

November 16, 2022 – Provisional Canvass Minutes

ATTENDEES:

Board of Canvassers

Name	Position	Party
Craig Renner	Board Chairman	Republican
Fern Brown	Board Secretary	Democrat
Mark Hashagen	Board Member	Republican
Norman Saunders	Board Member	Democrat
Dorothy Duffield	Board Member	Republican
Louis Jenkins	Board Attorney	

LBE Staff:

Name	Position
Tracy Dickerson	Election Director
Wade Beswick	IT Program Manager
Stephanie Ramos-Santos	Election Program Assistant
Luke Beswick	LBE Technician

Public

Name	Organization
Julia Queen	Common Cause

All canvassing teams, 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 a.m. on Wednesday, November 16, 2022 at the Board of Elections at 201 E. Charles Street, La Plata, MD 20646. 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

Sherry Hancock, the Clerk of the Court for Charles County, administered and recorded the oath of each member of the Board of Canvassers on October 20, 2022.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF OFFICERS

At its meeting on November 8, 2022, the Board of Canvassers elected Mr. Craig Renner as Chairman of the Board of Canvassers and Ms. Fern Brown as Secretary.

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PUBLIC NOTICE OF CANVASS

Ms. Dickerson noted that the public notice of the provisional canvass was provided and that the notice was provided by email to the State Administrator of the State Board of Elections, Chairpersons of each Central Committees, as well as each Non-Partisan candidate on October 12, 2022. The public notice was also posted on Facebook and the Charles County Board of Elections website.

VERIFICATION OF OPTICAL SCAN VOTING UNITS

Ms. Dickerson presented documents to the Board of Canvassers showing that the ballot scanners being used in the canvass successfully passed Logic and Accuracy Testing on October 21, 2022. Ms. Dickerson reported that the memory devices created for this canvass were placed in the ballot scanners and sealed. Ms. Dickerson provided the Board of Canvassers with the results from the Logic and Accuracy Testing. Ms. Dickerson noted the Ballot Scanner Serial Number and Seal Number from Logic and Accuracy Testing documentation for each ballot scanner being used in the canvass.

Canvassers 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. Canvassers 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.

The Board of Canvassers confirmed that the counts on the ballot scanners were zero. Staff posted one copy of the Zero Report from the ballot scanners on the wall of the entrance of the canvassing room. Canvassers printed a second copy of the Zero Report, which remained attached to the ballot scanners. At the direction of the Board of Canvassers, the Board signed the Zero Report attached to the ballot scanners. Ms. Dickerson also confirmed that the ballot boxes were empty.

CANVASSING

Overview of Canvass Process

Ms. Dickerson 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.

Ms. Dickerson 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.

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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. No mail-in ballots were presented at this canvass.

The Board of Canvassers rules on whether to accept or unanimously reject the referred ballots. Ms. Dickerson explained that, to verify the accuracy of the voting system, some provisional ballots will be hand counted and the results of that hand count will be compared against the results from the voting system. The number of provisional ballots to be hand counted is at least 1% of the number of provisional ballots cast in the 2018 General Election. For this election, 25 provisional ballots will be hand counted. The first provisional ballot applications to be reviewed and ballots counted will be the provisional ballots randomly selected for this audit. Once these ballots are scanned, results will be printed and the results and the ballots will be stored for the manual audit. The manual audit will be conducted no later than 120 days after the general election.

Ms. Dickerson 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 below.

Team	Names of Bi-Partisan Ballot Processing Team Members
Team #1	Lois Bowling and Michael Rainwater
Team #2	Ruth Culver and Mary Lawson
Team #3	Theodore Milligan and Carl Lockamy
Team #4	Christine Saoud and Nancy Svites
Team #5	Gloria Riley and Chris Malloy
Team #6	Patricia Wade and Tammy Shoyeb
Team #7	Debbie Dudak and Kevin Savoy
Team #8	Natasha Janga and Marilyn Miller

Team	Names of BMD Duplicating Members
BMD #1	Danna Thelen
BMD #2	Norma Jean Gibson

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BMD #3	Luke Beswick
BMD #4	Michelle Mabry
BMD #5	Loriann Bowman

Proofing BMD	Names of BMD Duplicating Proofing Members
	Tracy Dickerson and Craig Renner
	Mark Hashagen and Norman Saunders

Team	Names of Ballot Scanner Operating Team Members
Scanner #1	Shawnecia Munson
Scanner #2	Jashaun Munson
Scanner #3	Allen Prince

Canvassing of Provisional Ballots

Ms. Dickerson reported that 1418 provisional ballots were cast. 1439 provisional ballots were presented for canvassing at this canvass. No mail-in ballots were presented for canvassing at this canvass.

Ms. Duffield made a motion to begin presenting provisional ballot applications. Mr. Saunders seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

1. Ms. Dickerson presented 779 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. Ms. Dickerson presented 241 provisional ballots with the recommendation to accept them in full but be remarked. 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 wrong precinct where that voter resides, but the ballot matched the voter's correct Legislative District and Commissioner District.
2. Ms. Dickerson presented 398 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. Ms. Dickerson presented 4 provisional ballots with the recommendation to reject because the applicant returned a voted mail-in ballot or already voted. The Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation and reject the ballots.
4. Ms. Dickerson presented 15 provisional ballots with the recommendation to reject because the applicant provided his or her driver's license or social security number but the number was not verified. The Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation and reject the ballots.

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5. Ms. Dickerson presented 1 provisional ballot with the recommendation to reject because there was no provisional ballot in the envelope. The Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation and reject the ballot.
6. Ms. Dickerson presented 1 provisional ballot with the recommendation to reject because the applicant will not be or is not 18 years old or older by the general election. The Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation and reject the ballots.

Printing Canvass Results

After scanning all accepted in full and accepted in part provisional ballots, canvassers locked the ballot scanners 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 scanners.

Ms. Dickerson informed the Board that 1 provisional ballot went through the scanner at Mt. Hope Elementary School, and another 1 at Mudd Elementary School.

The Board of Canvassers signed the Voting Results Report and posted a second copy of the report on the wall near the entrance of the canvassing room.

RELEASE OF UNOFFICIAL RESULTS

Mr. Renner announced the results from the provisional canvass. Mr. Renner announced the following statistics from the provisional canvass:

Provisional Canvass Statistics	Number of Ballots
Total Ballots Presented at Provisional Canvass	1439
Total Provisional Ballots Presented	1439
Total Mail-in Ballots Presented	
Total Accepted Ballots	1418
Accepted in Full Provisional Ballots	1020
Accepted in Part Provisional Ballots	398
Accepted Mail-in Ballots	
Total Rejected Ballots	21
Rejected Provisional Ballots	21
Rejected Mail-in Ballots	

Ms. Dickerson 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.

Charles County Board of Canvassers
201 East Charles Street, La Plata, MD 20653

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NEXT BOARD OF CANVASSERS' MEETING

The Board of Canvassers will meet on Friday, for the Mail-in Ballot 2 Canvass at 10:00 a.m. to canvass all remaining ballots.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jean H. Brown". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J".