MINUTES
Fairfax County Electoral Board
May 14, 2026

The Fairfax County Electoral Board (Board) met on Thursday, May 14, 2026, in Conference Room 315 at the Fairfax County Government Center located at 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Chairman Hon. Katherine K. Hanley; Vice Chairman Megan M. Challender, Secretary Kevin R. Pinkney; General Registrar Eric L. Spicer; Deputy Directors Cheryl Jones and Cord Whitehouse; and Clerk to the Electoral Board Beth Dixon Methfessel were present.

Deputy Registrar for Voter Services Bushra Ardalan; Deputy Registrar for Voter Satellite Offices Florence Brown; Deputy Communications and Compliance Specialist Sean Stewart; IT Staff George Panagakos; Deputy Registrar for Absentee Voting Reuben Howard; Election Administration Manager Elena Langworthy; Election Officer Manager Arash Setayeshi; Supply Manager Justin Knoernschild; FOIA/Records/Outreach Manager Ann Hines; Language Accessibility Coordinator Liliana Layton; Susan Burnell; Judy Clardy, Larry Danforth, and Bill Turley (Office of Elections (Office) staff and/or Voting Equipment Team); Doug Friedly and Christine Brim (Fairfax County Republican Committee (FCRC) Election Integrity); Gregory Brandon (Fairfax County Democratic Committee (FCDC) Central Communications); Maggi Luca (League of Women Voters – Fairfax); and Dr. Hia Quach (Election Officer) also attended the meeting in person.

The following individuals participated using the Zoom videoconferencing platform: Finance Manager Mani Merin; IT Staff Todd Strelow; Office staff and/or Voting Equipment Team Nazila Arefi; Antemira Elliott, Gary Klinger, Jerald Taylor, Jean Theonsen and Fily Vilasanta; Arina van Breda (Director, Voter Registration and Voter Information LWV - Fairfax); Andi Bayer (FCRC Election Integrity); Despina Belle-Isle and Michael Passante (FCDC Election Law and Voter Protection); former Fairfax County Election Manager Sean Rogers; and Phyllisa Goldenberg and Laura Jacknin (Fairfax County election officers and/or residents of Fairfax County or neighboring jurisdictions).

Ms. Hanley called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and introduced the Board. Ms. Hanley explained that the meetings will now be videotaped. The link to the recording will be available on the Electoral Board Meeting Minutes webpage within three business days of the meeting. Anyone not wanting their image recorded should hide their video camera.

Mr. Pinkney moved to approve the agenda, and the motion passed by a vote of 3-0.

Mr. Pinkney moved to adopt the Draft Minutes of the Board meetings held on April 9, 2026, and April 22, 2026. The motion passed by a vote of 3-0.

Ms. Challender made a motion to appoint 74 election officers (EO) (34 Democrats, 13 Republicans, and 27 Unaffiliated) for a term ending February 28, 2027. The motion passed by a vote of 3-0.

Under the General Registrar's (GR) report dated May 13, 2026 (found under Board Documents for the May 14, 2026, Electoral Board meeting Electoral Board Meetings| Elections), Mr. Spicer presented the GR's report and updated the voter registration numbers since the last Electoral Board meeting:

**Voter Registration**

| **Registered Voters** | **As of 4/1** | **As of 4/30** | **Change from 4/1** |
|---|---|---|---|
| Active Registered Voters | 743,635 | 747,949 | +4,314 |
| Inactive Registered Voters | 68,909 | 67,249 | -1,660 |
| **Total** | **812,544** | **815,198** | **+2,654** |

| **Active Voter Registration Subtractions (cancellations and transfers out)** | **4/1 to 4/30** | **Year-to-Date 2026 (1/1 to 4/30)** |
|---|---|---|
| Deceased (multiple sources)[1] | 288 | 1,890 |
| Out-of-State (multiple sources)[2] | 341 | 2,814 |
| Declared Non-Citizen (from ELECT) | 49 | 139 |
| Declared Mentally Incapacitated (from Court) | 4 | 16 |
| Felony Conviction (from ELECT) | 24 | 72 |
| Voter Request (paper form from voter) | 58 | 282 |
| Transfer Out to Another Jurisdiction in VA | 2,691 | 6,623 |
| Other Subtractions (administrative error, other) | 4 | 13 |
| **Total Cancellations and Transfers** | **3,459** | **11,849** |

| **Active Voter Registration Additions** | **4/1 to 4/30** | **Year-to-Date 2026 (1/1 to 4/30)** |
|---|---|---|
| New Voter Registrations (multiple sources) | 3,870 | 10,258 |
| Transfer In from Another Jurisdiction in VA | 2,080 | 5,323 |
| Other Additions (reactivated, reinstated, other) | 163 | 640 |
| **Total** | **6,113** | **16,221** |

| **Voter Registration Transactions[3]** ***(includes transactions that result in additions, subtractions, and no change)*** | **4/1 to 4/30** | **Year-to-Date 2026 (1/1 to 4/30)** |
|---|---|---|
| Online DMV (from ELECT) | 19,047 | 69,695 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Online Citizen Portal (from ELECT) | 5,685 | 10,500 |
| Online Third-Party DMV Verified (from ELECT) | 223 | 411 |
| Va. Paper Form Third Party (delivered to the office) | 293 | 1,643 |
| Va. Paper Form In Person (office walk-ins, new citizen ceremonies, at polling locations) | 678 | 848 |
| Va. Paper Form by Mail (delivered to the office) | 236 | 523 |
| Federal Post Card Application (multiple sources) | 88 | 364 |
| National (EAC) Paper Form (delivered to the office) | 169 | 299 |
| Same Day Registration (office or voting locations) | 2,305 | 2,328 |
| Others (voter card, confirmation notice, update form) | 64 | 1,308 |
| Public Assistance, Disability Offices | 0 | 0 |
| Discretionary Agencies (BVS, NTIS, Social Security Administration) | 491 | 2,489 |

[1] Deceased (multiple sources) includes: Bureau of Vital Statistics through ELECT, Report of Death information provided by relative, Death Certificate provided, and General Registrar Report of Death created based on an obituary.
[2] Out-of-State (multiple sources) includes: DMV, State mail, NCOA, and other voter registration update forms.
[3] All categories include: new voter registrations, change of address, change of name, voter cancellations (including out-of-state), and duplicates (no change of data).

Mr. Spicer noted that the 90-day "quiet" period is now in effect, and therefore, the Department of Elections (ELECT) will remove no one from the voter rolls before the August 4, 2026, Primary Elections.

On May 8, the Virginia Supreme Court issued a ruling voiding the April 21, 2026, Special Election, Proposed Constitutional Amendment. As a result, no changes will be made to the current congressional district boundaries. The primary election will be held August 4 as scheduled, and the May 26 filing deadline for the U.S. House of Representatives is still in effect. Ballots and other election materials are being retained as required for elections. Because the state board has not certified the election, the status of the results on the state's website and the Fairfax County Office of Elections will remain "unofficial."

On May 5, 2026, the Board of Supervisors approved the following precinct and polling place changes:

- The polling place for Holmes precinct has been relocated to Bailey's Elementary School, where it will co-locate with Tripps precinct.
- The Franconia Governmental Center, which serves as a voter satellite office, has relocated to its new facility at 7130 Silver Lake Boulevard, Alexandria.

Early voting for the August 4, 2026, Primary Elections will begin on Thursday, June 18 at three locations: Fairfax County Government Center, Mt. Vernon Governmental Center and North County Governmental Center. An additional 13 early voting locations will open on

Saturday, July 25. Weekday hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center and 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. at all other locations.

There will be two Saturdays of early voting, July 25 and August 1, and all locations will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Effective July 1, there will be two Sundays of early voting, as required by new legislation. Fairfax County Government Center, Mt. Vernon Governmental Center and North County Governmental Center will be open on Sunday, July 19 from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. All locations will be open Sunday, July 26 from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. Early voting will be closed for two federal holidays: Friday, June 19 (Juneteenth) and Friday, July 3 (Fourth of July holiday observed). Early voting ends on Saturday, August 1.

Logic and Accuracy testing for the August 4, 2026, Primary Election will be conducted on the following dates:

**Early Voting Satellites – Ballot Scanners and Ballot Marking Devices**
Location: Morrissette Operations Center, 8600-UA Morrissette Dr., Springfield, VA 22152
Starts: Monday, June 8 at 8:00 a.m.
Ends: Wednesday, June 10 or when testing is complete

**Election Day Polling Places – Ballot Scanners and Ballot Marking Devices**
Location: Morrissette Operations Center,8600-UA Morrissette Dr., Springfield, VA 22152
Starts: Monday, July 6 at 8:00 a.m.
Ends: Tuesday, July 14 or when testing is complete

**Absentee Mail – High-Speed Ballot Scanners**
Location: Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Pkwy, Fairfax, VA 22035
Date: Wednesday, June 24 at 9:00 a.m.

Three vacant positions were advertised, including Election Training and Operations Manager; Voter and Candidate Services Manager; and Elections IT Manager.

The Office of Elections was awarded one Clearinghouse "Clearie" Award and three Honorable Mentions from the Election Assistance Commission (EAC) this year. The Clearie Award is for the program that created a centralized Election Day Information Tracker to improve contingency planning and emergency response. Honorable Mentions were awarded for the Chief Open House, the Election Day Airtable base, and the asset tracking Airtable base. More information can be found on the EAC web site: EAC Clearinghouse Award Winners 2025 | U.S. Election Assistance Commission

On April 9, 2026, the Board requested the development of a plan that will support up to the ten languages most frequently spoken in the Fairfax County public schools. Cheryl Jones presented the research and staff recommendation (attached and made a part of this record). After the presentation, Mr. Pinkney moved to adopt the proposed solution as follows: create a sample hard-copy ballot for each selected language; assemble the selected languages in a booklet which voters may review and take with them into a voting booth and return when finished voting, and signs at the polling places to indicate available ballot languages. Mr. Pinkney accepted a friendly amendment by Ms. Challender to run this pilot for the November 2026 election. Mr. Pinkney

accepted a friendly amendment by Ms. Hanley to allow staff to review the data available, determine which languages will be part of the pilot, and present recommendations at the June Board meeting, and to clarify that the way the Office administers the current four languages will not be impacted for the August Primaries and the November election. The motion passed by a vote of 3-0. The Board commended Ms. Layton, Ms. Jones, Ms. Ardalan, Mr. Howard, Mr. Panagakos and the IT Team for the well-coordinated endeavor that produced the ballot language expansion project.

There was no Chairman's report.

Under the Vice Chairman's report, Ms. Challender expressed her disappointment in the decision by the Virginia Supreme Court regarding the April 21 Special Election. She said, "courts should not interfere after votes are counted" as it undermines public trust and the democratic process. She expressed frustration at the timing of the decision, as "the courts easily could have ruled prior to votes being cast," instead of wasting millions of dollars of taxpayer's funds.

Under the Secretary's report, Mr. Pinkney covered three items, 1) He reviewed the draft, inaugural binder of Standard Operating Procedures presented at the April 9, 2026, Board meeting. He thanked the staff for taking the extra time to collect and formalize this information, especially during such a busy election year; 2) With respect to access to polling places on election day, including the Government Center, he acknowledged the distribution by the County Attorney of a First Amendment analysis of a limited-public forum. Mr. Pinkney commented that he plans to ask the County Attorney to refine the analysis to consider the provisions of Va. Code §24.2-310(E), and how this may interact or supplant what the county permits on election day; and 3) Mr. Pinkney expressed concern with ELECT's decision to administer split precincts over 100 voters if the proposed congressional redistricting is reinstated. His understanding is that ELECT can adjust the lines to correct these scrivener's errors.

Under New Business, Mr. Pinkney distributed to the Board members a draft letter to the Department of Justice regarding the investigation of the Office of the Fairfax Commonwealth's Attorney (OFCA) offering preferential treatment to non-citizens (attached and made a part of this record). He moved that the letter be sent to the Department of Justice asking the investigators to include potential violations of both Virginia and federal election laws. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Ms. Challender asked staff to seek guidance from ELECT as to what constitutes a material omission or error on the provisional ballot envelope.

Ms. Hanley thanked Mr. Friedly for providing written comments from the last Board meeting regarding the criteria used to deactivate or rescind the appointment of an election officer. She responded that the information he provided is being reviewed.

Under Public Comments, Ms. Hanley asked those who want to make a comment, either online or in person, to raise their hand to be recognized, and to provide their name and the organization they represent, if any, before giving a statement. She reminded the public that comments are limited to three minutes. The Board may answer certain queries; however, if more research is required, the Board may defer an answer. The Board may also request written

submission of the comment or inquiry. For those present in the room, comments will be made from the podium.

Mr. Brandon asked if the Board received an email from Susan Johnson, [FCDC VAN (Voter Activation Network) Administrator] regarding campaigning in the plaza in front of the Government Center during early voting and on election day.

Ms. Hanley moved that the Board enter a closed session to discuss personnel matters, specifically for the performance review of the General Registrar and election officers, as permitted by Va. Code § 2.2-3711(A)(1). The motion passed by a vote of 3-0, and the Board moved into Closed Session at 5:14 p.m.

At 7:45 p.m. the Board concluded the Closed Session. Chairman Hanley read the following statement:

> "In accordance with *Virginia Code* § 2.2-3712(D), I am asking the Secretary of the Electoral Board to conduct a roll call vote to certify that to the best of each member's knowledge that (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act were conducted in the closed meeting and (ii) only such public business as was identified in the motion for the closed meeting, by which the closed meeting was convened, was heard, discussed or considered in the closed meeting of the Electoral Board. That roll call vote shall be recorded and included in the minutes of the Electoral Board."

Secretary Pinkney called for the vote on the above statement:

| | |
|---|---|
| Voting Yes: | Chairman Hanley |
| | Vice Chairman Challender |
| | Secretary Pinkney |

The Board changed the date of the July meeting to Tuesday, July 14.

Mr. Pinkney moved to adjourn. The motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Attachments

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Katherine K. Hanley, Chairman

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Megan M. Challender, Vice Chairman

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Kevin R. Pinkney, Secretary

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