

Prince George's County Board of Canvassers
1100 Mercantile Lane, Suite 115A
Largo, MD 20774

February 3, 2022 - Vote by Mail Canvass Minutes
Prince George's County Council District 8 Special General Election
Canvass Day 1

ATTENDEES

Board of Canvassers (In-Person):

Name	Position	Party
Roberta B. Deegan	President	Republican
Beatrice P. Tignor	Vice President	Democrat
Thomas J. Slezak	Member	Republican
Jaime J. Vazquez-Saldana	Member	Republican
Lucille V. Gaither	Alternate Member	Republican
Clement A. Gaynor, Jr.	Alternate Member	Republican

Kevin Karpinski	Board Attorney (Acting for Robert G. McGinley)
Anita C. Jones	Board Recording Secretary

LBE Staff (in person):

Alisha Alexander	Elections Administrator
Wendy Honesty-Bey	Elections Operations
Mike Colbert	Data Coordinator
Christian Robertson	Floor Runner/Opener
Marcus Ike	Floor Runner/Opener
Freddie Colston	Floor Runner/Opener
Owen Johnson	Floor Runner/Opener
Beulah Williams	Floor Runner/Opener
Donald Benton	Floor Runner/Opener
Joe Young	Floor Runner/Opener
Patricia Thorpe	Elections Operations

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

DECLARATION OF QUORUM PRESENT

The meeting of the Board of Canvassers began at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 3, 2022, at the Prince George's County Board of Elections, 1100 Mercantile Lane, Largo, MD in the training center. There was a quorum of the Board of Canvassers in-person and via video conferencing later, and at least one member of the Board of Canvassers who is a registered voter of the principal minority party was present.

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CONFIRMATION OF OATH

The Honorable Mahasin El Amin, the Clerk of the Court for Prince George's County, administered and recorded the oath of each member of the Board of Canvassers and the Board Attorney on December 3, 2021, in-person. Substitute members of the Board of Elections were also sworn-in on the same day.

ELECTION/ANNOUNCEMENT OF OFFICERS

The election of officers was conducted during the Special Primary Election on January 6, 2022. The motion was a standing motion in that Ms. Deegan would serve as Chairman of the Board of Canvassers and Ms. Tignor serve as Secretary for the Board of Canvassers for the Special General Election.

PUBLIC NOTICE OF CANVASS

Ms. Alexander noted that public notice of the vote by mail canvass was provided and that the notice was provided by agenda posted on door of the election office and on the Prince George's County Board of Election's website. Ms. Alexander noted that current social distancing guidelines and use of personal protection equipment will follow the County Executive's mandate.

VERIFICATION OF OPTICAL SCAN VOTING UNIT(S)

Mr. Colbert presented documents to the Board of Canvassers showing that the ballot scanners being used in the canvass successfully passed Logic and Accuracy Testing on December 15, 2021. Mr. Colbert reported that the memory cards created for this canvass were placed in the ballot scanners and sealed. Ms. Alexander provided the Board of Canvassers with the results from the Logic and Accuracy Testing. Mr. Colbert 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.

Mr. Colbert verified that the seals on the ballot scanners were intact and recorded the optical scan ballot scanner's serial number and seal number on the Scanning Unit Opening Integrity Report. Mr. Colbert 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. Ms. Tignor and Mr. Gaynor verified the information.

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The Board of Canvassers confirmed that the counts on the ballot scanners were zero. Ms. Alexander posted one copy of the Zero Report from the ballot scanners on the wall of the canvassing room. Mr. Colbert printed a second copy of the Zero Report, which remained with the integrity reports.

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

CANVASSING OF BALLOTS

Overview of Canvass Process

Ms. Alexander explained the rules concerning public observation of the canvass and gave information on the County Executive's COVID-19 restrictions. Due to these restrictions, additional public observation of the canvass can be viewed in person and also by livestream, which the public could view on the Prince George's County Board of Election's website.

Ms. Alexander provided an overview of the canvassing process and noted that the rules were posted in the canvass room. Ballots are distributed to the ballot processing canvassers in batches. Each canvasser reviews the envelope first to determine whether it was timely received.

For timely received ballots, each canvasser determines whether the voter signed the oath. After verifying that the oath is signed, each canvasser opens the envelopes. With the envelope face down, each canvasser 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 canvasser reviews the ballots for compliance and tabulating acceptability.

There are no ballots that were marked using the online ballot marking wizard

Ballots that are untimely or are otherwise not in compliance are placed in a plain envelope, with the canvasser's number, or other information identifying the canvasser to which the ballot belongs, and the reason(s) for the referral written on the envelope. The envelope with the ballots inside is referred to the Board of Canvassers for later review.

Ms. Alexander noted that ballot packages would be kept together, envelopes and ballots separated. Any ballots referred to the Board of Canvassers will be reviewed prior to moving onto a new ballot package. Accepted ballots would be returned to the package and rejected ballots would be noted on the package cover sheet.

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All ballot batches in each sealed/locked box will be completed before another box is opened. Ms. Alexander once again explained that the ballot scanner cannot accept tears, stains, etc. A bi-partisan team will recreate the ballot selections. The clean ballot will be included for scanning and the old ballot will be voided. There should not be any extraneous marks on the ballot, only the filled-in bubble by the candidate's name.

Ms. Alexander explained the process to provide information to the Board of Canvassers or challenge a decision of the Board.

Ms. Alexander explained the "challenge" form and how it is completed and presented.

Reminder – Mail-in ballots must be date stamped or post-marked on or before February 1, 2022. If the batch processing date is February 1, 2022, or earlier, the ballots are timely received.

Canvass Participants

The ballot processing, duplicating, and optical scan operating canvassers for each canvassing day are listed on the attached sheets. Mr. Karpinski conducted the swearing-in for the canvassers and thanked everyone for their time and service. Everyone was provided with confidentiality forms to complete and sign.

Canvassing of Ballots

The Board of Canvasser's voted unanimously to begin opening the ballot envelopes.

The seal tapes were put on the Ballot Integrity Transfer Chain of Custody forms.

Scanners used for this canvass are:

Serial Number	Security Tapes
DS8517110323	17-223046, 17-294762
DS8515040157	17-223045, 17-223064

Board of Canvassers' Decision Meeting

The Board of Canvassers reviewed ballots referred from the canvassers to keep the ballot packages intact.

The following ballot envelopes were presented for review:

Voter ID Number	Reason
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757133052 (Batch 48) (Team 5)	Voted Primary Ballot.
A motion was made by Mr. Gaynor, seconded by Mr. Vazquez-Saldana, and unanimously passed to reject this ballot. This is a standing motion for voting/retuning a primary ballot.	

Voter ID Number	Reason
757170496 (Batch 49) (Team 3)	No ballot.
A motion was made by Ms. Tignor, seconded by Mr. Vazquez-Saldana, and unanimously approved to reject this ballot. This is a standing motion for returned envelopes with no ballot.	

Voter ID Number	Reason
757178585 (Batch 89) (Team 4)	Identifying mark on ballot.
A motion was made by Mr. Gaynor, seconded by Mr. Vazquez-Saldana, and unanimously approved to reject this ballot.	

Voter ID Number	Reason
757122262 (Batch 84) (Team 4)	Identifying mark on ballot.
A motion was made by Mr. Vazquez-Saldana, seconded by Ms. Gaither, and unanimously approved to reject this ballot.	

Voter ID Number	Reason
757157680 (Batch 73) (Team 3)	Voted Primary Ballot.
Standing motion to reject this ballot.	

Voter ID Number	Reason
757140613 (Batch 90) (Team 2)	Voted Primary Ballot.
Standing motion to reject this ballot.	

Voter ID Number	Reason
757105460 (Batch 168) (Team)	Over vote.
Referred to staff for follow-up contact.	

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Voter ID Number	Reason
757163327 (Batch 261) (Team Board)	Over vote.
Standing motion to reject this ballot.	

Voter ID Number	Reason
757190415, 757190491	No ballot.
Standing motion to reject these ballots.	

Voter ID Number	Reason
757188216 (Batch 251) (Team 2)	No ballot.
Standing motion to reject this ballot.	

Voter ID Number	Reason
757155862 (Batch 219) (Team Board)	No ballot.
Standing motion to reject this ballot.	

Voter ID Number	Reason
757147440 (Batch 187) (Team 4)	Over vote.
Standing motion to reject this ballot.	

Voter ID Number	Reason
757126006 (Batch 159) (Team Board)	No ballot.
Standing motion to reject this ballot.	

Voter ID Number	Reason
757138531 (Batch 150) (Team Board)	No ballot.
Standing motion to reject this ballot.	

Voter ID Number	Reason
757128520 (Batch 152) (Team 4)	No ballot.
Standing motion to reject this ballot.	

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Voter ID Number	Reason
757169359 (Batch 132) (Team 4)	No ballot.
Standing motion to reject this ballot.	

Voter ID Number	Reason
757180321 (Batch 170) (Team 1)	No ballot.
Standing motion to reject this ballot.	

Ms. Alexander reported that the Provisional Ballot canvass is scheduled to begin on Wednesday, February 9, 2022. There is one (1) Provisional Ballot for review, and she recommends that we open the canvass on February 9, 2022, and recess until Friday, February 11, 2022. Since there is only one (1) Provisional Ballot for consideration, it can be canvassed and scanned with the second mail-in ballot review which will help maintain the integrity of the votes. A motion was made by Mr. Gaynor, seconded by Ms. Gaither, and duly passed to process the Provisional Ballot with the mail-in ballots on Friday. Ms. Tignor and Mr. Slezak stayed to observe the scanning and printing of results.

Printing Canvass Results

After scanning all accepted vote by mail ballots, Mr. Colbert locked the ballot scanners and printed an Election Results Report. Ms. Alexander confirmed that the number of accepted ballots equaled the number of ballots counted by the ballot scanners. The Board of Election Canvassers signed the Voting Results Report and attached it to the Zero Report.

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

DAILY CANVASSING RESULTS

Vote by Mail Canvass Statistics- Day One	Number of Ballots
Total Ballots Presented	6,357
Accepted Ballots	6,339
Rejected Ballots	18

RECESS

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The canvass recessed at 1:00 p.m. and will reconvene on February 9, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. This will be a virtual meeting. Mr. Colbert recorded the public count, turned the optical scan ballot scanners off, and affixed a seal.