
07/08/2026	15,832	15,701	131	301	15,531	14,109	1,719	2	1	1
08/13/2026	15,762	15,633	129	314	15,448	14,056	1,703	1	1	1
Change since previous month	-70	-68	-2	+13	-83	-53	-16	-1	0	0

Election Judges

- Developing refresher training
- Developing refresher training schedule
- Providing election judge parity report

IT/Warehouse

- Post Election Maintenance (PEM)
- Getting everything ready for the general election

Legislation

- General Assembly Special Session

Personnel

- Telework
- Vacations

County Government

- Open Session of the Commissioners – Thursday, August 20th at 9 am

Mt Airy Special Election

- Close of Registration – Tuesday, October 13th
- Special Election – Tuesday, November 17th
- Voter Education Campaign

2026 Gubernatorial Primary

- State Certification – Thursday, July 23rd
- Voter Registration Reopened – Friday, July 24th

2026 Board Meetings

- September 16, 2026 – Heather DeWees & Director Evaluation from SBE
- October 21, 2026 - ?
- November 18, 2026
- December 16, 2026

2026 Gubernatorial General Elections – Important Dates

- Pre-Election Day MIB Canvass – Tuesday, October 13, 2026
- General Advanced Deadline to Register – Tuesday, October 13, 2026
- General Early Voting – Thursday, October 22 through Thursday, October 29, 2026
- General Election – Tuesday, November 3, 2026
- Early Voting and MIB Pre-Election Day Canvass – Tuesday, November 3, 2026 @ 2 pm
- Pick precincts for post-election verification and audits - Tuesday, November 3, 2026, after 8 pm
- MIB Canvass 1 – Thursday, November 5, 2026
- Provisional Canvass – Thursday, November 12, 2026 (Usually 2nd Wednesday but that

is Veteran's Day)

- MIB Canvass 2 & Certification – Friday, November 13, 2026

Unfinished Business

- a. Action – Observation Area during Canvass

Ms. Miller stated that she was pleased with the observation area but was not happy about how close the observers were during the board decision meetings. She did not like the constant interruptions from the observers. Mr. Edelman suggested rearranging the tables to allow passage of the observers but also being mindful of canvass staff with observers distracting the work that is done. Ms. Donaldson reminded the board that there was caution tape in the Robert Moton Gymnasium during canvasses in past elections and thought that was perfect for observers. She also stated that if the election judges are upset about observers recording them during the canvass that those election judges can be replaced.

Ms. Perrone stated that she will follow up with SBE about COMAR 33.08.03.05(C)(1) that governs the rules of conduct for canvass observers. There is conflicting information in that part of COMAR about not using cell phones or other audible devices in the canvassing room, but taking pictures and recording a canvass is permitted.

In the meantime, Ms. Perrone will work with the staff to rearrange the room for the possibility of having "walking lanes" for observers during canvass. Also, Ms. Perrone confirmed that a document viewer has been purchased so that ballots may be displayed on the screen during the board decision meetings.

Ms. Perrone also stated that a caveat can be added to the election judge survey notifying election judges that they may be recorded during canvass.

Mr. Foster and Ms. Donaldson suggested this topic could be discussed during the MAEO local board meeting to be held next week.

Ms. Perrone will keep this topic on the agenda for the September 16, 2026, meeting.

- b. Action – Westminster Senior Center – Decision of No Electioneering Zone

Ms. Perrone reviewed the discussion from the July meeting regarding the no electioneering zone at the Westminster Senior Center during early voting. She presented several options to the board for adjusting the no electioneering zone so that patrons and staff of the senior center, voters, and electioneers remain safe during early voting.

Mr. Edelman made a motion to change the no electioneering zone to reflect option 3, and Ms. Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

- a. Approval – Ballot Drop Box Relocation

Ms. Perrone reminded the board that at the May 20, 2026, meeting, the board voted

to have a further discussion about getting a ballot drop box in the Manchester/Hampstead area. She suggested moving the ballot drop box located at the Charles Carroll Community Center to the North Carroll Senior Center after speaking with the landlord of the building. Ms. Perrone confirmed that the ballot drop box would have 24/7 surveillance using the county's security system and the landlord signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Mr. Edelman made a motion to relocate the ballot drop box from the Charles Carroll Community Center to the North Carroll Senior Center. Ms. Donaldson seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. Ms. Perrone reminded the board that SBE will have to approve the relocation at their 2 pm meeting on Wednesday, August 26, 2026, before the relocation is finalized.

b. Proposed Bylaw Revisions

Mr. Watson summarized the proposed bylaw changes to Article 4, Section 4.2 – Political Activity. The change would add a new section to include social media and written media. After some discussion and questions, the board determined to include the topic to the agenda for the September 16, 2026, meeting.

Disclosure of Campaign Contributions

Ms. Miller disclosed the following contributions:

- Dayana Bergman - \$42.00 total
- Johnny Olszewski - \$11.00
- Jamie Raskin - \$32.00 total
- Wes Moore - \$44.00 total
- Sharon Wilhide - \$15.38

Ms. Miller also stated that she waved signs for Bergman, Foote, Wickless and Frazier.

Mr. Edelman disclosed that he contributed \$25.00 to Gary Foote.

Ms. Donaldson stated that she will be hosting an upcoming picnic for a party and will be able to share her contribution at the September 16, 2026, meeting.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting scheduled is September 16, 2026, at 10 am.

Adjournment – Open Meeting – Board of Elections

The motion for adjournment was made at 10:54 am by Ms. Donaldson and seconded by Ms. Miller. The motion passed unanimously.

Call Meeting to Order – Board of Canvassers – Approve Canvassing Minutes

Mr. Foster, Chair, called the meeting of the Board of Canvassers to order at 10:56 am. Ms. Perrone presented the canvassing minutes from the 2026 Gubernatorial Primary Election. Ms. Donaldson made a motion to approve the canvassing minutes. Ms. Miller seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment – Open Meeting – Board of Canvassers

Ms. Donaldson made a motion for adjournment of the Board of Canvassers at 10:57 am.
Ms. Miller seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Closed Meeting – Board of Elections

Mr. Foster read the following closing statement:

In accordance with the Maryland Open Meetings Act, Title 10. Governmental Procedures, Subtitle 5. Meetings, section §10-508(a), this meeting will be closed to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals and to protect the privacy or reputation of individuals with respect to a matter that is not related to public business.

Ms. Donaldson made a motion to open the closed meeting. Ms. Miller seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.