



Carroll County Board of Elections



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Carroll County Board of Elections Board Minutes October 5, 2022

Present

Board

Griffith Manahan, President, by virtual
Samuel Foster, Vice-President, in person
John Woodley, Secretary, in person
Carol Coley, in person
Harvey Tegeler, in person
Jay Gullo, Attorney, in person

Staff

Katherine Berry, Election Director, in person

Public

Cheryl Steinbacher, Co-chair, League of Women Voters, Carroll County

Call to Order & Declaration of Quorum

Mr. Manahan called the meeting to order at 10:03 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 September 14, 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, expressed her appreciation to the Board. She stated she was impressed with the way the meetings are conducted and the willingness to share information.

Correspondence

No correspondence was reported.

Attorney Report

Mr. Gullo reported that the Board Attorney calls with the Assistant Attorney General and the State Board of Elections (SBE) began on Tuesday, October 4th. He will keep the Board informed if anything arises for Board discussions.

Mr. Gullo reported that he worked with Ms. Berry to have a letter that he signed on behalf of the Board sent to the State Prosecutor's Office and SBE regarding the candidate filing misinformation that was previously provided to the State's Attorney's Office. There has been no response from the State Prosecutor or SBE at the time of this meeting. Mr. Gullo stated that turning the situation over to the Sheriff would result in having the case return to the State's Attorney.

A discussion among the Board occurred. Mr. Woodley stated he spoke with Sheriff Dewees about including him in any conflicts or conversations. Sheriff Dewees welcomed any information that could be provided to him to assist with abnormalities that may occur. The Board directed Mr. Gullo to work with Ms. Berry to provide Sheriff Dewees and the incoming State's Attorney with information regarding this matter prior to the general election.

Election Director's Report

Important Meetings

September 19 – Facilities Renovation Meeting
September 21 – Transportation Meeting
September 22 – MAEO Conference
September 29 – Ways & Means Briefing – Polling Places
September 29 – Grant Request at County Commissioners
October 4 – Republican Women's Club – Guest Speaker
October 11 – Public Demonstration of Voting System
October 18 – Security Meeting with Sheriff's Department
October 20 – MEMA Briefing #1
November 3 – MEMA Briefing #2

Voter Registration

Monthly statistical reports are available on our website. The link to the reports is <https://elections.carrollcountymd.gov/monthlyStats.aspx>.

The close of registration for the general election is October 18.

Ballots & Mail-In Voting

Drop boxes were delivered last week and the pick-up schedule has been emailed to board members.

Ballots were put into the mail system on September 29th, so voters should start receiving their ballot this week. We were notified yesterday of an error by the mail-in ballot vendor. Some voters got an outer mail envelope with Calvert County Board of Elections in the

return address. SBE is working to determine the scope of the error and how many voters may have received the incorrect outgoing envelope.

Emergency litigation for canvassing ballots has been granted pending a court hearing on October 7th. A discussion occurred regarding setting a date to have a mail-in ballot canvass prior to election day. The Board decided not to set a date for an early canvass and asked to be notified by October 18 if an unmanageable amount of ballots are requested and returned that cannot be handled in the canvasses that are scheduled by law.

Sample ballots should be mailed within the next week.

Election Judges & Polling Places

Election judge training has begun. There are around 70 vacancies currently.

Exterior portable lights will be delivered to our office and Sandymount Elementary for election day.

County Payroll is helping us through a payroll discrepancy from the primary election.

Winfield Fire Department will be having a door replaced due to damage from the transportation cart.

IT/Warehouse

Logic & Accuracy (L&A) testing has been completed on the scanning units and ballot marking devices. The L&A Public Demonstration will occur next week.

Ballots are expected to arrive next week so that they can be packed in the transportation carts. Ballots are important to assist mail-in voters who have made mistakes on their original ballot and need a replacement ballot.

Supply verification by the Board needs to be completed by October 12th. Mr. Tegeler and Mr. Foster stated that they would complete this verification on that date.

Voting equipment is expected to be delivered on Friday, November 4th with three trucks. There will be multiple runs per truck. Ms. Berry reiterated that the transportation company follow the schedule that has been outlined. The trucks will arrive at the loading dock at 7am. Mr. Woodley, Mr. Foster and Ms. Coley volunteered to guide the trucks for the deliveries.

Personnel & Budget

We are working to get another grant to address some physical security enhancements.

Ms. Dewees changed the expiration date for the Board of Canvassers in the Court book to 1-year after the election.

Carroll Magazine's October issue with feature election judges and the election process.

2022 Board Meeting Schedule
December 7

2022 General Election Dates
October 27-November 3 – Early Voting
November 8 – Election Day
November 10 and 18 – Mail-In Ballot Canvass
November 16 – Provisional Ballot Canvass

Unfinished Business

Mr. Gullo presented the by-law amendment to open discussion then vote on the amendment. There was no discussion. Ms. Coley made a motion to accept the by-law amendment and to submit the amendment to SBE. Mr. Woodley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

A troop leader from the Girl Scouts of Maryland contacted the office to ask permission to sell Girl Scout cookies at the polling places on election day if they maintained the 100' distance from the entrance of the polling place. A discussion occurred. The Board discussed a prior Board decision made several elections regarding this issue. The Board decided to continue to require the Girl Scouts to contact each of the facilities to ask the individual location's permission to be on their property.

Disclosure of Campaign Contributions

No contributions were reported.

Date of Next Meeting

The next board meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 7th, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mr. Foster, seconded by Mr. Tegeler at 11:25 am. The motion passed unanimously.