

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

July 27, 2022 - Vote by Mail Canvass Minutes
2022 Gubernatorial Primary Election
Canvass Day 6

ATTENDEES

Board of Canvassers (In-Person):

Name	Position	Party
Roberta B. Deegan	President	Republican
Beatrice P. Tignor	Vice President	Democrat
Harold Ruston	Member	Republican
Tom Slezak	Member	Republican
Jaime Vazquez-Saldana	Member	Republican
Lucille V. Gaither	Alternate Member	Republican
Clement A. Gaynor, Jr.	Alternate Member	Republican
Terri L. Williams	Alternate Member	Democrat

Michael Adams	Board Attorney
Anita C. Jones	Board Recording Secretary

LBE Staff (in person):

Name	Position
Alisha L. Alexander	Elections Administrator
Wendy Honesty-Bey	Manager of Elections Operations
Christian Robertson	Data Coordinator
Freddie Colston	Floor Runner/Opener
Joe Young	Floor Runner/Opener
Beulah Williams	Floor Runner/Opener
Donald Benton	Floor Runner/Opener
Marcus Ike	Floor Runner/Opener

A list of all canvassers, duplicating team members, and ballot scanner operating team members in attendance is attached.

DECLARATION OF QUORUM PRESENT

The meeting of the Board of Canvassers began at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 27, 2022, at the Lake Arbor Elementary School, 10205 Lake Arbor Way, Bowie, MD in the multipurpose room. There was a quorum of the Board of Canvassers in-person, 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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PUBLIC NOTICE OF CANVASS

Ms. Alexander opened the canvass and 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.

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

Ms. Alexander 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 "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.

Ms. Alexander also explained that mail-in ballots are distributed to the ballot processing teams in batches of 25. Each team reviews the envelope first to determine whether it was timely received. For timely received ballots, each team [*if the flap covering the oath has not been opened before canvassing: opens the flap on the envelope and*] 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

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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 placed in a plain envelope, with the team number and batch number and the reason(s) for the referral to the Board of Canvassers written on the envelope. The envelope with the ballots inside is referred to the Board of Canvassers.

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

Mr. Slezak made a motion to convene the Provisional Ballot canvass. Mr. Gaynor seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Alexander presented the following Provisional Ballots:

4,092	Accept In-Full
1,006	Accept In-Part
2,068	Reject

The Board of Canvassers made a motion to accept the accept in-full and accept in-part ballots after they reviewed a sample of them to verify the accuracy. Ms. Alexander noted that staff is still processing additional Provisional Ballots for consideration.

Ms. Alexander presented the 2270 "hold-back" mail-in ballots and explained the canvass and scanning process for them.

Ms. Jones removed the following seals from the ballot cabinets:

17-043641	17-043644	17-043639
17-043642	17-043640	17-043638
17-043643		

The canvass room was closed from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. for lunch.
The Board of Canvassers reviewed the ballots recommended for rejection.

Board of Canvassers' Decision Meeting

Ms. Alexander announced that the Board of Canvassers' Decision Meeting for the rejected ballots will be held on Thursday, July 28, 2022, at 1:30 p.m.

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The canvassing teams were dismissed.

Ms. Deegan, Ms. Tignor, Mr. Ruston, Mr. Slezak, Mr. Vazquez-Saldana, Ms. Gaither, Mr. Gaynor, and Ms. Williams stayed to observe the scanning and printing of results.

The ballot cabinets were locked, and the following seals were affixed:

17-310240	17-310237	17-310235
17-310239	17-310234	17-310236
17-310238		

Printing Canvass Results

After scanning all accepted Provisional 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. Ms. Alexander 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 Six	Number of Ballots
Total Ballots Presented (mail-in and provisionals)	10,491
Accepted Provisional Ballots (Accept-in-full)	4,092
Accepted Provisional Ballots (Accept-in-part)	1,006
Accepted "hold back ballots"	2,270
Rejected Provisional Ballots	3,123

RECESS

The canvass recessed at 5:30 p.m. and will reconvene on Thursday, July 28, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. to continue the canvass. Mr. Colbert recorded the public count, turned the optical scan ballot scanners off, and affixed seals.