

Carroll County Board of Canvassers  
300 S Center Street, Rm 212  
Westminster, MD 21157

Thursday, May 16, 2024 – Post-Election Day Mail-in Ballot 1 Canvass

### **ATTENDEES**

Board of Canvassers:

Name	Position	Party
Carol Coley	Member	Democratic
Karen Donaldson	Member	Republican
Mitch Edelman	Member	Democratic
Samuel Foster	Chairman	Democratic
Benjamin Watson	Secretary	Republican
Jack “Jay” Gullo	Board Counsel	

LBE Staff:

Name	Position
Jennifer Bartholow	Deputy Director
Eduardo DeLima	Election IT Specialist III
Lukas Faber	County Technician
Kimberly Bullock-Jones	Election Program Supervisor II
Isaac Nogueron	Election Program Specialist II
Erin Perrone	Election Director

Members of the Public:

Name	Organization (if applicable)
Katherine Adelaide	Carroll County Republican Central Committee
Corynne Courpas	Carroll County Democratic Central Committee

All canvassing teams, duplicating team members, ballot scanner operating team members, envelope openers, and runners in attendance are listed under the Canvass Participants section below.

### **DECLARATION OF QUORUM PRESENT**

The mail-in ballot canvass reconvened at 10 am on Thursday, May 16, 2024, at the gymnasium of the Robert Moton Building, 300 S Center Street, Westminster. There was a quorum of the Board of Canvassers, and at least one member of the Board of Canvassers who is a registered voter of the principal minority party was present.

### **CONFIRMATION OF OATH**

Heather DeWees, the Clerk of the Court for Carroll County, administered and recorded the oath of each member of the Board of Canvassers on Wednesday, April 17, 2024. Ms. DeWees administered and recorded the oath for Board of Canvasser Coley on Friday, April 5, 2024. Ms. DeWees administered and recorded the oath for Board Counsel Jack Gullo on Monday, May 13, 2024.

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### **ANNOUNCEMENT OF OFFICERS**

At a meeting on Wednesday, April 17, 2024, the Board of Canvassers elected Samuel Foster as Chairman of the Board of Canvassers and Benjamin Watson as Secretary.

### **PUBLIC NOTICE OF CANVASS**

Mr. Foster noted that public notice of the mail-in ballot canvass was provided and that the notice was provided via the website, social media, and an email to various parties including candidates, central committees, and elected officials.

### **VERIFICATION OF THE SCANNING UNITS**

Ms. Perrone presented documents to the Board of Canvassers showing that the ballot scanners being used in the canvass successfully passed Logic and Accuracy Testing on Friday, April 5, 2024. Ms. Perrone reported that the memory sticks created for this canvass were placed in the ballot scanners and sealed. Ms. Perrone provided the Board of Canvassers with the results from the Logic and Accuracy Testing. Ms. Perrone noted the Ballot Scanner Serial Numbers and Seal Numbers from the Logic and Accuracy Testing documentation for each ballot scanner being used in the canvass.

Ms. Jones and Mr. DeLima verified that the seals on the ballot scanners were intact and recorded the scanner's serial number and seal number on the *Scanning Unit Opening Integrity Report*. Ms. Jones and Mr. DeLima noted that the ballot scanners' serial numbers and seal numbers from Logic and Accuracy Testing matched the ballot scanners' serial numbers and seal numbers before the canvass began.

The Board of Canvassers confirmed that the counts on the ballot scanners were zero. Mr. DeLima posted one copy of the Zero Report from the ballot scanners on the inside of the front doors to the Robert Moton Building. Ms. Jones and Mr. DeLima printed a second copy of the Zero Report, which were detached from the ballot scanners and attached to the *Scanning Unit Opening Integrity Report*. At the direction of Ms. Jones and Mr. DeLima, the Board of Canvassers signed the zero reports that were attached to the *Scanning Unit Opening Integrity Report*. Ms. Perrone also confirmed that the ballot boxes were empty.

A copy of the *Scanning Unit Opening Integrity Report* is attached to the minutes.

### **CANVASSING OF BALLOTS**

#### Overview of Canvass Process

Ms. Perrone explained the rules concerning public observation of the canvass. Ms. Perrone provided an overview of the canvassing process and noted that the rules were posted in the canvass room. Ballots were distributed to the bipartisan team of election judges operating the envelope openers.

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Each canvassing team determined whether the voter signed the oath. After verifying that the oath is signed, each canvassing team removed the ballot, taking care that the envelope stays face down. After removing all of the ballots in the batch, the ballot envelopes were set aside. Each canvassing team reviewed the ballots for compliance and tabulating acceptability.

Web delivered ballots were duplicated by bipartisan ballot duplication teams and verified for accuracy.

Ballots that were not in compliance were placed in a folder, with the canvassing team's number, or other information identifying the canvassing team to which the ballot belonged, and the reason for the referral written on the header sheet. The folder with the ballots inside was referred to the Board of Canvassers for later review.

Those ballots that were in compliance and could be read by the ballot scanner were referred to the Board of Canvassers for acceptance.

The Board of Canvassers convened at 12:00 noon to review referred ballots from the Monday, April 22, 2024, Pre-Election Day Canvass. The Board of Canvassers ruled on whether to accept or unanimously reject the referred ballots. Ms. Perrone explained the process to provide information not the Board of Canvassers or challenged a decision of the Board. See the table below showing the ballots presented to the Board of Canvassers.

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Batch Number	Referral Reason	Contest	Board Action	Vote
86	Voter Intent – Overvote	Rep for National Convention District 2	Duplicate to remove the extra “X” choice	Unanimous Consent
86	Voter Intent – Overvote	Rep for National Convention District 2	Duplicate to remove scratched out choice	Unanimous Consent
198	Voter Intent & Identifying Mark - Crossed out, “Mistake” written, and initials written on the Ballot	US Senator District 1	Rejected for Identifying Mark – Invalid Ballot	Unanimous Consent
144	Voter Intent - Overvote	Representative District 3, RNC District 3, Alternate RNC District 3	Duplicate with overvoted contests blank on ballot	Unanimous Consent
140	Voter Intent – Unintentional Overvote/ “X” marked on candidate to not be voted for	US Senator District 1	Duplicate to remove “X” marked candidate to only have one candidate marked	Unanimous Consent
139	Voter Intent – Small mark in 1 bubble, 3 full markings on rest	Del RNC District 2	Duplicate to remove stray mark	Unanimous Consent
125	Voter Intent – Overvote/stray mark in 1 bubble, 1 full marking on other	Representative Congress District 3	Duplicate to remove stray mark	Unanimous Consent

The Board of Canvassers reviewed the upcoming schedule. On a motion by Mr. Watson, and seconded by Mr. Edelman, the Board decided to cancel the Wednesday, June 19, 2024, meeting because of a State holiday. The motion passed unanimously.

The next Board of Elections meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 17, 2024, at 10 am.

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Canvass Participants

Canvasser	Names of Bi-Partisan Ballot Processing & Duplicating Canvassing Team Members
Team #1	E. Beth Bowman & Norma Bair
Team #2	Elena Hodgkiss & Paula Stonesifer
Team #3	Taylor Button & Richard Wills
Team #4	Becky Ritterhouse & Sandra Hohne
Team #5	Robert Moody & Judy Cook
Team #6	Deborah Chatham & Estelle Frederick
Team #7	Faye Davis & Danielle Unglesbee
Team #8	Josephine Billings & Delores Blubaugh
Team #9	Bonnie Hockaday & Barbara Phelps
Team #10	Stacey Jones & Sylvia Bellak
Team #11	Phillip Saghy & Bruce Westervelt
Team #12	Betsy Scott & Debra Robertson
Team #13	Cindy Hirshberg & Ruth Gwynn
Team #14	Precious Morrison & Edmund Berman
Team #15	Wendy Raith & Kelly Devilbiss

Team	Names of Bi-Partisan Envelope Openers & Floor Runners
Team #1	Rachel Myrowitz & Sandra Ebbs
Team #2	Kaitlyn Blizzard & Elizabeth Dvorak Little
Runner #1	Kimberly Frock
Runner #2	Wendy Bowersox
Runner # 3	Kimberly Smithson
Runner #4	Ivy Smink
Runner #5	Pamela Malkin

Team	Names of Bi-Partisan Ballot Scanner Operating Team Members
Team #1	Andrew DeMario & Dave Traenkner
Team #2	Rodney Morris & Patrick McCourt
Team #3	Chris Catterton & Carol Fornwalt
Team #4	Jan Rubenstein & Jane Thayer
Scanner #5	Lukas Faber

Canvassing of Ballots

Ms. Coley made a motion to accept and approve the opening and tabulation of the ballots. Ms. Donaldson seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

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**Challenges During Canvass**

No challenges were made during the canvass.

**Canvass Closing**

After scanning all accepted ballots, Ms. Jones and Mr. DeLima locked the ballot scanners and printed an Election Results Report. Ms. Perrone confirmed that the number of accepted ballots equaled the number of ballots counted by the ballot scanners. The Board of Canvassers signed one copy of the Voting Results Report and attached it to the Zero Report. The other copy was posted on the inside of the front doors to the Robert Moton Building next to the Zero Reports for public viewing.

A copy of the *Scanning Unit Closing Integrity Report* is attached to the minutes.

**DAILY CANVASSING STATISTICS**

Mail-In Ballot Canvass Statistics- Day 1	Number of Ballots
Total Ballots Presented	5,865
Accepted Ballots	5,871
Rejected Ballots	1
Ballots held over for the Board of Canvassers at their 5/22 meeting	5

**RECESS**

The canvass recessed at 3:00 pm and will reconvene on Wednesday, May 22, 2024, at 10 am for the provisional ballot canvass. Ms. Jones and Mr. DeLima recorded the public count, turned the scanners off, and affixed a seal.