

Queen Anne's County Board of Canvassers  
110 Vincit St  
Centreville, MD 21617

November 15, 2024- Mail-In Ballot Canvass  
Minutes- Final Canvass Day- Day 4

### ATTENDEES

Board of Canvassers:

Name	Position	Party
Mary Walker	Board President	Democrat
Bill Stoops	Board Vice President	Republican
Dorotheann Sadusky	Secretary	Democrat
Jane Sparks	Member	Republican
Marion Grier	Member	Democrat

LBE Staff:

Name	Position
Christine Jones	Director
Kim Spence	Deputy Director
Erin Fee	Election Program Specialist I
Jena Anthony	Election Program Specialist I
Kelly Eichelberger	Election Program Assistant II
Colby Martin	Election Program Assistant II
Kyle Durham	Election Program Assistant I
Lindsay Guiberson	County Tech
Jim Campbell	County Tech

Public

Name	Organization
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 10:00am on November 7, 2024 at 110 Vincit St Centreville, MD 21617. 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.

Updated: 10/09/2024

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### **RECONVENING THE MEETING**

The mail-in ballot canvass reconvened on November 15, 2024 at 10:00am. A quorum of the Board of Canvassers was present.

### **CONFIRMATION OF OATH**

Katherine Hager, the Clerk of the Court for Queen Anne's County, administered and recorded the oath of each member of the Board of Canvassers on September 26, 2024. Substitute members of the Board of Elections were also sworn-in on the same day.

### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Jane Sparks made a motion that Bill Stoops serve as Chairperson of the Board of Canvassers. Mary Walker seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously. Mary Walker made a motion that Dorotheann Sadusky serve as Secretary for the Board of Canvassers. Marion Grier seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

### **PUBLIC NOTICE OF CANVASS**

Christine Jones noted that public notice of the mail-in ballot canvass was provided and that the notice was provided by mail, on our website and posted for public view .

### **VERIFICATION OF THE SCANNING UNITS**

Christine Jones presented documents to the Board of Canvassers showing that the ballot scanners being used in the canvass successfully passed Logic and Accuracy Testing on September 26, 2024. Christine Jones reported that the memory sticks created for this canvass were placed in the ballot scanners and sealed. Christine Jones provided the Board of Canvassers with the results from the Logic and Accuracy Testing. Christine Jones 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.

Colby Martin verified that the seals on the ballot scanners were intact and recorded the scanner's serial number and seal number on the Scanning Unit Opening Integrity Report. Colby Martin 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 counts on the ballot scanners were zero. Christine Jones posted one copy of the Zero Report from the ballot scanners on the wall in

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the conference room. Colby Martin printed a second copy of the Zero Report, which remained attached to the ballot scanners. At the direction of the Board of Canvassers, Christine Jones and Mary Walker signed the Zero Report attached to the ballot scanners. Christine Jones 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

Christine Jones explained the rules concerning public observation of the canvass. Christine Jones 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 reasons 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.

Christine Jones explained the process to provide information to the Board of Canvassers or challenged a decision of the Board.

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Canvass Participants

Canvasser	Names of Ballot Processing Canvassing Teams
Team #1	Jessica Lannon and Marion Grier
Team #2	Kyle Durham and Dorotheann Sadusky
Team #3	Mary Walker and Jane Sparks
Team #4	

Team	Names of Bi-Partisan Duplicating Team Members
Team #1	Jena Anthony and Kelly Eichelberger
Team #2	

Team	Names of Ballot Scanner Operating Team
Team #1	Colby Martin and Jim Campbell
Team #2	

Canvassing of Ballots

Mary Walker made a motion to accept and approve the opening and tabulation of the ballots. Dorotheann Sadusky seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

**Challenges During Canvass**

Document any challenges brought forth in the canvass.

**Canvass Closing**

Printing Canvass Results

After scanning all accepted ballots, Colby Martin locked the ballot scanners and printed an Election Results Report. Christine Jones confirmed that the number of accepted ballots equaled the number of ballots counted by the ballot scanners. Christine Jones signed the Voting Results Report and attached it to the Zero Report.

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

**DAILY CANVASSING STATISTICS**

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Bill Stoops announced the results from the Mail-in Ballot Final Day Canvass. Bill Stoops announced the following statistics from the Mail-in Ballot Final Day Canvass:

Mail-in Canvass Statistics	Number of Ballots
Mail-in Ballots Presented in Mail-in Part of Canvass	216
Mail-in Ballots Accepted	198
Rejected Mail-in Ballots	18

Christine Jones announced that provisional voters can find out if their provisional ballots were counted and if not, the reason why it was not counted by visiting the State Board of Elections' website or by calling the State Board at 1-800-222-8683.

### RELEASE OF UNOFFICIAL RESULTS

Bill Stoops announced the results from the entire mail-in ballot canvass.

Mail-In Ballot Canvass Statistics	Number of Ballots
A) Total Ballots Presented	5754
B) Total Mail-in Ballots Presented	5754
C) Total Provisional Ballots Presented (During Mail-in Ballot Canvass ONLY)	0
D) Total Ballots Accepted	5735
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	5735
H) Total Rejected Ballots	19
I) Rejected Provisional Ballots(During Mail-in Ballot Canvass ONLY)	
J) Rejected Mail-in Ballots	19

### VERIFICATION OF VOTE COUNT

Christine Jones explained that staff conducted several post-election verifications and audits. 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 the

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

Christine Jones 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. Christine Jones confirmed that all of the numbers matched.

Christine Jones presented the Board of Canvassers with the verification results, and the Board of Canvassers reviewed the results. Dorotheann Sadusky made a motion to accept the verification results. Jane Sparks seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously .

#### **POST ELECTION AUDITS**

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

Christine Jones 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. Christine Jones confirmed that all of the numbers matched.

Christine Jones 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. Christine Jones confirmed that all of the numbers matched.

Christine Jones 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 registered to vote at the time of the election or the voter's ballot was rejected for another valid reason. Christine Jones confirmed that all of the numbers matched.

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Christine Jones 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 the voting system against the precinct-level results from the re-tabulation, and these reports show any differences between the two sets of results. Christine Jones 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**

Christine Jones explained that the post-election verifications and audits had and presented the Board of Canvassers with the election results. The Board of Canvassers reviewed the election results.

Marion Grier made a motion to certify the results of the Presidential General Election. Dorotheann Sadusky seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Christine Jones presented the canvass sheets to the Board of Canvassers. Jane Sparks made a motion authorizing the Election Director to email canvass sheets to the President and Secretary and authorized them to sign the canvass sheets. Marion Grier seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

### **NEXT BOARD OF CANVASSERS' MEETING**

If additional ballots are received, the Board of Canvassers will convene before the next meeting of the local board of elections. The next meeting is scheduled for December 18, 2024 at 9:00 am at 110 Vincit St Centreville, MD 21617.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 am on November 15, 2024.