

**MEETING OF THE  
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS  
1100 MERCANTILE LANE, SUITE 115A  
LARGO, MD 20774  
MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2023**

**PRESENT:** Roberta B. Deegan, President, Republican Member  
Beatrice P. Tignor, Vice President, Democratic Member  
Thomas J. Slezak, Republican Member  
Lucille Gaither, Alternate Republican Member  
Jaime J. Vazquez-Saldana, Republican Member  
Clement A. Gaynor, Jr., Alternate Republican Member  
Terri L. Williams, Alternate Democratic Member  
Anita C. Jones, Board Secretary  
Alisha L. Alexander, Elections Administrator  
Michael Adams, Board Attorney

**ABSENT:** Vacant, Republican Member  
Vacant, Deputy Elections Administrator

This meeting was conducted using the "Go To Meeting" platform. Ms. Deegan called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and a quorum was present. Ms. Gaynor was seated for Mr. Vazquez-Saldana (late), and Mr. Gaynor was seated for the vacant position. Two guests were identified – Deborah Gordon and Emanuel Green. Ms. Deegan asked them to mute their phones to reduce background noise.

Ms. Deegan requested a moment of silence in remembrance of our Board Member, Mr. Ruston. He served the Board of Elections for many years – as a staff member and as a Board Member. Board Members shared their appreciation for his service and dedication to the election process.

## **MINUTES**

Minutes for the October 3, 2022, regular meeting and the General Election Canvass were tabled until the next regular meeting.

## **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Correspondence – Ms. Alexander's response to a letter from Mr. Havis, dated December 21, 2022, regarding his experience during Early Voting. Ms. Alexander noted that Election Judges will receive reinforced training. Mr. Slezak reported that an error was made during the Primary Election. Ms. Alexander will research further.

Office Coverage – Ms. Alexander noted that there was minimal coverage during the month of December; not much activity going on.

## Gubernatorial General Election

- **Polling Places.** On Election Day, a few polling locations did not open on time due to short staffing. Some of the newer Election Judges did not know how to set-up the e-poll books.

- Election Judges. We need to recruit more Election Judges. We asked for an additional \$100.00 for each day served due to the number of hours required daily. We will conduct an evaluation of the comments received from Election Judges to see if there are other mitigating issues.  
Mr. Slezak asked if our per diem was comparable to other jurisdictions? Ms. Alexander advised that Chief Judges receive \$400.00 per day and Election Judges receive \$200.00 per day and that this is similar to other jurisdictions.
- Drop Boxes. Staff is conducting an evaluation of each of the sites, including a cost evaluation and performance assessment during the 2020 vs. 2022 elections.
- Canvassing. Canvassing during Early Voting places a hardship on staff. They are working the Early Voting sites and are unavailable to manage the canvass process.
- Mail-In Ballots. The Board of Elections (BOE) processed the following mail-in ballots:

Presented:	68,987
Accepted:	68,695
Rejected:	292
- Provisional Ballots. The BOE processed the following Provisional Ballots:

Presented:	10,498
Accepted In Full:	5,725
Accepted in Part:	4,772
Rejected:	245
- Web Ballots. The BOE is working closely with the State Board of Elections (SBOE) and the Maryland Association of Election Officials (MAEO) to identify a more efficient process for duplicating web ballots. The number of web ballots will increase with each election cycle and the number of processing teams and space required will become unmanageable. We need to find an alternate solution.
- Audit requirement to hand count five percent (5%) of the ballots will be conducted in February. Ms. Alexander will keep the Board apprised.
- The Third-Party audit using ClearBallot software met all requirements; no major discrepancies were identified. A link is available on the SBOE website. Ms. Alexander will share the results when available.

Ballot On-Demand Printers – Utilizing ballot on-demand printers would reduce the instances of a voter receiving an incorrect ballot at the precinct. The Voter Authority Card would automatically identify the correct ballot style and print it.

2024 Candidate Filing Process – Candidate filing begins February 2023 for the 2024 elections.

Voter Registrations – The Maryland Voter Registration System is updated based on information received from the registrants, ERIC (Electronic Registration Information Center), MVA (Motor Vehicle Administration, NCOA (National Change of address), and other reports. The December report includes 12,113 cancellations.

E-Poll Books – Our current equipment is outdated. New books, tablet style, are on schedule for delivery in the Fall of 2023, and “Train the Trainer” and staff training will begin. We will be developing detailed plans for implementation of the books. We would like to pilot the “Ballot On-Demand” process as part of the e-poll book rollout.

Fiscal Year 2024 Budget – Ms. Alexander submitted the budget (\$11,435,500) following Office of Management and Budget (OMB) guidelines. She asked for enhancements including a new facility, increased staffing (Budget Assistant, Human Resources support, and Clerks). Ms. Alexander expressed the need to develop a succession plan and staff development to support a succession plan. Many local boards are experiencing retirements, etc. and the need for succession plans are essential.

2024 Legislative Session – Ms. Alexander will report on bills affecting election processes as they are introduced.

Ethics and Financial Disclosure – Ms. Alexander advised Board Members that they should receive an e-mail notice from the State Ethics Commission and that their statements are due by April 30, 2023.

**OLD BUSINESS** – Mr. Slezak noted that local jurisdictions may face special elections as the Governor-elect appoints his cabinet and key administrative positions. He asked if this was going to affect Prince George's County. Ms. Alexander noted that if a vacancy in a County Council position occurs within the first three years of their term, a special election will be held. If the vacancy is in the General Assembly (Senator or Representative), they will appoint a replacement.

**PERSONNEL** – None.

**LEGAL** – Mr. Adams will review proposed legislation and coordinate with Ms. Alexander to provide updates.

**NEW BUSINESS** – None.

**NEXT MEETING** – The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 6, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Vazquez-Saldana, seconded by Mr. Slezak, and duly passed to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 p.m.

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Roberta B. Deegan, President

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Anita C. Jones, Recording Secretary

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Date