



Carroll County Board of Elections



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Carroll County Board of Elections Board Minutes January 17, 2024

Present

Board

Samuel Foster, President, in person

Karen Donaldson, Vice-President, virtual

Carol Coley, Secretary, in person

Mitch Edelman, Member, virtual

Jay Gullo, Attorney, virtual

Absent

Ben Watson, Member

Staff

Erin Perrone, Director, in person

Jennifer Bartholow, Acting Deputy Director, in person

Kimberly Jones, Election Program Supervisor II, virtual

Isaac Nogueron, Election Program Assistant, virtual

Eduardo DeLima, Election Information Systems Specialist, virtual

Hunt Hobbs, Election Program Assistant, virtual

Public

Katherine Adelaide, Carroll County Republican Central Committee, virtual

Corynne Corpus, Carroll County Democratic Central Committee, in person

Cheryl Steinbacher, Co-Chair, League of Women Voters, Carroll County, in person

Call to Order & Declaration of Quorum

Mr. Foster called the meeting to order at 10:04 am and declared a quorum was present.

Welcome

Mr. Foster welcomed those in attendance and introduced the members of the public that were present.

Additions to the Agenda

Mr. Foster 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 13, 2023, meeting on a motion from Ms. Coley, seconded by Mr. Edelman. The motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence

Ms. Perrone stated that there was no correspondence to share at this time.

Attorney Report

Mr. Gullo stated that he followed up with the State Board of Elections (SBE) on the double voting (or voting irregularities) procedures that were discussed at the December 13, 2023, board meeting. SBE does not have a current Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in place with the Office of the State Prosecutors (OSP). Ms. Coley feels that the Board has a responsibility to the public to follow through with voting irregularities as the public will be calling the office or contacting Board members with their concerns. Mr. Foster, Ms. Donaldson, and Mr. Edelman agreed with Ms. Coley and collectively decided to have Mr. Gullo proceed with scheduling a meeting with Mr. Shoemaker to begin formalizing a written process.

Mr. Gullo discussed a bill submitted by Senator Ready that SBE has asked the Board members to support. Senate Bill 329 (SB329) proposes to make it a crime to vote in multiple states. Ms. Perrone stated she would send the link to the Maryland General Assembly to the board so they could review Senator Ready's bill. Ms. Coley asked what the process would be for them to support Senator Ready's bill. Mr. Gullo stated he would reach out to Ms. Berry to see what the board members can do in support. Ms. Perrone suggested that something may also need to be done on a federal level.

Election Director's Report

Public Information Requests & Correspondence

Ms. Perrone stated that there were no requests at this time.

Important Meetings and Events

- January 11th – Virtual Election Directors' Meeting hosted by SBE
- January 15th – Office Closed in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- January 16th – MAEO Mentor Meeting for Election Directors and Deputy Directors
- January 25th – State Board Meeting at 1:30 pm
- January 31st – PIA Request Training hosted by SBE for Erin & Jen
- February 9th – Candidate Filing Deadline at 9:00 pm
- February 15th – In-person Election Directors' Meeting hosted by SBE
- February 19th – Office Closed in observance of President's Day

Candidate Filing

- Board of Education – four candidates filed at office – no change from last month
- Congressional District 2 – three candidates filed at SBE - +1 change from last month
- Congressional District 3 – fifteen candidates filed at SBE - +8 change from last month
- President of the US – no candidates filed at SBE – no change from last month

- Encourage candidates to make an appointment to file for candidacy
- The deadline to file for candidacy is Friday, February 9, 2024 at 9:00 pm

Voter Registration

- Monthly statistical reports are available on our website. The link to the reports is <https://elections.carrollcountymd.gov/monthlyStats.aspx>.
- Processing ERIC batches and will be finished by the January 23rd deadline
- Processed a Statewide Petition – No Labels Party – met the January 10th deadline. The numbers were met and there will be a new party.
- Day to day electronic batches and processing mail

Mail-in Ballots

- Mail-in Ballot Applications were mailed by the State’s vendor on Tuesday, January 9th. Registered voters who have not already requested a MIB and are registered as Democratic or Republican will receive an application. Voters who are not affiliated with the Democratic or Republican party will receive an application at a later date.

Date	Total MIBs	Domestic	UOCAVA	Non Perm MIBs	Perm MIBs	Mailed	Web Delivery	Large Print
10/10/2023	10,491	10,447	44	-	10,416	9,289	1,201	1
11/08/2023	10,501	10,458	43	79	10,422	9,286	1,214	1
12/06/2023	10,482	10,439	43	87	10,395	9,268	1,213	1
01/10/2024	10,488	10,442	46	95	10,393	9,272	1,215	1
Change since previous month	+6	+3	+3	+8	-2	+4	+2	0

Early Voting Centers/Polling Places

Ms. Perrone reported that 21,000 voter notification cards have been printed and are being sent to voters whose polling places have been changed.

Election Judges

Ms. Perrone stated that the Election Judge Department has received the updated tax forms and paperwork from the county and are preparing to send them out to the election judges. The *Election Judges’ Manual* has been approved by SBE and plans for the county to print the manuals are underway. Ms. Smith and Mr. DeLima have been making short training videos to assist with the online and in-person training. The team has been busy making updates to the trainings and plans to begin in-person training on Monday, March 4th.

Ms. Bartholow shared the updated election judge recruitment efforts. For election day, the positions are 90% filled, and for early voting, the positions are 80% filled. The Election Judge Department is very pleased with the number of filled positions right now, but

recruitment efforts are always ongoing for people to place on the backup list to fill any last-minute vacancies.

IT/Warehouse

Ms. Perrone shared that the warehouse has received six additional scanning units from SBE.

Personnel

Ms. Perrone will be increasing the staff presence in the office depending on the mail flow that is received. On February 12th, everyone will be working in the office daily and telework will be reduced to an as needed basis only.

The office will welcome two high school interns from Liberty High School. Austin Shade will begin the end of January and Flematu Fofana will start the beginning of February. The career coordinator from Liberty High School has already inquired about our need for interns in the fall of 2024.

Budget/County

Ms. Perrone and staff members have met with Dean Leister and Eric Burdine from the county to discuss details and receive guidance for laying out the warehouse. The warehouse staff designed a layout for the equipment and taped it out on the floor of the new building to assist with the process.

Ms. Perrone and Ms. Bartholow will be meeting with Ashleigh Smith, our budget analyst, on Thursday, February 1st to discuss the proposed FY25 budget.

2024 Board Meetings

- February 21, 2024
- March 20, 2024
- April 17, 2024 – Heather DeWees will be swearing in the Board of Canvassers
- No Meeting in May
- June 19, 2024
- July 17, 2024
- No Meeting in August
- September 18, 2024
- October 16, 2024

2024 Election Save the Date!

- April 8 – May 14, 2024 – Drop Box Pick-Ups
- April 22, 2024 – First Mail-In Ballot Canvass
- May 2-9, 2024 – Presidential Primary Early Voting
- May 14, 2024 – Presidential Primary Election Day
- May 16, 2024 – Mail-In Ballot Canvass
- May 22, 2024 – Provisional Ballot Canvass
- May 24, 2024 – Final Canvass & Certification

- September 30 – November 5, 2024 – Drop Box Pick-Ups
- October 15, 2024 – First Mail-In Ballot Canvass (*Note the date change*)
- October 24-31, 2024 – Presidential General Early Voting
- November 5, 2024 – Presidential General Election
- November 7, 2024 – Mail-In Ballot Canvass
- November 13, 2024 – Provisional Ballot Canvass
- November 15, 2024 – Final Canvass & Certification

Unfinished Business

Ms. Coley asked if a decision had been made regarding the drop box pick up schedule for the board members. Ms. Perrone explained that historically the staff members pick up ballots individually and the board members pick up ballots in bipartisan teams. It was decided to keep the process as it has previously been done. Board members will continue to pick up from the drop boxes in bipartisan teams.

New Business

There was no new business to present.

Disclosure of Campaign Contributions

No contributions were reported.

Date of Next Meeting

The next board meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 21, 2024, at 10:00 am.

Adjournment and Closed Session

The motion for adjournment was made by Ms. Coley. Ms. Donaldson seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 am.