

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

Friday, May 24, 2024 - Mail-In Ballot 2 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
Olivia Smith	Election Program Specialist I

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 meeting of the Board of Canvassers began at 10 am on Friday, May 24, 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. Each canvassing team reviewed the envelope first to determine whether it was timely received.

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Friday, May 24, 2024 - Mail-In Ballot 2 Canvass

For timely received ballots, each canvassing team determined whether the voter signed the oath. After verifying that the oath is signed, each canvassing team opened the envelopes. With the envelope face down, 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 11:00 a.m. to review referred ballots. The Board of Canvassers ruled on whether to accept or unanimously reject the referred ballots. See the table below showing the ballots Ms. Perrone presented to the Board of Canvassers.

Referral Reason	Quantity	Board Action	Vote
Untimely Received	35	Reject all 35 ballots	Unanimous
No Oath Signature	10	Reject all 10 ballots	Unanimous

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Friday, May 24, 2024 - Mail-In Ballot 2 Canvass

Canvass Participants

Canvasser	Names of Bi-Partisan Ballot Processing & Duplicating Canvassing Team Members
Team #1	E. Beth Bowman & Norma Bair
Team #2	Michelle Moreau & Paula Stonesifer
Team #3	Marcia Heyman & Danielle Unglesbee
Team #4	Martha Hankins & Lori Anderson
Team #5	Wendy Raith & Judy Cook

Team	Names of Floor Runners
Runner #1	Kimberly Smithson
Runner #2	Kimberly Frock
Runner #3	Robert Boblitz

Team	Names of Bi-Partisan Ballot Scanner Operating Team Members
Team #1	Taylor Button & Donna Schott
Team #2	Dave Traenkner & Cindy Rosenberg
Team #3	Lukas Faber

Canvassing of Ballots

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

Challenges During Canvass

No challenges were made during the canvass.

Canvass Closing

Printing Canvass Results

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.

Carroll County Board of Canvassers
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Westminster, MD 21157

Friday, May 24, 2024 - Mail-In Ballot 2 Canvass

DAILY CANVASSING STATISTICS

Mail-in Ballot 2 Canvass Statistics	Number of Ballots
Mail-in Ballots Presented in Mail-in Ballot 2 Canvass	281
Mail-in Ballots Accepted	236
Rejected Mail-in Ballots	45

RELEASE OF UNOFFICIAL RESULTS

Mr. Foster announced the results from the entire mail-in ballot canvass.

Mail-In Ballot Canvass Statistics	Number of Ballots
A) Total Ballots Presented	10,827
B) Total Mail-in Ballots Presented	10,315
C) Total Provisional Ballots Presented	512
D) Total Ballots Accepted	10,551
E) Accepted in Full Provisional Ballots	278
F) Accepted in Part Provisional Ballots	6
G) Accepted Mail-in Ballots	10,267
H) Total Rejected Ballots	275
I) Rejected Provisional Ballots	228
J) Rejected Mail-in Ballots	47

VERIFICATION OF VOTE COUNT

Ms. Perrone explained that staff conducted several post-election verifications and audits. Staff manually added the Voting Results Reports from each ballot scanner in the precincts previously randomly selected by the local board of elections and compared the manually added totals with the totals produced by the election database for those precincts. Ms. Perrone confirmed that all of the numbers matched in precincts 09-001 and 14-003. The numbers did not match in precinct 07-010 because the wrong ballot style was given to some voters. It is important to note that although some voters received the wrong ballot style, the content of the two ballots were the same.

Ms. Perrone explained that a similar verification was performed on each ballot scanner used during the Pre-Election Day canvass and Mail-in Ballot 1 Canvass. Staff manually added the Voting Results Reports printed from each ballot scanner used during those canvasses and manually added totals to a report printed from the election database for the canvass. Ms. Perrone confirmed that all of the numbers matched.

Ms. Perrone presented the Board of Canvassers with the verification results, and the Board of Canvassers reviewed the results. Ms. Coley made a motion to accept the verification results. Ms. Donaldson seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

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Friday, May 24, 2024 - Mail-In Ballot 2 Canvass

POST ELECTION AUDITS

Ms. Perrone explained that post-election audits were performed on the polling places of certain randomly selected precincts, and on select mail-in and provisional ballots.

Ms. Perrone explained that for the polling places, in the randomly selected precincts and any polling place where the difference between the number of voters that checked in to vote and ballots case is five or more, staff compared the number of signed voter authority cards for each ballot scanner against the number of ballots cast. Ms. Perrone stated that the State Board of Elections required an additional audit at 07-007 because the number of voters checked in on the pollbook and the number of ballots scanned on the scanners was + or - 5. After the audit was complete, it was determined that the wrong ballot style was given to voters at Westminster Elementary School. No votes would have been affected because the content of the two ballots was the same.

Ms. Perrone explained that staff reviewed a sample of accepted mail-in ballots to determine if the ballot was timely received. Staff also reviewed a sample of rejected mail-in ballots to determine if the ballot was untimely received or was rejected for another valid reason. Ms. Perrone confirmed that all of the numbers matched.

Ms. Perrone explained that a sample of accepted provisional ballots were reviewed to determine whether the provisional voter was registered to vote at the time of the election, voted the ballot for the precinct in which the voter resides, and all other applicable criteria were met. A sample of partially accepted provisional ballots was also reviewed to confirm that a voter was registered to vote at the time of the election, did not vote the ballot for the precinct in which the voter resides, and all other applicable criteria were met. Staff also reviewed a sample of rejected provisional ballots to confirm that the voter was not registered to vote at the time of the election or the voter's ballot was rejected for another valid reason. Ms. Perrone confirmed that all of the numbers matched.

Ms. Perrone explained that all ballot images from early voting, election day, and all mail-in ballots canvassed and tabulated prior to election day were sent to a third-party for re-tabulation. The vendor produces reports comparing precinct-level results from the voting system against the precinct-level results from the re-tabulation, and these reports show any differences between the two sets of results. Ms. Perrone showed the reports and confirmed that any differences between the two sets of results were less than 0.5%, the threshold for additional auditing.

CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION RESULTS

Ms. Perrone explained that the post-election verifications and audits had no discrepancies, or the discrepancies were less than the vote margin of any contest on the ballot in that precinct and presented the Board of Canvassers with the election results. The Board of Canvassers reviewed the election results.

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Friday, May 24, 2024 - Mail-In Ballot 2 Canvass

NEXT BOARD OF CANVASSERS' MEETING

If additional ballots are received, the Board of Canvassers will convene after the next meeting of the Carroll County Board of Elections. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 17, 2024, at 10 am at the Robert Moton Room at the Robert Moton Building, 300 S Center Street, Westminster.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:07 am on Friday, May 24, 2024.