

**MEETING OF THE  
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS  
1100 MERCANTILE LANE, SUITE 115A  
LARGO, MD 20774  
MONDAY, JULY 11, 2022**

**PRESENT:** Roberta B. Deegan, President, Republican Member  
Beatrice P. Tignor, Vice President, Democratic Member  
Harold Ruston, Republican Member  
Thomas J. Slezak, Republican Member  
Jaime J. Vazquez-Saldana, Republican Member  
Lucille Gaither, Alternate Republican Member  
Clement A. Gaynor, Jr., Alternate Republican Member  
Terri L. Williams, Alternate Democratic Member  
Anita C. Jones, Board Secretary  
Alisha L. Alexander, Elections Administrator  
Daneen Banks, Deputy Elections Administrator  
Michael Adams, Board Attorney

**ABSENT:** None

This meeting was conducted using the "Go To Meeting" platform. Ms. Deegan called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and a quorum was present. Ms. Deegan requested that guests identify themselves and then mute their location to reduce background interference/noise. Mr. William Ford, The Washington Informer, joined the meeting.

## **MINUTES**

Ms. Williams requested a correction to her middle initial (it should be L). A motion was made by Mr. Gaynor, seconded by Ms. Tignor, and duly passed approving the minutes for June 6, 2022, with the requested correction.

## **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

### Correspondence

- July 11, 2022 – letter from Bernadette Smith, President, Republican Women of Charles County and the June 22, 2022, response from Ms. Alexander.
- Drop box procedures from the State Board of Elections (SBOE). The date (November 2) under "Returning Ballots to Office" should be redacted.

Sample Ballots – Ms. Alexander provided additional information regarding approximately 10,000 incorrect sample ballots that were mailed. There are 699 ballot styles in Prince George's County, and several ballot styles that are the same (different precincts). Staff prepared a conversion file for the printer to use, and an error occurred during this process. As soon as staff was notified, new sample ballots were prepared, and the media was contacted to notify voters of this issue and advise them to not use the incorrect sample ballot as their guide when voting. Fortunately, the printer had sufficient paper stock available to complete the reprint and new sample ballots were mailed within the week.

### Gubernatorial Primary Election

- Precinct Locations. Staff is experiencing major challenges with many of the facilities and churches. Ms. Alexander will collaborate with her colleagues to move toward vote centers. Many local jurisdictions are experiencing the same issues.
  - 1) Towers at Westchester. Board of Elections (BOE) staff attempted to deliver voting equipment to the Towers of Westchester and the equipment was refused. The facility is under new ownership/management since the contract was signed. Staff was notified today that this location will not be available as a precinct. Ms. Banks attempted to meet with the management team; however, the doors were closed, and no one was available. Staff will continue their efforts to use this facility or find an alternative location. Signage with voter information will be installed, as necessary.
  - 2) Glassmanor ES. This facility had a problem in the kitchen and will not be available. Fortunately, the community center is attached to this building, and we will be able to move the precinct to the community center. Signage directing voters will be installed.
  - 3) A motion was made by Mr. Ruston, seconded by Mr. Gaynor, and duly passed authorizing Ms. Alexander and staff to do what is necessary to identify sufficient locations to conduct the election. Proper signing will be necessary to direct voters as needed. Ms. Tignor requested that the attorney review the contract to determine our options. Mr. Adams requested a copy of the contract and the new ownership information.
- Primary Election Canvassing. Canvassing will be held at Lake Arbor ES starting on Thursday, July 21, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Certification of the election is scheduled for Friday, July 29, 2022. Results will be posted daily. The canvassing will not be live-streamed, and the public/observers will be able to participate in-person. Depending on the number of participants, a rotating schedule may be implemented for the public/observers. A revised calendar of key dates will be distributed on Election Day. Please be prepared to actively participate in the canvass.
- Mail-In Ballot Ballots. To date, staff has received 18,663 returned mail-in ballots. It is expected that we will receive between 40,000 and 45,000 mail-in ballots.
- Drop Boxes. Drop boxes procedures were included in the Board packet. Other jurisdictions reported that they received a heavy volume of ballots in the drop boxes on Election Day during previous elections. Ms. Deegan asked if we had sufficient staff to manage the retrieval of ballots. Ms. Alexander advised that the drop box is capable of holding 10,000 ballots and we are conducting two pickups daily.
- Early Voting. Early voting started on Thursday, July 7, 2022. There have been a few random issues with ballot marking devices and e-poll books. The Technicians have been able to correct these problems. There have been a couple of reports that candidates and/or candidate representatives have crossed the electioneering line; Election Judges have been able to resolve these matters. One Chief Judge at the Sports and Learning Center was removed. Voter turn-out is slow. Election Day turnout will be interesting.

- 1) Early Voting Turnout (Day 1 through Day 4).  
2018 – 15,86 voted.  
2022 – 9,223 voted.
  - 2) Returned Ballots.  
2018 – 3,810 Absentee Ballots.  
2022 – 18,663 Mail-In Ballots.
- Election Day. Tuesday, July 19, 2022. The Board will participate in person, and at least one Republican and one Democratic Board Member should be present starting at 6:30 a.m. A quorum of the Board should be present starting at 2:30 p.m. so that staff can start running the Early Voting tapes. These results will be posted once the polls have closed on Election Day. Lunch and dinner will be provided.
  - Ballot Sorter. The equipment was delivered to the new office space mid-June. Staff experienced issues/error messages with the units, and there is not sufficient time to correct them. The causes were identified, and the SBOE was notified. Therefore, we returned to manual sorting.

Voter Registrations – The Maryland Voter Registration System is updated based on information received from the registrants, ERIC (Electronic Registration Information Center), MVA (Motor Vehicle Administration, NCOA (National Change of address), and other reports. BOE staff will continue to update the Voter Registration Statistical Report as data is received.

Security and Awareness Training – Ms. Alexander advised that Board members need to complete the County's Security and Awareness training by August 31, 2022. She will forward the link to for this training. If you have any questions, please let her know.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- Mr. Vazquez-Saldana reported on his efforts to work with local universities and colleges to update voter registrations for students that no longer live at the university. It may be necessary to contact fraternities and sororities also to update records.
- Mr. Lee Havis contact the BOE regarding inactive voters and the process for updating their records. He was referred to the SBOE and the process was explained. He also was provided with information on how to change the laws regarding registration.

## **PERSONNEL**

- Data Coordinator position. This position is still open. Interviews will not be scheduled until after the election.

**LEGAL** – Mr. Adams reported that he is pleased to be here and will follow-up with Ms. Alexander regarding the facility contract. He has spoken with Mr. McGinley regarding canvassing processes and found the information helpful. He will contact him again this week for a refresher. Mr. Adams thanked the Board for their trust, and it is an honor to be a part of this process.

**NEW BUSINESS** – None.

**NEXT MEETING** –The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 1, 2022, at 5:30 p.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Slezak, seconded by Mr. Vazquez-Saldana, and duly passed to adjourn the meeting at 6:10 p.m.

Ms. Deegan thanked Ms. Alexander and her staff for all their hard work.

---

Roberta B. Deegan, President

---

Anita C. Jones, Recording Secretary

---

Date