

ELECTION OFFICE

Stephanie Taylor
Director

Kimberley H. Slusar
Deputy Director



ELECTION BOARD

Michael Dykes, President
Marquita McMillan, Vice President
Christina Bracknell, Secretary
Joseph Price, Member
James Richardson, Member

Brian K. Young, Esq., Board Counsel

AGENDA

**Harford County Board of Elections
133 Industry Lane, Forest Hill, MD 21050
February 28, 2024
5:00 p.m.**

- Call to Order; Declaration of Quorum
- Welcome Members and Guests
- Swearing in of new employee Rosanna Moss
- Approval of Minutes
 - January 17, 2024, Regular Meeting
- Request Additions or Changes to the Agenda
- Election Office Report
- Board Attorney's Report
- Old Business
- New Business
 - Approval of three confidential voters
 - Change to the agenda: add one more approval of confidential voter and 8 confidential voter renewals
- Confirmation of Next Meeting
- Members' Time
- Closed Session*
- Adjournment

NEXT MEETING: March 20, 2024

*Closed Meeting: Part of the meeting may be closed in accordance with Maryland's Open Meetings Act procedures.

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Karen Perry
Acting Deputy Director



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HARFORD COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
MINUTES
January 17, 2024

PRESENT:

Board:	Staff:
Michael A. Dykes, President	Stephanie Taylor, Director
Marquita J. McMillan, Vice President	Karen Perry, Acting Deputy Director
Christina Bracknell, Secretary	Stephen Feryus, Staff
Joseph N. Price, Republican Member	Nate Reynolds, Staff
James C. Richardson, Republican Member	Loralyn Sisler, Staff
Brian K. Young, Esq., Board Counsel	Barbara Salvatore, Staff

QUORUM:

Mr. Dykes called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm and determined there was a quorum with at least one member of the minority party being present.

Steven A. McCurdy, David Kane, William Martino, and Dale Livingston were present from the public.

Mr. Dykes welcomed the members and guests.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The December 6, 2023, Regular Meeting minutes were presented. Mr. Dykes asked for a motion to accept the minutes. Mr. Price made a motion to accept the minutes and Mr. Richardson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by those Board Members who were present for the December 6, 2023, Regular Meeting.

ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:

Swearing in of new employee was removed from the agenda. Added to the agenda under new business; Steven McCurdy to address the Board and Dale Livingston to address the Board.

ELECTION OFFICE REPORT:

Ms. Taylor gave the Administration update.

Mr. Richardson asked who was paying for the cameras/ intercom, the State or County? Ms. Taylor replied that it was the County.

Ms. Taylor gave the Staff update.

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Mr. Reynolds gave the Election Operations update.

Mr. Price asked if DemTech will still provide the product. Ms. Taylor replied that we do not know at this time and that we will be using the old pollbooks for the 2024 cycle. Mr. Price asked if DemTech was in breach of their contract. Mr. Dykes explained that this is what happens during UAT (Universal Acceptance Testing), this allows time for feedback and adjustments.

Ms. Taylor added that Christine Martin has done an amazing job of fixing and maintaining the current pollbooks. Ms. Martin reached out to ESS and other counties for “spare parts” to help maintain our pollbooks as well as other counties.

Ms. Sisler gave the Election Judge update.

Ms. McMillian asked the election judge training was held virtually? Ms. Sisler replied, no they are in person.

Ms. Taylor added that we will be implementing a texting program to be able to communicate with judges for class reminders, emergency information, and training videos.

Mr. Feryus gave the Voter Registration update.

Mr. Richardson inquired about the petition. Mr. Feryus explained that 10,000 signatures were needed (statewide) for this petition. He explained that Harford County only had to process a portion of the signatures.

Mr. Feryus gave the Mail-in Ballot update.

Ms. Taylor gave the Upcoming Events timeline.

BOARD ATTORNEY’S REPORT:

Mr. Young said there was no report this month.

OLD BUSINESS

The updated Bylaws with revisions approved in last month’s meeting were presented for approval. Richardson made a motion to approve the Bylaws as presented, Ms. McMillan seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved by all members present at the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Martino addressed the Board.
Ms. Livingston addressed the Board.
Mr. McCurdy addressed the Board.

Mr. Feryus requested approval from the Board to make a voter “Confidential”. Upon review, Mr. Richardson made a motion to approve the confidentiality request. Ms. Bracknell seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved by all members present at the meeting.

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Mr. Reynolds presented a polling place change for the Presidential Primary Election. The Highlands (Precints 1-08 & 1-09) school is not available for use due to the election date change. Mr. Reynolds stated that the voters who normally vote at the Highlands schools will vote at Church Creek Elementary School for the Primary Election only. This facility is large enough to accommodate the additional voters. Mr. Price motioned for the approval of the change as presented, Mr. Richardson seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved by all members present at the meeting.

The Board of Canvassers reconvened at 5:50 pm. and determined there was a quorum with at least one member of the minority party being present. Mr. Feryus presented the Board with a ballot from the 2022 Primary Election with an oath dated January 2024. Mr. Feryus recommended that this ballot be rejected as untimely. Mr. Price motioned to reject the ballot for being untimely for the election. Mr. Richardson seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved by all members present at the meeting.

CONFIRMATION OF NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting was confirmed to be February 28, 2024.

MEMBERS TIME:

There was no report.

CLOSED SESSION:

There was no closed session.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Richardson made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Price seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:02pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marquita McMillan".

Marquita McMillan, Vice President on behalf of Michael A. Dykes, President

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**HARFORD COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
OFFICE REPORT
February 28, 2024**

Administration:

- The high-speed ballot sorter has been delivered and installed. We had our first training on it February 22nd from Tri-Tek with the help from Devon Jones from Anne Arundel County.
- We had some employees from Cecil County visit our office to train with Voter Registration and with the Warehouse team.
- I have gone to Cecil a few times to train the new director and deputy director.
- We attended a demonstration with Text-Em-All and US Digital Response.

Staff Updates:

- We had an Election Program Assistant I position posted that expired on February 23, 2024. We are waiting for the candidate list from the State Board of Elections.
- The Deputy position is currently posted on the Department of Budget and Management's website and will expire on March 1, 2024.
- The Election Day Support Staff positions have been posted on the county's website and will expire on March 6, 2024.

Election Operations

- The CMOS battery replacements have been completed on all 292 Poll Books.
- The inventory audit of all state-owned equipment is complete.
- We are continuing our normal equipment maintenance/charging cycle
- We met with Havre de Grace to discuss the level of assistance we can give them for their municipal election on May 7, 2024.

Election Judges:

- Emailed the Winter 2024 Newsletter to all judges.
- The election judge manuals were received from the printer for the judge training classes.
- Recorded voice-overs for Provisional Codes and Chapters 1-4 training videos.
- Emails have been sent to all the judges to schedule their training classes.
- We continue to call judges without emails to schedule their training.
- Practiced and finalized the voting judge training.
- Training classes have begun for the Voting Judges.

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- Sent Early Voting availability email to all judges and are in the beginning stages of creating the schedule.
- Prepared and sent email reminders with tax forms to judges for training.
- Began entering Judge history into MD Voters.
- Current number of judges hired:
 - Required 814
 - Hired 856

Voter Registration

January

- List Maintenance
 - Social Security verifications – 1
 - Inactivated – 458
- DHMH (Deceased) list through the Maryland Department of Health – 165
- AOC List (Felons) – 5
- ERIC Reports
 - NCOA – 3,522
 - Cross State – 325
 - In State – 829
- Address Change Postcards – 1,491
- Cancelled for Non-citizenship – 0
- Volume from Electronic Voter Registration Applications (EVRAs) – 6,169
 - Voter Registration Applications – 4,673
 - Mail-in Ballot Applications – 1,496

Current as of 2/23/24

We continue to receive documents from the Jury Commissioner weekly. We just received our current DHMH list and processed our AOC list. Also, we are researching and working on two new potential duplicate reports to satisfy OLA requirements and we are sending out Underage Voter Correspondence to ineligible voters for this election cycle due to age.

Mail-in Ballots

MIB requests processed as of 02/22/2024:

2024 Presidential Primary

19,382 total: 16,974 permanent & 2,408 non-permanent

- 10,099 Democratic
- 6,437 Republican

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2024 Presidential General

19,325 total: 16,975 permanent & 2,350 non-permanent

- 10,082 Democratic
- 6,362 Republican
- 2,686 Unaffiliated
- 78 Libertarian
- 2 No Labels
- 115 Other

Legislation

- **HB0585 (SB0480): Protecting Election Officials Act 2024**, would make threatening “harm” to an election official a misdemeanor punishable by up to three years in prison or a fine up to \$2500. “Election official” includes a member of the local board, an election judge, and “immediate family” members. “Immediate family” is defined as a parent, a spouse, and a child. “Harm” includes serious injury or emotional distress. This bill is sponsored by the governor’s office, several Delegates and Senators. During the hearing on 2/21/24 Senator Kagan requested that this be emergency legislation and to be passed before the primary.
- **SB417 (HB449): Election Administration- State Administrator, Local Boards, and Election Directors**, Requiring the State Board of Elections to evaluate the performance of the State Administrator of Elections; requiring the State Administrator to provide a performance evaluation of the election director of each local board of elections to the local board; requiring each local board to confer with the State Administrator in appointing an election director, maintain a warehouse, and provide for early voting center expenses; requiring, rather than authorizing, election directors to take certain actions; etc. This is supported by the State Board of Elections.
- **SB0099 (HB0257) Election Law- Affiliating with a Party and Voting- Unaffiliated Voters**, authorizing unaffiliated voters to request to affiliate with a political party at an early voting center during a primary election and vote a provisional ballot for the voter's preferred political party.
- **SB0495 Election Law-Petitions and Ballot Questions-Plain Language Requirement**, requiring that a certain statement included on the signature page of a petition seeking to place a question on the ballot and a certain statement about the purpose of a question on the ballot be written in plain language reasonably calculated to be understood by an individual who has attained not higher than a grade 6 level of reading comprehension.

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- **SB0824 (HB1489) Election Law- Absentee Ballot Application-Sending to Eligible Voter Before Primary Elections**, requiring each local board of elections to send the absentee ballot application approved by the State Board of Elections to each eligible voter at least 60 days before each statewide primary election, unless the voter has permanent absentee ballot status.

Upcoming Events:

- February 29th - Meeting with the transportation company
- March 7th – Provisional training with SBE
- March 7th – MAEO Voter Registration committee meeting
- March 15th – Meeting with the Office of the State Prosecutor’s Office
- March 21st – State Board meeting

Precinct Voter Counts Report

Precinct	Precinct : All		Status : Active		Inactive		Status Reason: All		Split : All		OTHERS
	TOTAL	DEM	REP	NLM	LIB	UNA					
PRECINCT 01001	1623	360	859	0	12	374	18				
PRECINCT 01002	2609	998	936	0	18	609	48				
PRECINCT 01003	5411	1876	2045	0	31	1406	53				
PRECINCT 01004	4581	1357	2122	0	17	1050	35				
PRECINCT 01005	4853	1740	1767	0	42	1246	58				
PRECINCT 01006	2442	797	991	0	21	583	50				
PRECINCT 01007	4888	1644	2042	0	29	1138	35				
PRECINCT 01008	2009	653	785	0	8	555	8				
PRECINCT 01009	510	138	230	0	5	127	10				
PRECINCT 01010	1469	611	429	0	12	398	19				
PRECINCT 01011	2440	902	910	0	23	580	25				
PRECINCT 01012	2301	964	772	0	10	526	29				
PRECINCT 01013	3341	1487	954	0	28	832	40				
PRECINCT 01014	4235	2112	987	0	28	1049	59				
PRECINCT 01015	4297	1982	1258	0	30	979	48				
PRECINCT 01016	4278	1620	1620	0	32	952	54				
PRECINCT 01017	1930	784	646	0	14	452	34				
PRECINCT 01018	2654	1150	826	0	16	628	34				
PRECINCT 01019	3635	2069	569	0	24	885	88				
PRECINCT 01020	3619	2181	504	0	11	835	88				
PRECINCT 01021	5779	3089	1212	0	35	1359	84				
PRECINCT 01022	2120	1044	502	0	12	525	37				
PRECINCT 02001	3192	787	1636	0	30	704	35				
PRECINCT 02002	394	116	185	0	6	82	5				
PRECINCT 02003	53	19	23	0	0	11	0				
PRECINCT 02004	199	59	84	0	5	45	6				
PRECINCT 02005	1888	997	377	0	13	480	21				
PRECINCT 02006	3962	1654	1276	0	28	953	51				
PRECINCT 02007	5653	2677	1399	0	53	1402	122				
PRECINCT 02008	2438	1108	523	1	21	726	59				
PRECINCT 02009	1091	394	283	0	16	386	12				
PRECINCT 02010	2047	862	654	0	21	482	28				
PRECINCT 03001	5814	1213	3253	0	49	1241	58				

MDVOTERS * = Former Precinct/Split

Precinct Voter Counts Report

Precinct : All Status : Active Inactive Status Reason: All Split : All

	TOTAL	DEM	REP	NLM	LTB	UNA	OTHERS
PRECINCT 03002	3119	744	1659	0	17	672	27
PRECINCT 03003	3573	987	1762	0	12	781	31
PRECINCT 03004	3825	906	2124	0	28	752	15
PRECINCT 03005	3300	903	1568	0	18	784	27
PRECINCT 03006	6418	1770	3070	0	44	1483	51
PRECINCT 03007	6574	1617	3303	0	44	1569	41
PRECINCT 03008	2860	708	1507	0	14	611	20
PRECINCT 03009	7514	1910	3880	0	47	1608	69
PRECINCT 03010	2624	721	1249	0	16	609	29
PRECINCT 03011	5520	1767	2383	0	39	1263	68
PRECINCT 03012	643	182	307	1	9	135	9
PRECINCT 03013	5709	1795	2448	0	44	1348	74
PRECINCT 03014	3107	869	1434	0	16	766	22
PRECINCT 03015	2609	812	1194	0	8	581	14
PRECINCT 03016	5138	1586	2214	0	29	1256	53
PRECINCT 03017	3345	955	1519	0	30	819	22
PRECINCT 04001	2766	497	1692	0	15	541	21
PRECINCT 04002	2218	478	1264	0	10	445	21
PRECINCT 04003	3224	607	1957	0	18	621	21
PRECINCT 04004	3023	677	1673	0	19	613	41
PRECINCT 04005	2178	509	1177	0	13	462	17
PRECINCT 04006	4068	976	2200	0	26	818	48
PRECINCT 04007	696	184	372	0	2	133	5
PRECINCT 05001	5548	1016	3419	0	36	1026	51
PRECINCT 05002	2806	522	1642	0	19	586	37
PRECINCT 05003	1678	358	917	0	12	368	23
PRECINCT 06001	275	89	124	0	4	54	4
PRECINCT 06002	2672	941	962	0	22	719	28
PRECINCT 06003	765	331	222	0	4	201	7
PRECINCT 06004	5321	2057	1798	0	17	1376	73
PRECINCT 06005	4756	1974	1395	0	37	1244	106

Grand Total 205627 68892 85094 2 1369 47844 2426