

Carroll County Board of Canvassers 300 S Center St. Westminster, MD 21157	Date: November 13, 2020 General Election Final Canvass Meeting Minutes
---	--

Final Canvass Meeting Minutes

ATTENDEES

Board of Canvassers:

Name	Position	Party
Griffith Manahan	Chairman	Republican
John Woodley	Secretary	Republican
Samuel Foster	Member	Democrat
Laura O'Callaghan	Member	Democrat
Harvey Tegeler	Member	Republican
Jay Gullo	LBE Attorney	

LBE Staff:

Katherine Berry	Election Director
Erin Perrone	Election Program Manager II
Eduardo DeLima	Election Program IT Specialist
Kimberly Bullock Jones	Election Program IT Specialist
Jennifer Bartholow	Election Program Specialist I
Paula Troxell	Deputy Election Director

All canvassers, duplicating team members, and ballot scanner operating team members in attendance are listed under the Canvass Participants section below.

RECONVENING THE MEETING

The vote by mail canvass reconvened on **Friday, November 13, 2020** at **10:00AM**.

DECLARATION OF QUORUM PRESENT

The meeting of the Board of Canvassers began at **10:00AM** on **Friday, November 13, 2020** at the Robert Moton Gymnasium, 300 South Center Street, Westminster, Maryland. 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 16, 2020**.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Laura O'Callaghan made a motion that **Griffith Manahan** serve as Chairman of the Board of Canvassers. **Harvey Tegeler** seconded the motion, which was passed by a vote of **5 to 0**.

Carroll County Board of Canvassers 300 S Center St. Westminster, MD 21157	Date: November 13, 2020 General Election Final Canvass Meeting Minutes
---	--

Laura O’Callaghan made a motion that **John Woodley** serve as Secretary for the Board of Canvassers. **Harvey Tegeler** seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of **5 to 0**.

PUBLIC NOTICE OF CANVASS and VERIFICATION OF OPTICAL SCAN VOTING UNIT(S)

Katherine Berry explained the rules concerning public observation of canvass and canvassing process. **Kimberly Jones** and **Eduardo DeLima** verified that the seal(s) was/were intact and that the seal number matched the seal number attached and that the public count matched the public count recorded before the prior day’s canvass recessed.

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

CANVASSING OF BALLOTS

Canvass Participants

There was an observer: Sallie Taylor representing Delegate Dan Cox

Team Number	Name	Party
1	Andrew Burch/Paula Stonesifer	D/R
2	Eleanor Shaw/Marigene Sageman	D/R
3	Theresa Lewis/Paige Dugan	D/R
4	Jean Lewis/Robert McMonagle	D/R
5	Elena Hodgkiss/Rosemary Trimboli	D/R
6	Joy Sommers/Stephanie Haines	D/R
7	Tamara Moeller/Donna Schott	D/R
8	Robert Boblitz/Sandra Hohne	U/R

Canvassing of ballots resumed.

Katherine Berry presented 772 timely mail-in ballot to be canvassed. There were 1,257 provisional ballots from people who had also requested mail-in ballots. There were 34 ballots presented with a recommendation to reject the ballots.

Board of Canvassers’ Decision Meeting

The Board of Canvassers convened at **10:00AM** to review ballots that were referred from the canvassers.

The Board of Canvassers ruled on whether to accept or unanimously reject the referred ballots. There are no ballots left to canvass.

1. **Katherine Berry** presented **1257** provisional ballots with the recommendation to accept them because the voter did not return a voted mail-in ballot. These were held until the final canvass to ensure that their mail-in ballot was not received, and the appropriate ballot was counted.

Carroll County Board of Canvassers 300 S Center St. Westminster, MD 21157	Date: November 13, 2020 General Election Final Canvass Meeting Minutes
---	--

2. **Katherine Berry** presented **772** timely mail-in ballots that were recommended to be accepted as timely and opened by the canvass teams. After the ballots were opened, there were board decisions required and **8** ballots were rejected.
3. **34** ballots were presented for rejection. **10** because the same day registration (see email) provisional ballot was not presented with proof of residency by the voter. **15** because there was no signature present on the signature line, **7** Federal Write-In ballots that did not meet all the qualifications and **2** board decisions from the canvass on November 6, 2020. See board decision spreadsheet for further details.

Printing Canvass Results

After scanning all accepted ballots, **Kimberly Jones** and **Eduardo DeLima** locked the ballot scanner(s) and printed an Election Results Report. The Board of Canvassers reviewed the daily canvass minutes and recognized that there were some differences in the previous days' canvasses. There are no differences in the numbers. **Katherine Berry** signed the Voting Results Report and posted a second copy of the report at the Board of Elections office.

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

DAILY CANVASSING RESULTS

Final Canvass Statistics	Number of Ballots
Total Ballots Presented	2,063
Accepted Ballots	2,021
Rejected Ballots	42

As noted above, 10 of the 42 were provisional/residency requirement rejects from same day registration.

RELEASE OF UNOFFICIAL RESULTS

Griffith Manahan announced the results from the vote by mail canvass.

Final Canvass Statistics	Number of Ballots
Total Ballots Presented	36,120
Accepted Ballots	36,030
Rejected Ballots	74

See Appendix sheet for board decisions and more details. Scanner jams (5), voters whose mail in ballots were entered as mail-in, but provisional rejects (6), and voters who voted twice one in Carroll and one in another county (1) and 1 primary ballot returned are reasons why we are not balanced. We are a total of 3 off.

VERIFICATION OF VOTE COUNT

Katherine Berry explained that staff conducted several post-election verifications and audits performed. Staff manually added the Voting Results Reports from each ballot

scanner at the election day vote center and compared the manually added totals with the totals produced by the election database for those precincts. **Katherine Berry** confirmed that all of the numbers matched.

Katherine Berry explained that a similar verification was performed on each ballot scanner used on the canvassing day randomly selected by the Board of Canvassers for the vote by mail canvass. Staff manually added the Voting Results Reports printed from each ballot scanner used on the canvassing day randomly selected by the Board of Canvassers for the vote by mail canvass and compared the manually added totals to a report printed from the election database for the vote by mail canvass. **Katherine Berry** confirmed that all of the numbers matched.

Katherine Berry presented the Board of Canvassers with the verification results, and the Board of Canvassers reviewed the results. Harvey Tegeler made a motion to accept the verification results. Laura O'Callaghan seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

POST ELECTION AUDITS

Katherine Berry explained that post-election audits were performed on all vote centers and select vote by mail and provisional ballots.

For the vote centers, **Katherine Berry** explained that staff compared the number of signed voter authority cards for each ballot scanner against the number of ballots cast. **Katherine Berry** confirmed that all of the numbers matched.

Katherine Berry explained that staff reviewed a sample of accepted vote by mail ballots to determine if the ballot was timely received. Staff also reviewed a sample of rejected vote by mail ballots to determine if the ballot was untimely received or was rejected for another valid reason. **Katherine Berry** confirmed that all of the numbers matched.

Katherine Berry 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. **Katherine Berry** that all of the numbers matched.

Katherine Berry explained that all ballot images from election day and canvasses through November 13, 2020 were sent to a third-party for re-tabulation. The vendor produces reports comparing precinct-level results from voting system against the precinct-level results from the re-tabulation, and these reports show any differences between the two sets of results.

Katherine Berry 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

Katherine Berry explained that the post-election verifications and audits had few discrepancies less than the vote margin of any contest on the ballot in that vote center and presented the Board of Canvassers with the election results. The Board of Canvassers reviewed the election results.

Laura O'Callaghan made a motion to certify the results of the 2020 Presidential General Election. Samuel Foster seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Katherine Berry presented the canvass sheets to the Board of Canvassers. Harvey Tegeler made a motion authorizing Election Director to email canvass sheets to the President and Secretary and authorized them to sign the canvass sheets once they are available. Samuel Foster seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

NEXT BOARD OF CANVASSERS' MEETING

No additional ballots were received, the Board of Canvassers will not convene before the next meeting of local board of elections. The next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, December 16, 2020** at **10:00AM** at **300 South Center Street, Westminster, Maryland.**

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at **3:00PM** on **Friday, November 13, 2020.**