

Carroll County Board of Canvassers
300 S. Center Street, Robert Moton Meeting Room
Westminster, MD 21157

November 10, 2016 – 1st Absentee Canvass Minutes

ATTENDEES:

Board of Canvassers: Griffith Manahan (Republican) Chairman, Harvey Tegeler (Republican), Secretary, Larry Shipley (Republican), Laura O'Callahagn (Democrat), Samuel Foster (Democrat)

LBE Staff: Terry Berger, Esq. Board Attorney, Katherine Berry, Director, Sean Seibel, Staff, Michael V. Powers, Staff, Alice Dutterer, Staff, Paula Troxell, Deputy Director, Brenda Hill, Staff

Public: Jennie Jamison, Bob Stewart, Bob Anderson, Gail Riley, Victoria Issac, Jean Lewis, Kathy Lowe, Wendy Raith, Melanie Haines, Gail Carter, Robert Meekins

Absent: None

DECLARATION OF QUORUM PRESENT

The meeting of the Board of Canvassers began at 10 AM on Thursday, November 10, 2016 at 300 S. Center Street, Robert Moton Meeting Room, Westminster, MD 21157. 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

Donald Sealing, II, the Clerk of the Court for Carroll County, administered and recorded the oath of each member of the Board of Canvassers on October 19, 2016.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF OFFICERS

At a meeting on November 8, 2016, the Board of Canvassers elected Griffith Manahan as Chairman of the Board of Canvassers and Harvey Tegeler as Secretary.

PUBLIC NOTICE OF CANVASS

Katherine Berry, Director noted that public notice of the first absentee canvass was provided and that the notice was provided by posting the agenda on the website of the Carroll County Board of Elections and in writing to the Republican and Democratic Central Committees.

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VERIFICATION OF BALLOT SCANNERS

Katherine Berry, Director presented documents to the Board of Canvassers showing that the ballot scanners being used in the canvass successfully passed Logic and Accuracy Testing on 10/7/2016. Katherine Berry, Director reported that the memory cards created for this canvass were placed in the ballot scanners and sealed. Katherine Berry, Director provided the Board of Canvassers with the results from the Logic and Accuracy Testing. Katherine Berry, Director noted the following information from Logic and Accuracy Testing documentation for each ballot scanner being used in the canvass:

Ballot Scanner Serial Numbers	Seal Numbers
DS 0315330445	681688
DS 0315331088	681682
DS 0314410264	681685

Sean Seibel verified that the seals on the ballot scanners were intact, and recorded the optical scan ballot scanner's serial number and seal number.

Ballot Scanner Serial Numbers	Seal Numbers
DS 0315330445	681688
DS 0315331088	681682
DS 0314410264	681685

Sean Seibel 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. The Board of Canvassers posted one copy of the Zero Report from the ballot scanners on door of room where the canvass was being conducted. Sean Seibel printed a second copy of the Zero Report, which remained attached to the ballot scanners. The Board of Canvassers signed the Zero Report attached to the ballot scanners.

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CANVASSING

Overview of Canvass Process

Griffith Manahan explained the rules concerning public observation of the canvass, provided an overview of the canvassing process and noted that the rules were posted in the canvass room. Griffith Manahan stated that the staff had predetermined that all ballots were received timely and the staff had verified that the oath had been 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.

Ballots that were marked using the online ballot marking wizard are duplicated and verified by a ballot duplication team. The election official responsible for ballot duplication uses a barcode reader to read the barcode printed on the voter's ballot, prints a ballot that will have the voter's selections marked, and refers the two ballots to a ballot verification team. The ballot verification team compares the two ballots to ensure that the ballot printed during the canvass matches the ballot returned by the voter.

Those timely ballots that are in compliance and can be read by the ballot scanner are referred to the Board of Canvassers for acceptance. All other ballots are placed in a plain envelope, with the team number, or other information identifying the group or unit to which the ballot belongs, and the reasons for the referral written on the envelope. The envelope with the ballots inside is referred to the Board of Canvassers.

The Board of Canvassers rules on whether to accept or unanimously reject the referred ballots.

Terry Berger, Esq. explained the process to provide information to the Board of Canvassers or challenge a decision of the Board.

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Canvass Participants

The members of the ballot processing, duplicating, and optical scan operating teams are listed below.

Team	Names of Bi-Partisan Ballot Processing Team Members
Team #1	Katherine Lowe (R) and Jean Lewis (D)
Team #2	Laura O'Callahagn (D) and Harvey Tegeler (R)
Team #3	Samuel Foster (D) and Larry Shipley (R)
Team #4	Gail Carter (R) and Melanie Haines (D)
Team #5	Gail Riley (D) and Bob Stewart (R)
Team #6	Victoria Isaac (R) and Wendy Raith (D)
Team #7	Bob Anderson (D) and Jennie Jamison (R)
Team #8	Griffith Manahan (R) and Robert Meekins (D)

Team	Names of Bi-Partisan Duplicating Team Members
Team #1	Katherine Lowe (R) and Jean Lewis (D)
Team #2	Laura O'Callahagn (D) and Harvey Tegeler (R)
Team #3	Samuel Foster (D) and Larry Shipley (R)
Team #4	Gail Carter (R) and Melanie Haines (D)
Team #5	Gail Riley (D) and Bob Stewart (R)
Team #6	Victoria Isaac (R) and Wendy Raith (D)
Team #7	Bob Anderson (D) and Jennie Jamison (R)
Team #8	Griffith Manahan (R) and Robert Meekins (D)

Team	Names of Ballot Scanner Operating Team Members
Team #1	Bob Stewart and Sean Seibel
Team #2	Brenda Hill and Katherine Berry and Paula Troxell

Canvassing of Absentee Ballots

Katherine Berry reported that, to preserve the secrecy of the ballot for the remaining canvasses, five absentee ballots of each ballot style were held back for the provisional canvass, and five ballots of each ballot style were held back for the second absentee canvass. 2772 absentee ballots were presented for canvassing at this canvass.

Larry Shipley made a motion to accept and approve the opening and tabulation of the ballots. Samuel Foster seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

During the canvass Terry Berger, Esq. presented the board with several ballots that needed further board decisions.

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Ballot # 1000 was presented with a recommendation to reject due to the presence of an identifying mark on the ballot. Laura O'Callahagn made a motion seconded by Larry Shipley to accept the recommendation to reject. The board vote was unanimous to reject.

Ballot # 1001 was presented for the board to determine voter intent on Question "A". Griffith Manahan made a motion seconded by Larry Shipley to accept the ballot with the voter's intent to be "For" Question A. The motion carried unanimously and was then referred to the duplicating team for duplication.

Ballot # 1002 was presented to the board for the voter's intent on the presidential vote. Larry Shipley made a motion to accept the intention to be a vote for Trump, seconded by Samuel Foster. The motion carried unanimously and was referred to the duplicating team for duplication.

Ballot # 1003 was presented to the board with the recommendation to reject because there was no signature on the Oath. A motion to reject was made by Griffith Manahan and seconded by Laura O'Callahagn to reject. The board decision was unanimous to reject.

Ballot # 1004 was presented to the board with the recommendation to reject due to no signature on the Oath. A motion to reject was made by Larry Shipley and seconded by Harvey Tegeler to reject. Motion carried by unanimous vote to reject.

Ballot # 1005 was presented with a motion to reject due to no voter signature on the Oath. Motion to reject was made by Griffith Manahan and seconded by Larry Shipley to reject. Motion to reject carried unanimously by the board.

Ballot # 1107A was presented to the board for a decision regarding voter intent for the office of president. A motion was made by Laura O'Callahagn and seconded by Larry Shipley that the intent for the presidential vote was unclear and the ballot should be duplicated without a presidential vote. The motion carried unanimously to reproduce and was referred to the duplicating team.

Printing Canvass Results

After scanning all accepted absentee ballots, Sean Seibel locked the ballot scanners and printed an Election Results Report. The Board of Canvassers confirmed that the number of accepted ballots equaled the number of ballots counted by the ballot scanners. The Board of Canvassers signed the Voting Results Report and posted a second copy of the report on the door to the canvass room.

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RELEASE OF UNOFFICIAL RESULTS

Griffith Manahan announced the results from the first absentee canvass. Griffith Manahan announced the following statistics from the first absentee canvass:

Absentee 1 Canvass Statistics	Number of Ballots
Total Absentee Ballots Presented at 1 st Absentee Canvass	2772
Accepted Ballots	2768
Rejected Ballots	4

NEXT BOARD OF CANVASSERS' MEETING

The Board of Canvassers will meet on Wednesday, November 16, 2016, at 10:00 a.m. to canvass provisional ballots.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25PM.