

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

October 21, 2022- Mail-in Ballot Canvass for an In-Person General Election with Precincts –
Canvass Day 1

ATTENDEES

Board of Canvassers:

Name	Position	Party
Timothy Donaldson	President	Republican
Debra Johnson	Secretary	Democratic
John Stakem	Member	Democratic
JoAnn Spiker	Member	Republican
Lisa Griffith	Member	Republican

LBE Staff (in person):

Name	Position
Armand Pannone	Board Attorney
Diane Loibel	Election Administrator
Samantha Logsdon	Deputy Director
Brandy Gordon	Registrar
Samantha Storm	Registrar

Public

Name	Organization (if applicable)
<u>None</u>	

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 Friday, October 21, 2022 at the Allegany County Office Complex, 701 Kelly Road, Room 100, Cumberland. 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

Dawne Lindsey, the Clerk of the Court for Allegany County, administered and recorded the oath of each member of the Board of Canvassers on October 5, 2022.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF OFFICERS

Updated: 09/26/2022

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At a meeting on October 5, 2022, the Board of Canvassers elected Mr. Timothy Donaldson as Chairman of the Board of Canvassers and Ms. Debra Johnson as Secretary.

PUBLIC NOTICE OF CANVASS

Mrs. Logsdon noted that public notice of the vote by mail canvass was provided and that the notice was provided by written notice to the local central committees, any candidate not represented by a party, Ms. Linda Lamone, State Administrator, and Ms. Margie Woodring, Clerk, City of Cumberland. Written notice was also posted on the bulletin board outside the election office as well as posted on the website.

VERIFICATION OF OPTICAL SCAN VOTING UNITS

Mrs. Logsdon 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 12, 2022. Mrs. Logsdon reported that the memory cards created for this canvass were placed in the ballot scanners and sealed. Mrs. Logsdon provided the Board of Canvassers with the results from the Logic and Accuracy Testing. Mrs. Logsdon 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 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. Staff 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 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 Report attached to the ballot scanners. Staff also confirmed that the ballot boxes were empty.

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

CANVASSING OF BALLOTS

Overview of Canvass Process

Mrs. Logsdon explained the rules concerning public observation of the canvass. Mrs. Logsdon provided an overview of the canvassing process and noted that the rules were posted in the

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canvass room. Ballots are distributed to the ballot processing canvassing teams in batches. Each canvassing team reviews the envelope first to determine whether it was timely received.

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

Ballots that were marked using the online ballot marking wizard are duplicated and verified by a bi-partisan ballot duplication team. The election official responsible for ballot duplication uses a barcode reader to read the barcode printed on the voter's ballot, prints a ballot that will have the voter's selections marked, and refers the two ballots to a ballot verification team. The ballot verification team compares the two ballots to ensure that the ballot printed during the canvass matches the ballot returned by the voter.

Ballots that are untimely or are otherwise not in compliance are placed in a plain envelope, with the canvassing team's number, or other information identifying the canvassing team to which the ballot belongs, and the reason(s) for the referral written on the envelope. The envelope with the ballots inside is referred to the Board of Canvassers for later review.

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, or other information identifying the group or unit to which the ballot belongs, and the reason(s) for the referral written on the envelope. The envelope with the ballots inside is referred to the Board of Canvassers.

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

Mrs. Logsdon explained that, to verify the accuracy of the voting system, some absentee 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 absentee ballots to be hand counted is at least 1% of the number of absentee ballots cast in the 2018 General Election. For this election, 15 absentee ballots will be hand counted. The first absentee ballots to be reviewed and counted will be the absentee 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.

Mrs. Logsdon explained the process to provide information to the Board of Canvassers or challenge a decision of the Board.

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Canvass Participants

Canvasser	Names of Ballot Processing Canvassing Teams
Team #1	Debbie Johnson & Martha Davis
Team #2	Sharon Mike & Lisa Griffith
Team #3	Lisa Lyons & Samantha Storm
Team #4	Cecilia Pittman & JoAnn Spiker

Team	Names of Bi-Partisan Duplicating Team Members
Team #1	Lisa Lyons & Cecilia Pittman
Team #2	Lisa Griffith & Martha Davis
Team #3	JoAnn Spiker & Debbie Johnson

Team	Names of Ballot Scanner Operating Team
Team #1	John Stakem & Tim Donaldson
Team #2	Brandy Gordon & Pam Dimaio

Canvassing of Ballots

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

Printing Canvass Results

After scanning all accepted vote by mail ballots, Staff locked the ballot scanners and printed an Election Results Report. Mrs. Logsdon confirmed that the number of accepted ballots equaled the number of ballots counted by the ballot scanners. The Board of Canvassers signed the Voting Results Report and attached it to the Zero Report. Mrs. Logsdon stated that these results will be embargoed until after 8 pm on election day.

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

DAILY CANVASSING RESULTS

Mail-In Ballot Canvass Statistics- Day 1	Number of Ballots
Total Ballots Presented	1450
Accepted Ballots	1447
Rejected Ballots	3
Ballots held for a Board of Canvassers Decision Meeting (if applicable)	N/A

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RECESS

The canvass recessed at 4:45 P.M. and will reconvene on November 10, 2022 at 10:00 A.M.
Staff recorded the public count, turned the optical scan ballot scanners off, and affixed a seal.