



Carroll County Board of Elections



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Carroll County Board of Elections Board Minutes April 17, 2024

Present

Board

Samuel Foster, President, in person
Karen Donaldson, Vice-President, in person
Carol Coley, Secretary, virtual
Mitch Edelman, Member, in person
Ben Watson, Member, in person
Jay Gullo, Attorney, virtual

Staff

Erin Perrone, Director, in person
Jennifer Bartholow, Deputy Director, in person
Mia Faber, Election Program Supervisor, virtual
Eduardo DeLima, Election Information Systems Specialist, virtual
Kimberly Jones, Election Program Supervisor II, virtual
Isaac Nogueron, Election Program Assistant, virtual
Olivia Smith, Election Program Specialist, in person

Public

Katherine Adelaide, Carroll County Republican Central Committee, in person
Heather DeWees, Carroll County Clerk of the Circuit Court
Griffith Manahan, Former Carroll County Board of Elections President
Cheryl Steinbacher, Co-Chair, League of Women Voters, Carroll County, in person

Swearing in the Board of Canvassers

At 10:02 am, Ms. DeWees conducted the swearing of the board members that were in attendance – Mr. Foster, Ms. Donaldson, Mr. Edelman, and Mr. Watson. Ms. Coley and Mr. Gullo will be sworn in by Ms. DeWees during a private appointment.

Call to Order & Declaration of Quorum

Mr. Foster called the meeting to order at 10:12 am and declared a quorum was present.

Welcome

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

Additions to the Agenda

Mr. Foster asked if any there were any additions to the agenda. Ms. Perrone announced that the board needed to vote for Chairman and Secretary of the Board of Canvassers. Mr. Gullo explained the responsibilities involved with each. Ms. Donaldson nominated Mr. Watson for Secretary and Mr. Foster seconded the nomination. Mr. Watson accepted the appointment as Secretary of the Board of Canvassers. Ms. Donaldson nominated Mr. Foster for Chairman and Ms. Coley seconded the nomination. Mr. Foster accepted the appointment as Chairman of the Board of Canvassers.

Approval of Minutes

The Board approved the minutes from the March 20, 2024, meeting on a motion from Ms. Coley, seconded by Mr. Edelman. The motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence

Ms. Perrone shared an article from the Carroll County Times dated March 22, 2024, with the headline "Carroll County Board of Education candidates will not be on primary ballot." Ms. Perrone also shared a statement from Maryland State Board of Elections Administrator Jared DeMarinis on the signing of the Protecting Elections Officials Act of 2024 (SB480/HB585) by Governor Moore. The last correspondence that Ms. Perrone shared was statement from the Maryland State Board of Elections announcing nearly 600,000 voters have requested mail-in ballots ahead of the 2024 Presidential Primary Election.

Attorney Report

Mr. Gullo explained that he does not have any updates regarding the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) regarding voting irregularities.

Mr. Gullo participated in a meeting with the legal counsel from the other local boards of election and the State Board of Elections. They discussed the scheduling of sports activities at some of the local polling places and how it may impact election day.

Election Director's Report

Public Information Requests

- Request from Christopher Gleason (For the Justice Society) – response sent on 03/29/24

Important Meetings and Events

- April 9th – Carroll Community College – "Voting Experience" from 10 am to 2 pm – partnership with League of Women Voters to simulate a polling place
- April 16th – Meeting with Sheriff's Department – single point of contact made
- April 18th – Election Directors' Meeting and Election Threat Briefing and weather updates with SBE
- April 19th – Public L&A Demo at 10 am
- April 22nd – Pre-Election Day Canvass at 10 am
- May 1st – Early voting center setup

- May 2nd – First day of early voting

Voter Registration

- Monthly statistical reports are available on our website. The link to the reports is <https://elections.carrollcountymd.gov/monthlyStats.aspx>.
- Nonpartisan Voter Postcard Mailing
- Deadline to register to vote and change party affiliation – Tuesday, 4/23/2024
- Same day registration during early voting and on election day
- Day to day electronic batches and processing mail and receiving voted ballots

Mail-in Ballots

- Ballots will be mailed every Wednesday and Friday until Monday, 5/6/2024
- Returned ballots – as of 4/10/2024 – 1,127 ballots returned; as of 4/16/2024 – 3,356 ballots returned
- 710 were mailed back, 406 were put in a drop box, 6 were dropped off in person;
- 2,355 were mailed back, 985 were put in a drop box, 10 were dropped off in person as of 4/16/2024

MIB Requests

- SBE mailed applications to non-partisan voters

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
02/14/2024	14,461	14,397	64	1,635	12,826	12,896	1,564	1
03/13/2024	15,330	15,252	78	2,034	13,296	13,698	1,631	1
04/10/2024	15,678	15,596	82	2,223	13,455	14,024	1,652	2
Change since previous month	+348	+344	+4	+189	+159	+326	+21	+1

Ballot Drop Boxes

- Ballots picked up and the returned to the office daily

Election Judges

- Training Classes - additional classes have been added
- Recruitment update – 30 open spots for election day, 2 opens spots for early voting

IT/Warehouse

- L&A is complete
- Supply verification will be done by Ms. Donaldson and Mr. Edelman on April 17, 2024, after the board meeting. They will follow the checklist and verify the supplies for the early voting centers and for five polling places for election day.

Personnel

- Deputy Director – Jennifer Bartholow was announced as the new Deputy Director
- Election Program Assistant I Recruitment – this position is now open for applicants

Budget/County

- New building update – no new updates at this time

2024 Board Meetings

- April 17, 2024 – Heather DeWees will be swearing in the Board of Canvassers
- No Meeting in May
- June 19, 2024 – Need to reschedule – this is a holiday
- July 17, 2024
- No Meeting in August
- September 18, 2024
- October 16, 2024
- No Meeting in November
- December 18, 2024
- January 15, 2025
- February 19, 2025
- March 19, 2025
- April 16, 2025

2024 Election Save the Date!

- 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
- 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
- February 19, 2025 – Manual Audit

Unfinished Business

There is no unfinished business to report.

New Business

Mr. Edelman wrote a letter that he wanted to submit to the editor of the Carroll County Times. The board voted on this and decided that it would be more appropriate for the letter to be sent by the staff. Ms. Perrone will edit the verbiage and will work with Mr. Gullo to prepare and have it submitted.

Ms. Perrone presented the board with binders for each board member and reviewed each section preparing for the responsibilities for canvass, early voting, and election day.

Disclosure of Campaign Contributions

There are no campaign contributions to disclose.

Date of Next Meeting

There will not be a board meeting scheduled for May. The next scheduled date is June 19, 2024. This date is a holiday and will need to be rescheduled. The board will decide in May whether the June meeting will be rescheduled or cancelled. If the June meeting is cancelled, the next board meeting would be Wednesday, July 17, 2024.

Adjournment

The motion for adjournment was made at 11:17 am by Mr. Edelman. Ms. Donaldson seconded the motion.