

Allegany County Board of Canvassers
701 Kelly Road, Room 100
Cumberland, MD 21502

April 26, 2024 - Pre-Mail-in Ballot Canvass

ATTENDEES

Board of Canvassers:

Name	Position	Party
Lisa Lyons	Chairman	Republican
Cecilia Pittman	Secretary	Democratic
Richard DeVore	Member	Republican
Debbie Johnson	Member	Democratic
John Stakem	Member	Democratic

LBE Staff (in person):

Name	Position
Diane Loibel	Election Director
Armand Pannone	Board Attorney
Wendy Maddux	Deputy Director
Sarah Loar	Registrar
Samantha Storm	Registrar
Melissa Smith	Clerk

Public

Name	Organization (if applicable)
None	

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 9:00 A.M. on Monday, April 22, 2024 at the Allegany County Office Complex, 701 Kelly Road, Room 100, Cumberland, MD 21502. 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.

RECONVENING THE MEETING

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The mail-in ballot canvass reconvened on April 26, 2024 at 9:00 A.M. A quorum of the Board of Canvassers was present.

CONFIRMATION OF OATH

Dawne Lindsey, the Clerk of the Court for Allegany County, administered and recorded the oath of each member of the Board of Canvassers on March 5, 2024.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF OFFICERS

At a meeting on April 2, 2024, the Board of Canvassers elected Ms. Lisa Lyons as Chairman of the Board of Canvassers and Mrs. Cecilia Pittman as Secretary.

PUBLIC NOTICE OF CANVASS

Mrs. Loibel noted that public notice of the mail-in ballot canvass was provided and that the notice was provided to the local central committees, any candidate not represented by a party, and Mr. Jared DeMarinis. Public notice was provided by written notice, posted on the bulletin board outside the election office and posted on the website.

VERIFICATION OF THE SCANNING UNITS

Mrs. Loibel presented documents to the Board of Canvassers showing that the ballot scanners being used in the canvass successfully passed Logic and Accuracy Testing on April 9, 2024. Mrs. Loibel reported that the memory sticks created for this canvass were placed in the ballot scanners and sealed. Mrs. Loibel provided the Board of Canvassers with the results from the Logic and Accuracy Testing. Mrs. Loibel 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.

Staff verified that the seal on the ballot scanners were intact and recorded the scanner's serial numbers and seal numbers on the Scanning Unit Opening Integrity Report. Staff noted that the ballot scanner's serial numbers and seal numbers from Logic and Accuracy Testing matched the ballot scanner's serial numbers and seal numbers before the canvass began.

The Board of Canvassers confirmed that the count on the ballot scanners were zero. Staff posted one copy of the Zero Report from the ballot scanners on the wall where canvassing occurred. Staff printed a second copy of the Zero Report, which remained attached to the ballot scanners. The Board of Canvassers signed the Zero Reports attached to the ballot scanner. Staff also confirmed that the ballot boxes were empty.

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

CANVASSING OF BALLOTS

Overview of Canvass Process

Mrs. Loibel explained the rules concerning public observation of the canvass. Mrs. Loibel provided an overview of the canvassing process and noted that the rules were posted in the canvass room. Ballots were distributed to the ballot processing canvassing teams in batches. Each canvassing team reviewed the envelope first to determine whether it was timely received.

For timely received ballots, each canvassing team determined whether the voter signed the oath. After verifying that the oath is signed, each canvassing team opened the envelopes. With the envelope face down, each canvassing team removed the ballot, taking care that the envelope stays face down. After removing all of the ballots in the batch, the ballot envelopes were set aside. Each canvassing team reviewed the ballots for compliance and tabulating acceptability.

Web delivered ballots were duplicated by a bi-partisan ballot duplication team and verified for accuracy.

Ballots that were untimely or otherwise not in compliance were placed in a folder/envelope, with the canvassing team's number, or other information identifying the canvassing team to which the ballot belonged, and the reason for the referral written on the envelope. The envelope with the ballots inside was referred to the Board of Canvassers for later review.

Those timely ballots that were in compliance and could be read by the ballot scanner were referred to the Board of Canvassers for acceptance.

The Board of Canvassers ruled on whether to accept or unanimously reject the referred ballots.

Mrs. Loibel explained the process to provide information to the Board of Canvassers or challenged a decision of the Board.

Canvass Participants

Canvasser	Names of Ballot Processing Canvassing Teams
Team #1	JoAnn Spiker & Samantha Logsdon
Team #2	Wendy Maddux & Cecilia Pittman
Team #3	Martha Davis & Vicki Chisholm
Team #4	Jodi Beal & Sarah Loar
Team #5	Cindy Powers & Samantha Storm

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Team	Names of Bi-Partisan Duplicating Team Members
Team #1	Melissa Smith & Debbie Johnson

Team	Names of Ballot Scanner Operating Team
Team #1	Chuck Koelker & Lisa Lyons
Team #2	John Stakem & Richard DeVore

Canvassing of Ballots

Ms. Johnson made a motion to accept and approve the opening and tabulation of the ballots. Mrs. Pittman seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Challenges During Canvass

No challenges were made during this canvass.

Canvass Closing

After scanning all accepted mail-in ballots, Mrs. Loibel verified the total public count matched the number of ballots canvassed, and staff locked the ballot scanner and shut it down without printing results.

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

DAILY CANVASSING STATISTICS

Mail-In Ballot Canvass Statistics- Day 2	Number of Ballots
Total Ballots Presented	1,000
Accepted Ballots	1,000
Rejected Ballots	0
Ballots held over by the Board of Canvassers (if applicable)	0

RECESS

The canvass recessed at 11:30 A.M. and will reconvene on May 16, 2024 at 10:00 A.M. Staff recorded the public count, turned the scanner off, and affixed a seal.