

Allegany County Board of Canvassers
701 Kelly Road, Room 230
Cumberland, MD 21502

November 18, 2022 - Mail-In Ballot Canvass for an In-Person General Election with
Precincts

Minutes- Final Canvass Day – Day 3

ATTENDEES

Board of Canvassers

Name	Position	Party
Timothy Donaldson	Chairman	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)
Allison Layton	City of Cumberland

All canvassing teams, duplicating team members, and ballot scanner operating team members in attendance are listed under the Canvass Participants section below.

RECONVENING THE MEETING

The vote by mail canvass reconvened on November 18, 2022 at 10:00 A.M. A quorum of the Board of Canvassers was present.

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.

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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

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

PUBLIC NOTICE OF CANVASS

Mrs. Loibel 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 Mrs. Margie Woodring, Clerk, City of Cumberland.

VERIFICATION OF OPTICAL SCAN VOTING UNITS

Mrs. Loibel explained the rules concerning public observation of the canvass. Staff verified that the seals were intact and that the seal number matched the seal number attached and that the public count matched the public count recorded before the prior day's canvass recessed.

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

CANVASSING OF BALLOTS

Overview of Canvass Process

Mrs. Loibel provided an overview of the canvassing process and noted that the rules were posted in the canvass room.

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 reasons for the referral to the Board of Canvassers 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.

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

Canvass Participants

Canvasser	Names of Ballot Processing Canvasser
Team #1	JoAnn Spiker & Samantha Logsdon
Team #2	Sharon Mike & Lisa Griffith
Team #3	Samantha Storm & Debbie Johnson

Team	Names of Bi-Partisan Duplicating/Verification Team Members
Team #1	Samantha Logsdon & JoAnn Spiker
Team #2	Sharon Mike & Lisa Griffith

Team	Names of Ballot Scanner Operating Team
Team #1	Brandy Gordon & John Stakem

Canvassing of Mail-In Ballots

The Election Director distributed the mail-in ballots to canvassing teams to review for timeliness and signatures. The Election Director presented 61 mail-in ballots with the recommendation to accept the mail-in ballots. The Board unanimously voted to accept the recommendation and voted to accept the ballots. The Election Director presented 10 mail-in ballots with the recommendation to reject.

Printing Canvass Results

After scanning all accepted ballots, staff locked the ballot scanners and printed an Election Results Report. The Board of Canvassers reviewed the daily canvass minutes and confirmed that for each day, the number of accepted ballots equaled the number of ballots counted by the ballot scanner. The Board of Canvassers signed the Voting Results Report and posted a second copy of the report on the wall where the canvassing occurred.

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

DAILY CANVASSING RESULTS

Mail-In Ballot Canvass Statistics- Day 3	Number of Ballots
A) Total Ballots Presented	71
B) Total Mail-in Ballots Presented	71
C) Total Provisional Ballots Presented (During Mail-in Ballot Canvass ONLY)	0

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D) Total Ballots Accepted	61
E) Accepted in Full Provisional Ballots (During Mail-in Ballot Canvass ONLY)	0
F) Accepted in Part Provisional Ballots (During Mail-in Ballot Canvass ONLY)	0
G) Accepted Mail-in Ballots	61
H) Total Rejected Ballots	10
I) Rejected Provisional Ballots (During Mail-in Ballot Canvass ONLY)	0
J) Rejected Mail-in Ballots	10

RELEASE OF UNOFFICIAL RESULTS

Mrs. Loibel announced the results from the entire mail-in ballot canvass.

Mail-In Ballot Canvass Statistics	Number of Ballots
A) Total Ballots Presented	3690
B) Total Mail-in Ballots Presented	3690
C) Total Provisional Ballots Presented (During Mail-in Ballot Canvass ONLY)	0
D) Total Ballots Accepted	3675
E) Accepted in Full Provisional Ballots (During Mail-in Ballot Canvass ONLY)	0
F) Accepted in Part Provisional Ballots (During Mail-in Ballot Canvass ONLY)	0
G) Accepted Mail-in Ballots	3675
H) Total Rejected Ballots	15
I) Rejected Provisional Ballots(During Mail-in Ballot Canvass ONLY)	0
J) Rejected Mail-in Ballots	15

VERIFICATION OF VOTE COUNT

Mrs. Loibel explained that staff conducted several post-election verifications and audits performed. Staff manually added the Voting Results Reports from each ballot scanner in the precincts previously randomly selected by the local board of elections and compared

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the manually added totals with the totals produced by the election database for those precincts. Mrs. Loibel confirmed that all of the numbers matched.

Mrs. Loibel explained that a similar verification was performed on each ballot scanner used on the canvassing day randomly selected by the Board of Canvassers for the canvass. Staff manually added the Voting Results Reports printed from each ballot scanner used on the canvassing day randomly selected by the Board of Canvassers for the canvass and compared the manually added totals to a report printed from the election database for the canvass. Mrs. Loibel confirmed that all of the numbers matched.

Mrs. Loibel presented the Board of Canvassers with the verification results, and the Board of Canvassers reviewed the results. Mrs. Spiker made a motion to accept the verification results. Ms. Johnson seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

POST ELECTION AUDITS

Mrs. Loibel explained that post-election audits were performed on the polling places of certain randomly selected precincts, and on select mail-in and provisional ballots.

Mrs. Loibel explained that for the polling places, in the randomly selected precincts and any polling place where the difference between the number of voters that checked in to vote and ballots cast is five or more, that staff compared the number of signed voter authority cards for each ballot scanner against the number of ballots cast. Mrs. Loibel confirmed that all of the numbers matched with the exception of District 006-001. It appears that one provisional voter scanned their ballot on the scanning unit instead of placing it in the orange provisional bag. This was verified based on their closing summary report as well as the Provisional VAC was found in the red bag with the rest of the VACs from the scanning unit.

Mrs. Loibel explained that staff reviewed a sample of accepted mail-in ballots to determine if the ballot was timely received. Staff also reviewed a sample of rejected mail-in ballots to determine if the ballot was untimely received or was rejected for another valid reason. Mrs. Loibel confirmed that all of the numbers matched.

Mrs. Loibel explained that a sample of accepted provisional ballots were reviewed to determine whether the provisional voter was registered to vote at the time of the election, voted the ballot for the precinct in which the voter resides, and all other applicable criteria were met. A sample of partially accepted provisional ballots was also reviewed to confirm that a voter was registered to vote at the time of the election, did not vote the ballot for the precinct in which the voter resides, and all other applicable criteria were met. Staff also reviewed a sample of rejected provisional ballots to confirm that the voter was not

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registered to vote at the time of the election or the voter's ballot was rejected for another valid reason. Mrs. Loibel explained that two mail-in ballots were ran through the provisional module for two voters who sent in two ballots in different envelopes. The ballot that COMAR directs us to count was counted and SBE required us to run the other mail-in ballots for these two voters through the provisional module. This is also noted on the rejected sheet for the provisional audit.

Mrs. Loibel explained that all ballot images from early voting, election day, and all mail-in ballots canvassed and tabulated prior to election day were sent to a third-party for re-tabulation. The vendor produces reports comparing precinct-level results from voting system against the precinct-level results from the re-tabulation, and these reports show any differences between the two sets of results. Mrs. Loibel showed the reports and confirmed that any differences between the two sets of results were less than 0.5%, the threshold for additional auditing.

CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION RESULTS

Mrs. Loibel explained that the post-election verifications and audits had no discrepancies or the discrepancies were less than the vote margin of any contest on the ballot in that precinct and presented the Board of Canvassers with the election results. The Board of Canvassers reviewed the election results.

Mrs. Spiker made a motion to certify the results of 2022 Gubernatorial General Election. Ms. Johnson seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Loibel presented the canvass sheets to the Board of Canvassers. Timothy Donaldson, Chairman and Debra Johnson, Secretary signed the canvass sheets.

NEXT BOARD OF CANVASSERS' MEETING

If additional ballots are received, the Board of Canvassers will convene before the next meeting of local board of elections. The next meeting is scheduled for December 7, 2022 at 10:00 A.M. at the Allegany County Office Complex, 701 Kelly Road, Room 230, Cumberland.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 P.M. on November 18, 2022.