

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

Wednesday, November 13, 2024 – Combined Provisional and Mail-in Canvass Minutes

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
Kimberly Bullock-Jones	Election Program Supervisor II
Eduardo DeLima	Election IT Specialist III
Lukas Faber	County Technician
Isaac Nogueron	Election Program Specialist II
Erin Perrone	Election Director
Mark Shaughney	Election Program Specialist II
Christine Winer	Election Program Specialist II

Members of the Public:

Name	Organization (if applicable)
Katherine Berry	State Board of Elections
Robin Frazier	Citizen

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 meeting of the Board of Canvassers began at 10 am on Wednesday, November 13, 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, September 18, 2024. Ms. DeWees administered and recorded the oath of board counsel on Wednesday, October 16, 2024.

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

Wednesday, November 13, 2024 – Combined Provisional and Mail-in Canvass Minutes

ANNOUNCEMENT OF OFFICERS

At a meeting on Wednesday, September 18, 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 SCANNING UNITS

Ms. Perrone stated that the ballot scanners being used in the canvass successfully passed Logic and Accuracy Testing on Friday, September 13, 2024. Ms. Perrone reported that the memory sticks created for this canvass were placed in the ballot scanners and sealed. 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 *DS200 Integrity Report – Provisional Canvass and DS200 Integrity Report – MIB2 Canvass*. 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. At the direction of Ms. Jones and Mr. DeLima, the Board of Canvassers signed the zero reports that were posted inside the front doors to the Robert Moton Building. After the Board of Canvassers signed the zero reports from each scanner, Ms. Bullock and Mr. Watson 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 *DS200 Integrity Report – Provisional Canvass and DS200 Integrity Report – MIB2 Canvass*.

A copy of the *DS200 Integrity Report – Provisional Canvass and DS200 Integrity Report – MIB2 Canvass* is attached to the minutes.

CANVASSING

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.

Wednesday, November 13, 2024 – Combined Provisional and Mail-in Canvass Minutes

Ms. Perrone explained that each provisional ballot application was reviewed prior to canvassing to determine the voter's eligibility to vote in this election and the voter's correct ballot style. At this canvass, the provisional ballot applications will be presented to the Board of Canvassers with a recommendation. The recommendations will be to:

1. Accept 2,052 provisional ballot applications in full – recommend counting all votes cast on the provisional ballot.
2. Accept 282 provisional ballot applications in part – recommend counting some but not all votes cast on the provisional ballot. This is because the voter voted in the wrong precinct and the voter is registered in a different Congressional District.
3. Reject 39 provisional ballot applications – recommend not counting the provisional ballot.
4. Following guidance from the State Board of Elections, 48 provisional ballot applications are being held until the canvas on Friday, November 15, 2024, to verify the voter's DL# or SS#.

The Board of Canvassers will vote to accept in full, accept in part, or reject the provisional ballots. The provisional ballots for which the Board voted to accept in full or accept in part are distributed to the bipartisan ballot processing teams to open and review the ballots. The "accepted in full" ballots are scanned into the ballot scanner, and the "accepted in part" ballots are referred to a duplicating team. The duplicating team will copy onto the voter's correct ballot style the votes for the contests for which the provisional voter is eligible to vote.

Ms. Perrone explained that, to preserve the secrecy of the ballots, at least five mail-in ballots of each ballot style were held back to be canvassed with the provisional ballots. The held-back mail-in ballots are distributed to the ballot processing teams in batches. Each team reviews the envelope first to determine whether it was timely received. For time received ballots, each team determines whether the voter signed the oath. After verifying that the oath is signed, each team opens the envelopes. With the envelope face down, each team removes the ballot, taking care that the envelope stays face down. After removing all of the ballots in the batch, the ballot envelopes are set aside. Each team reviews the ballots for compliance and tabulating acceptability.

Those timely ballots that were in compliance and could be read by the ballot scanner were referred to the Board of Canvassers for acceptance. All other ballots are placed in an orange folder, with the team number and other information identifying the group or scanner number wot which the ballot belongs, and the reason for the referral to the Board of Canvassers. The orange folder with the ballots inside is referred to the Board of Canvassers.

The Board of Canvassers convened at 12:00 noon to review referred ballots from the Thursday, November 7, 2024, Mail-in Ballot 1 Canvass. The Board of Canvassers ruled on whether to accept or unanimously reject the referred ballots. See the table below showing the ballots presented to the Board of Canvassers.

Wednesday, November 13, 2024 – Combined Provisional and Mail-in Canvass Minutes

Batch Number	Referral Reason	Contest	Board Action	Vote
549 MIB1	Voter intent – ballot was sliced open on a contest	Judge, Appellate Court of Maryland At Large Andrea M. Leahy	Duplicate the entire ballot with Leahy blank	Unanimous Consent
641 MIB1	Voter intent	Justice, Supreme Court of Maryland Circuit 3 Matthew J. Fader	Duplicate the entire ballot with a Yes vote for Matthew J. Fader	Unanimous Consent
711 MIB1	Voter intent	President and Vice-President of the United States	Duplicate the entire ballot with a vote for Kamala Harris	Unanimous Consent
757 MIB1	Identifying mark on the ballot	Entire ballot	Rejected for identifying mark – voter signed the ballot	Unanimous Consent
882 MIB1	Stray mark on the ballot and voter intent	President and Vice-President of the United States and US Senator	Duplicate the entire ballot with a vote for Donald Trump and an overvote for US Senator	Unanimous Consent
941 MIB1	Voter intent	US Senator	Duplicate the entire ballot with a vote for Angela Alsobrooks	Unanimous Consent
Prov-15	No ballot inside provisional ballot envelope	Entire ballot	Rejected – no ballot inside the provisional ballot envelope	Unanimous Consent
Prov-21	Voter Intent	State Q Amend. 1	Duplicate & Vote Against Q1	Unanimous Consent

Canvass Participants

Canvasser	Names of Bi-Partisan Ballot Processing & Duplicating Canvassing Team Members
Team #1	Susan E Whitcomb & Norma Bair
Team #2	Kristen McMasters & Paula Stonesifer
Team #3	E Beth Bowman & Richard Wills
Team #4	Josephine Billing s& Delores Blubaugh
Team #5	Michelle Moreau & Estelle Frederick
Team #6	Marcia Heyman & Danielle Unglesbee
Team #7	Wallace Brown & Sylvia Bellak
Team #8	Cindy Hirschberg & Barbara Phelps

Wednesday, November 13, 2024 – Combined Provisional and Mail-in Canvass Minutes

Team #9	Precious Morrison & Donna Schott
Team #10	Faye Davis & Sandra Hohne
Team #11	Elena Hodgkiss & Bruce Westervelt
Team #12	Stacey Jones & Sandra Strickler
Team #13	Cheryl Steinbacher & Kelly Devilbiss
Team #14	Jean Lewis & Guin Elizabeth Gilberto
Team #15	Deborah Palm & Barb Partenope
Team #16	Wendy Raith & Judy Cook

Team	Names of Bi-Partisan Floor Runners
Runner #1	Rodney Morris
Runner #2	Kimberly Frock
Runner #3	Jeff Morse
Runner #4	Jeana Marquardt

Team	Names of Bi-Partisan Ballot Scanner Operating Team Members
Team #1	Betsy Scott & Andrew Pak
Team #2	Taylor Button & Patrick McCourt
Team #3	Robert Moddy & Michael Myers
Team #4	Andrew DeMario & Dave Traenkner
Team #5	Pamela Malkin & Brenda Brenneman
Team #6	Lukas Faber

Canvassing of Provisional Ballots

Ms. Perrone reported that 2,421 provisional ballots were cast. To preserve the secrecy of the ballots, Ms. Perrone explained that five mail-in ballots of each ballot style were held back for this provisional canvass and will be counted with the provisional ballots. A total of 2,421 provisional ballots and 226 mail-in ballots were presented for canvassing during this part of this canvass.

Mr. Watson made a motion to begin presenting provisional ballot applications. Ms. Donaldson seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

1. Ms. Perrone presented 2,052 provisional ballots with the recommendation to accept them in full. The recommendation was based on the fact that staff had confirmed that each provisional application was submitted by a registered voter and was cast in the correct precinct where that voter currently resides. The Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation and accept and count the provisional ballots in full.
2. Ms. Perrone presented 282 provisional ballots with the recommendation to accept them in part. The recommendation was based on the fact that staff had confirmed that each provisional application was submitted by a registered voter and the provisional ballot was cast in the wrong precinct and the voter is registered in a different

Wednesday, November 13, 2024 – Combined Provisional and Mail-in Canvass Minutes

Congressional District. The Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation, and the ballots were referred to the duplicating team.

3. Ms. Perrone presented 10 provisional ballots with the recommendation to reject because the applicant returned a voted mail-in ballot or already voted. The Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation and reject the ballots.
4. Ms. Perrone presented 13 provisional ballots with the recommendation to reject because the voter failed to sign the provisional ballot application. The Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation and reject the ballots.
5. Ms. Perrone presented 6 provisional ballots with the recommendation to reject because the applicant was not eligible to receive a provisional ballot. The Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation and reject the ballots.
6. Ms. Perrone presented 9 provisional ballots with the recommendation to reject because the applicant did not provide identification or personal identification information in time. The Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation and reject the ballots.
7. Ms. Perrone presented 1 provisional ballot with the recommendation to reject because the applicant provided incomplete information on the provisional ballot application. The Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation and reject the ballot.

Following guidance from the State Board of Elections, 48 provisional ballots are being held until the canvass on Friday, November 15, 2024 to verify the driver license or social security number.

Canvassing of Held-Back Mail-in Ballots

The staff distributed to canvassing teams the mail-in ballots reserved for this canvass to preserve the secrecy of the provisional ballots to review for timeliness and signatures. Ms. Perrone presented 226 mail-in ballots with the recommendation to accept the mail-in ballots. The Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation and voted to accept the ballots.

Canvassing of Additional Mail-in Ballots

To begin the Mail-in Ballot 2 Canvass, staff distributed to canvassing teams the additional mail-in ballots to review for timeliness and signatures. Ms. Perrone presented 538 mail-in ballots with the recommendation to accept the mail-in ballots. The Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation and voted to accept the ballots.

Challenges During Canvass

There were no challenges during this canvass.

Printing Canvass Results

After scanning all accepted in full and accepted in part provisional ballots and all accepted mail-in ballots, Ms. Jones and Mr. DeLima locked the ballot scanners and printed a Voting Results Report. The Board of Canvassers confirmed that the number of accepted in full and accepted in part provisional ballots and accepted mail-in ballots equaled the number of ballots

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

Wednesday, November 13, 2024 – Combined Provisional and Mail-in Canvass Minutes

counted by the ballot scanners. The Board of Canvassers signed the Voting Results Report and posted a second copy of the report on the inside of the front doors to the Robert Moton Building next to the Zero Reports.

RELEASE OF UNOFFICIAL RESULTS

Mr. Foster announced the results from the combined provisional and mail-in canvass, and the separate mail-in canvass. Ms. Perrone announced the following statistics from the combined provisional and mail-in canvass:

Provisional Canvass Statistics	Number of Ballots
A) Total Ballots Presented at Provisional Canvass	2,599
B) Total Provisional Ballots Presented	2,373
C) Total Held-back Mail-in Ballots Presented	226
D) Total Accepted Ballots	2,560
E) Accepted in Full Provisional Ballots	2,052
F) Accepted in Part Provisional Ballots	282
G) Accepted Held-back Mail-in Ballots	226
H) Total Rejected Ballots	39
I) Rejected Provisional Ballots	39
J) Rejected Held-back Mail-in Ballots	0

Mail-in Ballot Canvass Statistics	Number of Ballots
Mail-in Ballots Presented in Mail-in Part of Canvass	538
Mail-in Ballots Accepted	543
Mail-in Ballots Accepted by the Board of Canvassers	5
Rejected Mail-in Ballots	2

Ms. Perrone announced that provisional voters can find out if their provisional ballots were counted and if not, the reason why it was not counted by visiting the State Board of Elections' website or by calling the State Board at 1-800-222-8683.

NEXT BOARD OF CANVASSERS' MEETING

The Board of Canvassers will meet on Friday, November 15, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. to canvass all remaining ballots.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:38 pm with a motion from Mr. Watson, seconded by Ms. Donaldson. The motion passed unanimously.