

Charles County Board of Canvassers  
201 East Charles Street, La Plata, MD 20625  
June 18, 2020

Post Certification Minutes

**ATTENDEES:**

Board of Canvassers: Attended via conference call:

Katherine O'Malley-Simpson: Republican  
Fern Brown: Democrat  
Craig Renner: Republican  
Dorothy Duffield: Republican  
Norman Saunders: Democrat

LBE Staff: Louis Jenkins, Board Attorney  
Tracy A. Dickerson, Election Director II  
Shelby E. Trice, Election Administrative Assistant II

Public: N/A

Absent: N/A

**DECLARATION OF QUORUM PRESENT**

The meeting of the Board of Canvassers began at 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 18, 2020 at The Charles County Board of Elections located at 201 East Charles Street, La Plata, MD 20646. There was a quorum of the Board of Canvassers via video conference 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**

Sherri Hancock, the Clerk of the Court for Charles County administered and recorded the oath of each member of the Board of Canvassers on May 6, 2020 at 10 a.m. Substitute members of the Board of Elections were also sworn-in on the same day.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Ms. Fern Brown made a motion that Ms. Katherine O'Malley-Simpson serve as Chairman of the Board of Canvassers. Ms. Dorothy Duffield seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously. Mr. Norman Saunders made a motion that Ms. Fern Brown serve as Secretary for the Board of Canvassers. Ms. Dorothy Duffield seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

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## **PUBLIC NOTICE OF CANVASS**

Ms. Tracy A. Dickerson noted that public notice of the vote by mail canvass was provided and that the notice was provided by email on May 7, 2020. Ms. Tracy A. Dickerson noted that due to current social distancing guidelines, and in compliance with the Governor's Proclamation of April 10, 2020, that public viewing will be by video conferencing only.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Ms. Dickerson presented the minutes from the Vote by Mail Canvass and the Provisional Canvass. Ms. Fern Brown made a motion to approve the minutes, Mr. Norman Saunders seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

## **CANVASSING**

### Overview of Canvass Process

Ms. Dickerson explained the rules concerning public observation of the canvass, stating that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and in accordance with the Governor's Proclamation of April 10, 2020 and current social distancing guidelines issued by the Centers for Disease Control, that no more than 10 people may be in a room at once, and that all individuals must maintain a distance of six feet from each other. Due to these restrictions, public observation of the canvass would be provided by livestream, which the public could view on YouTube, the link is posted on our website.

Ms. Dickerson 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 individuals in batches. Each individual reviews the envelope to determine whether it was timely received.

### Canvassing of Vote by Mail Ballots

Ms. Dickerson reported that two vote by mail ballots were received after the certification of the election. Ms. Fern Brown made a motion to reject these, vote by mail ballots as being untimely. Mr. Craig Renner seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

## **CANVASSING STATISTICS**

Ms. Dickerson reported that 43,383 vote by mail ballots were presented for canvassing and 705 vote by mail ballots were rejected for being untimely.

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Ms. Dickerson submitted the following statistics for rejected vote by mail and provisional ballots.

State Vote by Mail Ballots – Rejection Reason	# of Ballots		
	VBM	Today	Total
Ballot was late for election	703	2	705
No signature on oath	60		60
Voter died before election day			
More than one ballot in same envelope	3		3
More than one ballot received but one was counted			
Identifying mark on ballot	9		9
Used agent and ballot envelope was not sealed			
Unsealed envelope & indication that integrity compromised			
Not registered voter			
No absentee ballot application on file			
Regular ballot received & rejected FWAB			
Envelope did not contain a ballot	7		7
Other (Did not receive timely Identification)	4		4

Federal Write-In Absentee Ballots – Rejection Reason	# of Ballots		
	VBM	Today	Total
State absentee ballot was received			
No signature on declaration			
No absentee ballot application			
Not registered voter			
Late for election			
Voted wrong ballot style			
Used agent and ballot envelope was not sealed			
Voter cancelled			
Voter deceased			
Voter is convicted felon			
Identifying mark on ballot			
Voted more than one FWAB			
Board Action [ <i>specify</i> ]			

Provisional Ballots – Rejection Reasons	# of Ballots
Applicant is not registered to vote	
Applicant returned a voted absentee ballot or already voted	5
Applicant voted the wrong party primary ballot (primary elections only)	227
No signature on application	
Applicant not eligible to receive a provisional ballot	
Identification or DL# or SS# was not timely received	
Incomplete information was provided on application	
Identification was received but did not satisfy the identification requirements	

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No provisional ballot in envelope or more than one ballot in envelope	1
No evidence to support alleged voting unit malfunction	
Identity challenge was upheld	
Order extending voting hours was invalidated	
Identifying mark on the ballot	
Applicant is not or will not be 18 years old or older by the general election	
Proof of residency was not timely received	
Proof of residency was received but did not satisfy the requirement	

**NEXT BOARD OF CANVASSERS' MEETING**

If additional vote by mail ballots are received, the Board of Canvassers will convene before the next meeting of local board of elections. The next meeting is scheduled for July 16, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. at 201 East Charles Street, La Plata, MD 20646.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:07 p.m.