

Carroll County Board of Canvassers 300 S Center St. Westminster, MD 21157	Date: November 12, 2020 General Election Provisional Canvass
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Provisional - 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

DECLARATION OF QUORUM PRESENT

The meeting of the Board of Canvassers began at **10:00AM** on **Thursday, November 12, 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**.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF OFFICERS

At its meeting on **Wednesday, September 16, 2020**, the Board of Canvassers elected **Griffith Manahan** as Chairman of the Board of Canvassers and **John Woodley** as Secretary.

PUBLIC NOTICE OF CANVASS

Katherine Berry noted that the public notice of the provisional canvass was provided and that the notice was provided by **Katherine Berry** via the website, an email notification to all Party Central Committees, social media accounts and the State Board of Elections in the form of a memorandum.

VERIFICATION OF OPTICAL SCAN VOTING UNIT(S)

Katherine Berry presented documents to the Board of Canvassers showing that the ballot scanner(s) being used in the canvass successfully passed Logic and Accuracy Testing on **September 17, 2020**. Katherine Berry reported that the memory devices created for this canvass were placed in the ballot scanners and sealed. **Katherine Berry** provided the Board of Canvassers with the results from the Logic and Accuracy Testing. **Katherine Berry** noted the following information from Logic and Accuracy Testing documentation for each ballot scanner being used in the canvass:

Eduardo DeLima and Kimberly Jones verified that the seals on the ballot scanners were intact, and recorded the ballot scanner's serial numbers and seal numbers. They noted that the ballot scanner's serial numbers and seal numbers from Logic and Accuracy Testing matched the ballot scanner's 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 the door of the canvass room. Eduardo DeLima and Kimberly Jones 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 scanner. The Board of Canvassers also confirmed that the ballot boxes were empty.

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

CANVASSING

Overview of Canvass Process

Katherine Berry 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.

Katherine Berry 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 provisional ballot application in full – recommend counting all votes cast on the provisional ballot.
2. Accept provisional ballot application in part – recommend counting some but not all votes cast on the provisional ballot. This is because the voter voted in the wrong precinct.
3. Reject provisional ballot application – recommend not counting the provisional ballot.

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 bi-partisan ballot processing teams to open and review the ballots. The

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“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.

Katherine Berry explained that 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 timely 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 are in compliance and can be read by the ballot scanner are referred to the Board of Canvassers for acceptance. All other ballots are held by **Katherine Berry** for the Board of Canvassers to review as a group.

The Board of Canvassers rules on whether to accept or unanimously reject the referred ballots. **Katherine Berry** explained the process to provide information to the Board of Canvassers or challenge a decision of the Board.

Canvass Participants

The members of the ballot processing, duplicating, and ballot scanner operating teams are listed. There was one watcher: Sallie Taylor representing Delegate Dan Cox’s office.

Team Number	Name	Party
1	Monika Lemke/Paula Stonesifer	D/R
2	James Ebert/Marigene Sageman	D/R
3	Tracy Beavan/Norma Bair	D/R
4	Andrew Demario/Paige Dugan	D/R

Canvassing of Provisional Ballots

Katherine Berry reported that **601** provisional ballots were cast where voters had not already requested a mail-in ballot. There were **1,257** provisional ballots that will be held until the final canvass because the voters had already requested a mail-in ballot and **10** provisional ballots that required proof of residency.

Griffith Manahan made a motion to begin presenting provisional ballot applications. **Harvey Tegeler** seconded the motion, and the motion passed ***by a vote of 5 to 0.***

1. **Katherine Berry** presented **338** 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.

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2. **Katherine Berry** presented **241** 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. The Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation, and the ballots were referred to the duplicating team.
3. **Katherine Berry** presented **16** provisional ballots with the recommendation to reject because the applicant returned a voted mail-in ballot or already voted.
4. **Katherine Berry** presented **4** 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 ballot(s).
5. **Katherine Berry** presented **1** 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 ballot(s).
6. **Katherine Berry** presented **1** provisional ballots with the recommendation to reject because the applicant did not provide identification or personal identification information in time or the identification was not verified. The Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation and reject the ballot(s).

Canvassing of Mail-in Ballots

There were **26** mail in ballots that required the Board of Canvasser’s decision. There were **19** additional mail in ballots that required board decisions, but were originally presented in previous canvasses. **9** of these ballots were accepted and **36** were rejected. See board decision spreadsheet for more information.

Printing Canvass Results

After scanning all accepted in full and accepted in part provisional ballots and all accepted mail-in ballots, **Eduardo DeLima** locked the ballot scanner(s) 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 counted by the ballot scanner(s). The Board of Canvassers signed the Voting Results Report and posted it at the Board of Elections Office.

RELEASE OF UNOFFICIAL RESULTS

Griffith Manahan announced the results from the combined provisional and mail-in canvass. **Griffith Manahan** announced the following statistics from the combined provisional and mail-in canvass:

Provisional Canvass Statistics	Number of Ballots
Total Ballots Presented in Provisional Part of Canvass	646
Total Provisional Ballots Presented	601
Total Mail-in Ballots Presented	45
Total Accepted Ballots	588
Accepted in Full Provisional Ballots	338
Accepted in Part Provisional Ballots	241
Accepted Mail-in Ballots	9

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Total Rejected Ballots	58
Rejected Provisional Ballots	22
Rejected Mail-in Ballots	36

Mail-in Canvass Statistics	Number of Ballots
Mail-in Ballots Presented in Mail-in Part of Canvass	45
Mail-in Ballots Accepted	9
Rejected Mail-in Ballots	36

Katherine Berry 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 13, 2020 at 10:00AM** to canvass all remaining ballots.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30PM (Motion – Laura O’Callaghan, 2nd Harvey Tegeler, Vote: 5 to 0).