



Frederick County Board of Elections

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MINUTES of the
December 07, 2022, Meeting of
The Frederick County Board of Elections

The meeting was called to order at 2:04 PM, in person and virtually by Board President, Mary Lou Green.

PRESENT:

Mary Lou Green, President	M. C. Keegan-Ayers, County Council Chair
Shirley McDonald, Vice President	Mari Lee, Democratic Central Committee
Lawrence C. Hill, Secretary	Vicki George, Voter
Mary Costello, Board Member	Barbara Stadler, Voter
William Woodcock, Board Member	Angela McIntosh, Voter
Daniel B. Loftus, Board Counsel	Jill King, Voter
Barbara Wagner, Election Director	Michael Sowell, Voter
Marc R. Welch, Voting Operations Manager	Winston Mann, Voter
Theresa Church, Communications Specialist	Shelley Aloï, Voter

CONVENE BOARD OF CANVASS

Mr. Woodcock made the motion to close the monthly board meeting, Mr. Hill seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Ms. Costello made the motion to convene the Board of Canvassers, Mr. Hill seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Woodcock made a motion to reject the 29 untimely ballots for the Gubernatorial General, Ms. Costello seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Woodcock made a motion to approve the 2022 Gubernatorial General MIB2 Canvass Minutes. The motion failed. Mr. Hill made the motion to postpone review of MIB2 minutes until a later date, Mr. Woodcock seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Woodcock made the motion to close the session and reopen the monthly meeting, Mr. Hill seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Costello made a motion to accept the September 29 meeting minutes. Mr. Woodcock seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

Ms. Keegan-Ayers shared that the county council elected Brad Young as the council president and Kavonté Duckett as the vice president. The council will make the liaison to the BOE assignment at the December 20 meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Riverside Five Relocation Update

Ms. Wagner reported that the proposed move to Riverside Five will happen in January. BOE must vacate 340A Montevue Lane by February 1. The move is being coordinated by the Department of Public Works. Furniture left by the previous tenant has been allocated to us. Any excessed furniture from Montevue Lane is being returned to the county to reallocate to other agencies. Ms. Wagner is working with the county and with transportation on extensive signage for the new location.

B. Post-Election and Canvass Review

The format was question and answer.

The following questions were asked by Mr. Woodcock.

1. How did USPS handle the MIB load? The SBE and our office worked with USPS including weekly meetings. The post office complied with every request that was made.
2. Is it possible to increase the number of Ballot Marking Devices? SBE sets the number of BMDs per polling place. We bought 30 more for the 2022 election cycle and will look at purchasing more for 2024 as appropriate.
3. Are the envelopes with MIB that are returned at Early Voting or Election Day polling places marked as timely? During EV, runners return MIBs to the office to be processed daily. On ED, MIBs returned to the polling places are brought back along with the voted ballots from the scanning units. In the future, we will use stamps that indicate where the MIB was returned during EV. Currently MIB returned via Dropbox are stamped with the Dropbox location.
4. During Canvass, would it be more efficient to simply place the MIB ballots directly into the scanning unit rather than having the bi-partisan teams look at every ballot for compatibility? The process is in place because so many MIBs are unable to be processed as is. There would be a backlog of ballots that were rejected.
5. Why are we using the DS200 scanners when the DS850 is faster? The DS850 is faster only under certain conditions. It takes additional time to prepare ballots to be processed by the DS850 and more ballots are rejected.
6. What can the Board do to get pre-Election Day Canvass approved for 2024?? SBE is working with Maryland Association of Election Officials and the Maryland Association of Counties to lobby the state legislature to change the law.

The following questions were from observers at the in-person meeting.

7. Vicki George first complimented the judges at Myersville where she was a poll watcher. She shared that Cybersecurity& Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) reported that election equipment can be hacked. She asked why Maryland is using ES&S equipment when it is similar to equipment by Dominion Voting and Hart InterCivic. Mr. Welch