



Carroll County Board of Elections



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Carroll County Board of Elections Board Minutes October 15, 2025

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, in person

Jay Gullo, Attorney, virtual

Staff

Erin Perrone, Election Director, in person

Jennifer Bartholow, Deputy Director, in person

Kimberly Bullock-Jones, Election Program Supervisor II, in person

Isaac Nogueron, Election Program Specialist II, in person

Public

Corynne Courpas, Carroll County Democratic Central Committee

Cheryl Steinbacher, League of Woman Voters, Carroll County

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 any there were any additions to the agenda. There were no additions to the agenda.

Approval of Minutes

The Board approved the minutes from the August 20, 2025, meeting on a motion from Mr. Edelman, seconded by Ms. Miller. The motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence

Mr. Foster asked if there were any correspondence to share. Ms. Perrone shared a statement from Jared DeMarinis, Maryland State Board of Elections Administrator, regarding media inquiries into the voter registration of Ian Andre Roberts.

Attorney Report

Mr. Gullo attended the meeting virtually and shared that the board attorneys throughout the state will be meeting on October 29, 2025. If the board members have any issues, they would like Mr. Gullo to present for discussion they can email him directly with their questions or concerns.

Election Director's Report

Public Information Requests

- Braden Stinar, Disability Rights Maryland – Nursing Home Information - Received on 9/4/2025, Response sent on 9/30/2025 which was within the 30-day requirement. No return response has been received.
- Frank Cannella, Elections Investigator with Bergen County, NJ – specific voter information – Received on 10/06/2025, Response sent on 10/07/2025

Important Meetings and Events

- September 22nd – We moved!
- October 9th – Collaboration Meeting with SBE/LBEs
- October 13th – State Holiday – Office Closed for Columbus Day
- October 21st – MAEO Meeting
- November 4th – Election Day, but not a statewide election in Maryland
- November 11th – State Holiday – Office Closed for Veterans Day
- November 19th – Board Meeting

Candidate Filing – 2026 Gubernatorial Election

- Encourage candidates to make an appointment via our website
- Deadline to file is Tuesday, February 24, 2026, at 9 pm
- Candidates who have filed can be found on SBE's website at https://elections.maryland.gov/elections/2026/Primary_candidates/index.html

Voter Registration

- Voter Registration Training for League of Women Voters – Monday, 9/8
- Voter Registration Training for Students at McDaniel College – Friday, 10/3
- Voter Registration Training for League of Women Voters – Tuesday, 10/7
The Voter Registration Trainings were conducted by Mia Faber.
- Monthly statistical reports are available on our website. The link to the reports is <https://elections.carrollcountymd.gov/monthlyStats.aspx>.
- Day to day electronic batches and processing mail

As of 9/30/2025	DEM	REP	UNA & OTHER	TOTAL
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Active Voters	33,121	64,615	33,978	131,714
Inactive Voters	1,361	2,677	1,710	5,748
TOTAL	34,482	67,292	35,688	137,462

Election Judges

- Begin planning a schedule for training classes
- Begin assigning election judges for early voting & election day

IT/Warehouse

- Unpacking & organizing
- Visited the North Carroll Community School - the school had undergone construction, and the IT team confirmed that the changes would not impact the polling place plans.
- Visited the Charles Carrol Community Center – the IT team was checking the network to confirm it would be sufficient to serve as an early voting center.
- Begin planning equipment allocation

Voter Outreach Events

- Aging Your Way Expo - September 10, 2025, attended by Olivia Smith, Mark Shaughney and Chrissy Winer.
- Carroll Community College – September 15 – 17, 2025, attended by Mark Shaughney.

Personnel

- Election Director Evaluation by State Administrator, Jared DeMarinis. Mr. DeMarinis has contacted Mr. Foster about completing the evaluation.
- Holiday Party – after the meeting on Wednesday, December 17 – out to lunch

County Government

- Preparation for the FY27 Budget

2025 Board Meetings

- November 19, 2025
- December 17, 2025

2026 Board Meetings

- January 21, 2026
- February 18, 2026
- March 18, 2026
- April 15, 2026
- May 20, 2026

2026 Gubernatorial Elections – Important Dates

- Pre-Election Day MIB Canvass – Monday, June 1, 2026

- Primary Advanced Deadline to Register – Tuesday, June 2, 2026
- Primary Early Voting – Thursday, June 11 through Thursday, June 18, 2026
- Primary Election – Tuesday, June 23, 2026
- MIB Canvass 1 – Thursday, June 25, 2026
- Provisional Canvass – Wednesday, July 1, 2026
- MIB Canvass 2 & Certification – Monday, July 6, 2026
- 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
- MIB Canvass 1 – Thursday, November 5, 2026
- Provisional Canvass – Wednesday, November 12, 2026 – This should be Thursday, not Wednesday
- MIB Canvass 2 & Certification – Friday, November 13, 2026

Unfinished Business

Mr. Watson updated the board on his communications with the Ethics Board regarding the involvement of a family member with a Carroll County candidate's campaign. He will be collaborating with Mr. Gullo and Ms. Perrone to develop a plan for the 2026 Gubernatorial Election that adheres to the Ethics Board's requirements. Mr. Watson will also be sharing the correspondence received from the State Ethics Commission with the other board members. Mr. Gullo is confident that a feasible plan can be created.

New Business

Ms. Perrone presented the 2026 Election Plan. She informed the board that the twenty-five polling places for the 2026 Gubernatorial Elections will remain the same as those used for the 2024 Presidential Elections.

The board voted to approve the polling places following a motion from Ms. Donaldson, and a second from Mr. Edelman. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Watson abstained from the vote in accordance with ethics recommendations.

Ms. Perrone presented the plan for the early voting centers. Two of the centers, Westminster Senior Center and South Carroll Senior Center will remain the same. The Charles Carroll Community Center was proposed to replace Coppermine Pantherplex as the third early voting center. This change is being made due to ADA compliance and scheduling issues with the facility. The Charles Carroll Community Center is a county-owned facility with existing cameras in place, currently used as a polling place on election day, ADA accessible with plenty of parking and allows electioneering.

The board voted to approve the early voting centers following a motion from Ms. Donaldson, and a second from Mr. Edelman. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Watson abstained from the vote, in accordance with ethics recommendations.

Ms. Perrone presented the plan for the ballot drop boxes. The two proposed changes

include the Board of Elections Office drop box as the office has moved to a new facility. The second proposed change is the Coppermine Pantherplex drop box will move to the new early voting center location at the Charles Carroll Community Center.

The board members expressed concern about voter confusion, and Ms. Perrone ensured that signage will be placed at the previous locations to ensure voters know where to find the ballot drop boxes.

Mr. Edelman relayed concern about taking an early voting center and a ballot drop box out of the Manchester/Hampstead area. Discussions ensued to determine what locations would be an option. After receiving correspondence from Ms. Steinbacher, Mr. Edelman suggested an additional drop box be placed at the Manchester Police Department. Mr. Watson asked what the expense would be to add an additional drop box. Ms. Perrone agreed to reach out to the Manchester Police Department to see if this location would be possible as well as contacting the county IT department regarding security cameras. She will also contact the State Board of Elections to get the cost and availability of obtaining an additional drop box.

Mr. Edelman made a motion to table the approval of the ballot drop boxes until the November 19, 2025, board meeting when further information can be provided. Ms. Donaldson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Watson abstained from the vote, in accordance with ethics recommendations.

Disclosure of Campaign Contributions

Ms. Donaldson purchased a ticket to the Lincoln Reagan Dinner for the Carroll County Republican Central Committee.

Date of Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at 10 am.

Adjournment

The motion for adjournment was made at 11:05 am by Mr. Watson and seconded by Ms. Miller. The motion passed unanimously.