

**MEETING OF THE
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
1100 MERCANTILE LANE, SUITE 115A
LARGO, MD 20774
MONDAY, JUNE 6, 2022**

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

ABSENT: None

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. Deegan requested that guests identify themselves and then mute their location to reduce background interference/noise. Ms. Janet Llewelyn identified herself.

Ms. Deegan noted that today was D-Day, and she thanked the military for their service.

MINUTES

Ms. Deegan requested the following clarifications to the minutes for May 2, 2022. On Page 2, Bullet 5 – in addition to the ballots sent to registered Republican and Democratic voters, ballots will be sent to other registered voters for Board of Education candidates as appropriate. On Page 3, Voter Registration – the registration deadline for the Primary Election is June 28, 2022, and updates will be made as appropriate. On Page 4, Legal – Mr. McGinley offered to assist the new attorney with learning the canvass process. A motion was made by Ms. Tignor, seconded by Mr. Gaynor, and duly passed approving the minutes for May 2, 2022, with the clarifications noted, the minutes of May 12, 2022, and the minutes for May 19, 2022.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Correspondence – May 27, 2022 – letter from Governor Hogan to the President of the Maryland Senate, The Honorable Bill Ferguson, and the Speaker of the House of Delegates, The Honorable Adrienne A. Jones, regarding HB862 and SB163 (Election Law, Ballots, Processing and Reporting Procedures.)

Ms. Alexander noted that this legislation would allow local boards of elections the opportunity to canvass returned mail-in ballots prior to Election Day. This would have given local boards of elections early results to report once the polls closed on Tuesday, July 19, 2022. However, the governor vetoed the bills. Some advocacy groups are threatening to file a lawsuit.

Gubernatorial Election

- Redistricting Maps. Board of Elections (BOE) staff completed all changes, and the maps were approved by the Board on May 12, 2022. Maps were submitted to the State Board of Elections (SBOE) and were approved. The new precinct maps are on the website. BOE has received requests to purchase these maps, and staff is coordinating with Gray Graphics to get the maps printed.
- Primary Election Canvassing. Canvassing will be held at Lake Arbor Elementary School starting on Thursday, July 21, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Presently, the County does not have COVID restrictions. Therefore, observers will be able to participate in-person and the canvassing will not be live-streamed.
- Mail-In Ballot Applications and Ballots. To date, staff has processed 51,706 applications, 4,035 are web ballots, 32,000 have requested to be on the permanent list, and we anticipate about 10,000 more. SBOE will mail ballot applications to registered voters, other than Republican and Democratic, this week.
- Drop Boxes. Drop boxes should be installed by June 13, 2022, and there will be video surveillance and physical security at each site. Most of the boxes are located at Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (MNCPPC) sites. Staff is coordinating with MNCPPC staff to retrieve and store videos. There were no guidelines during past elections outlining requirements for retrieval and storage of videos; therefore, footage from the 2020 Election Cycle is not available. There were no incidents reported at drop boxes in 2020. The Prince George's County Public School System maintains videos for 90-days and staff is working with the school system to coordinate retrieval and storage. Videos provided by commercial carriers are out of our control.
- Voter Education and Outreach. With the changes implemented by the redistricting effort, some voters will be seeing different candidates, and this may cause some confusion about the ballot they receive. In addition to social media, information has been sent to the municipalities, public schools, and universities. Sample Ballots should be mailed around June 9, 2022. New Voter Information Notification cards should be mailed early next week, based on printing timelines.
- Ballot Styles. There are 699 different ballot styles for the Primary Election. Staff has ordered 1.6 million ballots for Early Voting and Election Day. Once the printed ballots are received, they will be sorted, and the ballot cabinets stocked. Election Judges have been trained and will pay extra attention to make sure that voters received the correct ballot. There are 327 precincts that have a two-page Democratic ballot (due to Board of Education races). The Republican and Non-Partisan ballots are all one page. Local Board of Elections Administrators are pushing the SBOE to approve "ballot-on-demand" for Early Voting in the future.
- Ms. Alexander will send a calendar for Early Voting coverage tomorrow. At least one Republican and one Democratic Board Member needs to be available by phone for Early Voting coverage – July 7-14, 2022. Please check your calendars and sign-up to cover each day.
- The Logic and Accuracy Public Demonstration is scheduled for Friday, July 1, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.

- **Ballot Sorter.** The BOE has leased a ballot sorter to assist with processing the mail-in ballots. This machine can process up to 15,000 ballots/hour. This will increase the efficiency as compared to manual sorting. Most of the large jurisdictions will be using a sorter this election cycle.

Election Judges – Training started in March 2022, and 2,254 Election Judges have been trained (1,988 – Democratic, 117 – Republican, and 149 – Other). Training will continue until the week of Early Voting. We will continue our recruitment efforts, including radio and social media. We have not received the same response from radio spots as in past years.

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. BOE staff will continue to update the Voter Registration Statistical Report as data is received. The ERIC report has been received, and staff should complete updates by June 8, 2022. The June 2022 report will be included in the July packet.

Office Space – Ms. Alexander reported that the County received approval for additional BOE space at 1200 Mercantile Lane, Suite 107.

Security and Awareness Training – Board members were granted an extension, until August 2022, to complete the County's Security and Awareness training.

OLD BUSINESS – Ms. Alexander sent an email on May 16, 2022, noting that the ballot proofs were received. They had to be completed by May 18, 2022. Due to the tight schedule, she requested authorization for staff to proof the ballots. The Board approved her request.

PERSONNEL

- Staff continues to face major challenges in getting temporary employees and office support; we will increase our recruitment outreach.
- Data Coordinator position. This position has been advertised and staff is waiting for the list of eligible candidates. The Office of Human Resources Management (OHRM) will try to get the list to BOE prior to the election but could not guarantee that it would.
- Election Day Technicians. In past elections, we had approximately 270 technicians; we have confirmed about half of the number for this year.

LEGAL – Ms. Alexander reported that the contract for Mr. Adams/Mr. Zuber has been submitted to the Office of Law. BOE has requested expedited review and approval effective July 1, 2022.

NEW BUSINESS

- Ms. Alexander will send a revised Primary Election calendar shortly. She asked that the Board be flexible with their schedules and be available for emergency meetings, as necessary.

- Ms. Deegan asked if a “Chain of Custody” flow chart could be developed. Ms. Alexander advised that it could be done.
- Mr. Vazquez-Saldana noted that the last Voter Registration reported included 368 deaths and asked if it was a high number. The numbers vary from month to month.

NEXT MEETING –The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 11, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. This date was changed from July 4, 2022, since this is a holiday.

A motion was made by Mr. Gaynor, seconded by Mr. Slezak, and duly passed to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

Roberta B. Deegan, President

Anita C. Jones, Recording Secretary

Date