

Minutes
City of Virginia Beach
Electoral Board
Meeting of November 7, 2018

The Virginia Beach Electoral Board Meeting was called to order by D.A. Ablowich, Chairman at 9:00 AM, Wednesday, November 7, 2018 with other Electoral Board members present: Lauralee Grim, Vice-Chairman, and Tim Barrow, Secretary. Also present was Donna Patterson, Director of Elections/General Registrar. These minutes constitute the account of proceedings required by the Code of Virginia §24.2-107 and are prepared in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order 11th Edition.

The purpose of this meeting is the canvass of the vote in the November 6, 2018 General and Special Elections in accordance with the Code of Virginia §24.2-671.

The following observers were present: None

The canvass was recessed at 9:01 AM for the purpose of beginning the provisional ballot processing meeting.

The provisional ballot processing portion of the canvass was reconvened at 9:10 AM for the purpose of opening the precinct 1A Envelopes containing the provisional ballots so that investigations of the log sheets that set forth the reasons for casting the provisional ballots could begin. A. Ablowich, L. Grim and T. Barrow, Virginia Beach Electoral Board; D. Patterson, Director of Elections/General Registrar; Deputy Registrar Christine Lewis and Senior Registrar Shirley Stanton, Registrar staff members, and Pam Walizer and others of the Circuit Court staff were present. The following authorized representatives were present: Dennis Free, Republican 2nd District Chairman, David Nygaard, candidate for city council.

A. Ablowich, Chair, explained to the observers the general process to be followed during the initial phase of the provisional ballot meeting by hearing those citizens who attended the meeting their reasons for offering a provisional ballot:

C. Smith, Seatack Precinct (0005)

T. Jones, Chesapeake Beach Precinct (0037)

R. Sasson, Hillcrest Precinct (0087)

At 9:25 AM the Board continued the opening the 1A Envelopes to investigate the reasons for voting the provisional ballots. At 12:28 PM it had been determined that 890 provisional ballots, including 61 ID Only ballot, had been submitted. Research of the acceptability of each was begun. This portion of the provisional ballot meeting concluded.

The provisional ballot meeting was recessed until such time as the research on each individual provisional vote offered was completed.

The canvass reconvened at 12:52 PM to canvass the votes cast at each precinct. The following observers present: D. Free and Jill Eyler, Republican Party; D. Nygaard, city

Minutes - Electoral Board Meeting of November 7, 2018

council candidate and Max Shopiro, Dan Rodgers, and Marcus Calabrese representing D. Nygaard; and Andy Fox, reporter. A. Ablowich, Chair, explained to the observers the general process to be followed during this portion of the canvass.

At 12:55 PM the following canvass officials were sworn in: Patrick Thomas, Mary Ann Thomas, Gwen Holmes, Mechelle Smith, Joseph Bernard, and Gwen Mulholland. Other canvass team members from the office of the General Registrar were: Christina White, Annick Koumal, and Stephanie Wiggins

Three teams conducting the canvass were: Team #1: Al Ablowich, Christina White, Pat Thomas and Mechelle Smith; Team #2, Lauralee Grim, Stephanie Wiggins, Gwen Mulholland, and Joe Bernard Team #3: Tim Barrow, Annick Koumal, Mary Ann Thomas and Gwen Holmes. The three teams then began to canvass the results of the 100 Virginia Beach precincts with the assistance of Pam Walizer and other staff members of the Clerk of the Circuit Court.

Observers Free, Eyler and Fox departed the canvass shortly after the three teams began their work. Observers representing city council candidate Nygaard remained to observe the work of the three teams.

At 5:40 PM Wednesday, November 7, the teams working with the Electoral Board on the canvass of the 100 precincts, such work now having been completed, were dismissed with thanks and appreciation. The canvass observers departed.

The Electoral Board and Director of Elections/General Registrar continued the meeting with a general discussion of various elections issues. At 6:20 PM the canvass was recessed until 9:00 AM Thursday, November 8, 2017, to canvass the Central Absentee Precinct.

The canvass reconvened at 9:12 AM Thursday, November 8, 2017 with the Electoral Board, Director of Elections/General Registrar, and Assistant Registrar Laura Kane, General Registrar staff, the CAP Chief and Assistant Chief officers of election, and members of the Circuit Court staff present to review the Central Absentee Precinct (CAP) election material. The following observers were present: D. Nygaard, D. Rodgers.

Canvass of the CAP was completed at 10:45 AM, and the two observers departed.

The canvass continued with Electoral Board members and D. Patterson, Director of Elections/General Registrar to discuss other items of business as proposed in the agenda.

Specific Election Issues

Status of provisional ballot research was discussed, and with the recognition of the large amount of work to be done, it was determined that the canvass should be reconvened at noon Friday for its completion.

There was a discussion of the federal requirements for the type of ID to be provided for a first time voter who registered on line and voted by mail. The discussion was initiated because an out of state driver's license was submitted to satisfy the requirement specified in the notice to the voter. This discussion centered on the notice provided to such voters, Form Number HAVA-1, rev. 09/2014. This notice states that a

Minutes - Electoral Board Meeting of November 7, 2018

current and valid photo identification is acceptable. Other references used in the discussion were ELECT's HAVA Provisional Voter Notice (HAVA-5, rev. 04/18); Code of Virginia §24.2-653; SBE Help America Vote Act of 2002 Virginia State Plan – 2012 adopted 03/20/2012; 52 USC §21083; and 42 USC §15481. No action was taken as a result of the discussion.

Campaign signs at the city's facilities used as polling locations will have to be addressed following this election to ensure uniformity in permitting candidates' signs near the facilities entrance.

There was a discussion pertaining to extension of the no campaigning area around curbside voting area. It was observed during the Board's visit to polling locations that the signs marking the handicapped and curbside parking were obscured by candidates' signs. Additionally, in some polling locations, the placement of the signs restricted the movement of election officials when providing the curbside voting service.

At 1:30 PM, Thursday, November 8, the canvass was recessed until 12:00 noon Friday, November 9, 2018.

The canvass reconvened at 12:15 PM Friday, November 9, 2018 with the following present: Electoral Board; Director of Elections/General Registrar; S, Stanton and C. Lewis, registrar staff; P. Walizer, clerk of the court staff. This meeting was the continuation of the provisional ballot meeting, and was to determine the acceptability of each provisional ballot offered following the research of each ballot. The following observers were present: D. Nygaard, candidate for city council, and Jeanette (Tony) Hedrick, representing John Moss, candidate for city council.

Each precinct Envelope 1A was opened and the eligibility for counting the enclosed provisional ballot was determined. Each outside envelope B was marked to indicate accept or reject. Each accepted Envelope B was opened and the ballot set aside for subsequent counting.

A brief recesses was taken between 1:35 PM to 2:05 PM..

This processing was completed at 6:35 PM. A DS 200 optical scan tabulator was used to tabulate all accepted ballots. Tabulation was completed at 7:20 PM.

Of the total of 883 provisional votes offered on Election Day, 237 were found to be properly registered to vote. This included a total of 58 Photo ID Only provisional ballots offered, of which 19 were determined to be valid as the voter had subsequently presented a copy of an acceptable form of identification.

The names have been recorded in the applicable precinct poll book, their vote counted, and included in the election results. The remaining 646 were found to be disqualified, and therefore deemed ineligible to vote a provisional ballot. These voters will be notified as to why they were not qualified to vote in this Virginia Beach general election. The Statement of Results was prepared and the provisional vote count entered into VERIS. The processing for the provisional ballots was completed at 8:35 PM.

Minutes - Electoral Board Meeting of November 7, 2018

The canvass was recessed until 1:30 PM Tuesday, November 13, 2014. At that time the Board will complete the Abstract of Results and take up other remaining agenda items.

The canvass reconvened at 1:30 PM Tuesday, November 13, 2018 with the following present: Electoral Board and Director of Elections/General Registrar.

White waiting on the printouts of the abstracts, additional items of business as promulgated in the agenda for today's Board meeting were taken up. The minutes of the September 10, 2018 Electoral Board were reviewed. Upon a motion by T. Barrow and properly seconded, the minutes were approved by voice vote.

There was a discussion of polling venue termination procedures, specifically in regard to Redwing (0030) Precinct. It was concluded that some written document should be provided upon the termination of a specific venue used as a polling location to provide a historical record of the action.

T. Barrow led a discussion of General Registrar space allocation and our continual efforts to obtain a firm commitment from the city management to provide the space necessary to ensure secure and efficient voter registration and elections. Because of the most recent November election, there was little apparent activity or progress. Moving the registrar's office prior to the June Primary elections will be difficult. It now appears that the available windows for moving would be either July 2019 or December 2019. D. Patterson will consult with B. Shockley for a status report prior to proceeding further.

On Election Day it became apparent that some voters residing on Back Bay Crescent had not been moved into the new Sandbridge Precinct from Sigma Precinct in the state's database. D. Patterson will follow-up to ensure these voters are located in the correct precinct.

A discussion followed pertaining to absentee ballot processing. It was concluded that pre-processing mail in absentee ballots should begin as early as permitted by law. Receipt and tracking of trays of mail in ballots from the post office should follow best practices, and will require additional investigation.

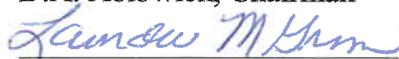
The Abstract of Votes was completed, signed, and copies prepared. This process was concluded at 5:05 PM. D. Patterson will fax copies of the abstracts to ELECT prior to the originals being sent via UPS to ELECT.

The next meeting of the Electoral Board will be held at the call of the Chairman pending the requirement to discuss recount elections.

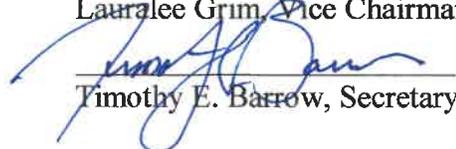
Having completed its work, the board meeting was adjourned at 5:20 PM, Tuesday November 13, 2018.



D.A. Ablowich, Chairman



Lauralee Grim, Vice Chairman



Timothy E. Barrow, Secretary