

Prince George's County Board of Canvassers  
1100 Mercantile Lane, Suite 115A  
Largo, MD 20774

July 21, 2022 - Vote by Mail Canvass Minutes  
2022 Gubernatorial Primary Election  
Canvass Day 1

## **ATTENDEES**

Board of Canvassers (In-Person):

Name	Position	Party
Roberta B. Deegan	President	Republican
Beatrice P. Tignor	Vice President	Democrat
Harold Ruston	Member	Republican
Tom Slezak	Member	Republican
Jaime Vazquez-Saldana	Member	Republican
Lucille V. Gaither	Alternate Member	Republican
Clement A. Gaynor, Jr.	Alternate Member	Republican
Terri L. Williams	Alternate Member	Democrat

Michael Adams	Board Attorney
Anita C. Jones	Board Recording Secretary

LBE Staff (in person):

Name	Position
Alisha L. Alexander	Elections Administrator
Wendy Honesty-Bey	Manager of Elections Operations
Christian Robertson	Data Coordinator
Freddie Colston	Floor Runner
Joe Young	Floor Runner
Beulah Williams	Floor Runner
Donald Benton	Floor Runner
Marcus Ike	Floor Runner

A list of all canvassers, duplicating team members, and ballot scanner operating team members in attendance is attached.

## **DECLARATION OF QUORUM PRESENT**

The meeting of the Board of Canvassers began at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 21, 2022, at the Lake Arbor Elementary School, 10205 Lake Arbor Way, Bowie, MD in the multipurpose room. There was a quorum of the Board of Canvassers in-person, 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**

The Honorable Mahasin El Amin, the Clerk of the Court for Prince George's County, administered and recorded the oath of each member of the Board of Canvassers on June 3, 2022, in-person. Substitute members of the Board of Elections were also sworn-in on the same day.

### **ELECTION/ANNOUNCEMENT OF OFFICERS**

Mr. Slezak made a motion that Ms. Deegan serve as Chairman of the Board of Canvassers and Ms. Tignor serve as Secretary for the Board of Canvassers. Mr. Vazquez-Saldana seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously. Ms. Jones is the Recording Secretary.

### **PUBLIC NOTICE OF CANVASS**

Ms. Alexander opened the canvass and noted that public notice of the vote by mail canvass was provided and that the notice was provided by agenda posted on door of the election office and on the Prince George's County Board of Election's website.

### **VERIFICATION OF OPTICAL SCAN VOTING UNIT(S)**

Mr. Colbert presented documents to the Board of Canvassers showing that the ballot scanners being used in the canvass successfully passed Logic and Accuracy Testing on July 1, 2022. Mr. Colbert reported that the memory cards created for this canvass were placed in the ballot scanners and sealed. Ms. Alexander provided the Board of Canvassers with the results from the Logic and Accuracy Testing. Mr. Colbert 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.

Mr. Colbert verified that the seals on the ballot scanners were intact and verified the optical scan ballot scanner's serial number and seal numbers on the Scanning Unit Opening Integrity Report. Mr. Colbert 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. Ms. Jones confirmed the seal numbers and attached them to the Scanning Unit Opening Integrity Report.

The following scanners were used:

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DS 850 Scanner 1 -Serial Number	DS 850 Scanner 2 -Serial Number	DS 850 Scanner 3- Serial Number
8517110323	8515040157	8517080319

The Board of Canvassers confirmed that the counts on the ballot scanners were zero. Ms. Alexander posted one copy of the Zero Report from the ballot scanners on the wall of the canvassing room. Mr. Colbert printed a second copy of the Zero Report, which remained with the integrity reports.

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

## **CANVASSING OF BALLOTS**

### Overview of Canvass Process

Ms. Alexander explained the rules concerning public observation of the canvass. Ms. Alexander provided an overview of the canvassing, the suggested COVID-19 procedures and the ballot and facility security process. She also noted that the rules were posted in the canvass room. It was explained that ballots are distributed to the ballot processing canvassers in batches of 25 (when possible). Also, the canvass teams were asked to review the envelopes first to determine whether it was received on time.

For timely received ballots, each canvasser determines whether the voter signed the oath. After verifying that the oath is signed, each canvasser opens the envelopes. With the envelope face down, each canvasser 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 canvasser reviews the ballots for compliance and tabulating acceptability.

Ballots that were printed online are duplicated and verified by a bi-partisan ballot duplication team. The bipartisan team of canvass workers or the Board of Canvassers, whichever is responsible for ballot duplication will manually duplicate the ballot the ballot on to an official ballot. It is imperative that the two ballots are compared 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 wrapped in a referral sheet, with the batch number and the canvassers' team number, or other information identifying the canvasser to which the ballot belongs, and the reason(s) for the referral written on the referral sheet. The wrapped envelope with the ballots inside is referred to the Board of Canvassers for later review.

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Ms. Alexander noted that ballot packages would be kept together, including the envelopes and ballots. Any ballots referred to the Board of Canvassers will be reviewed prior to moving onto a new ballot package. Accepted ballots would be returned to the package and rejected ballots would be noted on the package cover sheet.

All ballot packages in each sealed/locked box will be completed before another box is opened. If a ballot has a tear or stain, please refer it to the Board of Canvassers for review and duplication. Ms. Alexander explained that the ballot scanner cannot accept tears, stains, etc. A bi-partisan team will recreate the ballot selections. The clean, duplicated ballot will be included for scanning and the old ballot will be voided. There should not be any extraneous marks on the ballot, only the filled-in bubble by the candidates name.

Ms. Alexander explained the process to provide information to the Board of Canvassers or challenge a decision of the Board.

Ms. Alexander explained the "challenge" form and how it is completed and presented.

Reminder - Vote by mail ballots must be date stamped or post-marked on or before July 19, 2022. If the batch processing date is July 19, 2022, or earlier, the ballots are timely received.

### Canvass Participants

The ballot processing, duplicating, and optical scan operating canvassers for each canvassing day are listed on the attached sheets. Ms. Alexander conducted the swearing-in for the canvassers and thanked everyone for their time and service. Everyone was provided with confidentiality forms to complete and sign. Each canvasser provided their name and their party affiliation.

### Canvassing of Ballots

Ms. Deegan made a motion to accept and approve the opening and tabulation of the ballots. Mr. Gaynor seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Forty-one (41) locked boxes of mail in ballots were presented for canvass. The seal tapes were put on the Ballot Integrity Transfer Chain of Custody forms by Ms. Jones. Ms. Jones removed the following seals from the ballot cabinets:

17-312169	17-312167	17-312171
17-312168	17-312170	17-312185

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17-312166		
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The canvass room was closed from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. for lunch.

#### Board of Canvassers' Decision Meeting

The Board of Canvassers did not conduct a decision meeting.

The canvassing teams were dismissed at 3pm because the air conditioning did not work. However, the scanning teams continued.

The ballot cabinets were locked, and the following seals were affixed:

17-319424	17-319422	17-319425
17-319420	17-319426	17-319423
17-319421		

Ms. Tignor, Mr. Slezak, and Mr. Ruston stayed to observe the scanning and printing of results.

#### Printing Canvass Results

After scanning all accepted vote by mail ballots, Mr. Colbert locked the ballot scanners and printed an Election Results Report. Ms. Alexander confirmed that the number of accepted ballots equaled the number of ballots counted by the ballot scanners. Ms. Alexander signed the Voting Results Report and attached it to the Zero Report.

#### **RECESS**

The scanning team recessed at 5:00 p.m. and will reconvene on Friday, July 22, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. Mr. Colbert recorded the public count, turned the optical scan ballot scanners off, and affixed seals. All security measures were followed and the unscanned ballots were locked in a secured room. The scanned ballots were taken back to the Board of Elections Office with a Deputy Sheriff's escort, secured and locked.

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

#### **DAILY CANVASSING RESULTS**

Vote by Mail Canvass Statistics- Day One	Number of Ballots
Total Ballots Presented	5222

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Accepted Ballots	5222
Rejected Ballots	0