MINUTES
Fairfax County Electoral Board
April 22, 2026

The Fairfax County Electoral Board (Board) met on Wednesday, April 22, 2026, in Conference Room 251 at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, to receive the election materials necessary to canvass the returns and ascertain the results of the Tuesday, April 21, 2026, Special Election, Proposed Constitutional Amendment (April Special Election). Chairman Hon. Katherine K. Hanley, Vice Chairman Megan M. Challender, Secretary Kevin R. Pinkney, Assistant Manager for Early Voting William Turley, and Clerk to the Board Beth Dixon Methfessel were present. In addition, rovers and Office of Elections (Office) staff were present to conduct the Canvass.

Ms. Hanley called the Canvass, subject to recess and reconvening, to order at 10:00 a.m., introduced the Board, and welcomed the Canvass workers. She thanked everyone for their efforts in conducting a successful election. She announced that the provisional ballot meeting, subject to recess and reconvening, will begin at 12:00 p.m. The Electoral Board will go into a Closed/Limited Access Session to consider any voters who might appear to provide any additional information regarding the reason for casting a provisional ballot.

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

Ms. Hanley asked Mr. Turley to provide instructions on conducting the Canvass. Mr. Turley welcomed the seventeen assembled teams. He explained that the canvass procedures include verification of signatures on the statement of results A and B, the machine tapes, the election officer oath, the page oath and evaluation form, and the ballot receipt. The compensation sheet, the voter count worksheet, the closing numbers worksheet, the results worksheet, and the Chief's Notes should be returned and completed. The canvass teams must ensure the accurate completion of the statement of results (SOR) including verifying that all tapes are properly attached in the correct order and that they match the SOR and the ERM (Election Results Management-ElectionWare) reports. No corrections should be made on any precinct document; however, deficiencies should be recorded on the Canvass Checklist. The information from the Canvass Checklist will be entered into the canvass team's administrative tablet. Progress towards completion of the canvass will be reflected on the large flat screen. Once these steps are completed, election administration staff will then review the election documents. Any issues or problems regarding the Canvass should be brought to the Board, and any polling place concerns should be reported to the Clerk. The Chief's Notes will be set aside for Board review.

Staff reported that there will be 3,546 provisional ballots to research and adjudicate.

The Canvass teams recessed for lunch at 12:00 p.m. At 1:00 p.m. the conference room was re-opened, and the Canvass continued.

At 12:00 p.m. the Electoral Board convened the provisional part of the canvass as required by Va. Code § 24.2-653(B) to allow voters casting provisional ballots in the April Special Election to present any information that might prove they are qualified, registered voters in the precinct where they cast their provisional ballot. The authorized representative for

the Fairfax County Republican Committee (FCRC) was Doug Friedly. The authorized representative for the Fairfax County Democratic Committee (FCDC) was Michael Passante.

Ms. Hanley moved that the Board enter a Closed/Limited Access Session for the purpose of considering whether each person who submitted a provisional vote at the election was qualified to do so. Other than appropriate staff and legal counsel of the Electoral Board, attendance at this meeting shall be permitted for the persons whose provisional votes are being considered with their legal counsel, if present, as well as one authorized representative of each political party or independent candidate as specified in §24.2-653.01(B). The motion passed by a vote of 3-0, and the Board moved into Closed/Limited Access Session at 12:15 p.m. There was one provisional voter.

At 12:35 p.m. the Board concluded the Closed/Limited Access Session. Ms. Hanley moved that the Fairfax County Electoral Board certify that in the Closed/Limited Access Session just concluded, the only matters discussed were the qualifications of provisional voters, as permitted by Virginia Code § 24.2-653(B), and as identified in the motion to close the meeting pursuant to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. The motion passed by a vote of 3-0.

Ms. Hanley moved that the Board enter a Closed/Limited Access Session for the purpose of considering whether each person who submitted a provisional vote at the election was qualified to do so. Other than appropriate staff and legal counsel of the Electoral Board, attendance at this meeting shall be permitted for the persons whose provisional votes are being considered with their legal counsel, if present, as well as one authorized representative of each political party or independent candidate as specified in §24.2-653.01(B). The motion passed by a vote of 3-0, and the Board moved into Closed/Limited Access Session at 1:09 p.m. There was one additional provisional voter. There were no authorized representatives.

At 1:31 p.m. the Board concluded the Closed/Limited Access Session. Ms. Hanley moved that the Fairfax County Electoral Board certify that in the Closed/Limited Access Session just concluded, the only matters discussed were the qualifications of provisional voters, as permitted by Virginia Code § 24.2-653(B), and as identified in the motion to close the meeting pursuant to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. The motion passed by a vote of 3-0.

The Canvass of the precinct and early voting satellite offices concluded at 3:25 p.m.

At 3:30 p.m. the Electoral Board recessed the Canvass until Monday, April 27, 2026 at 9:30 a.m. in Conference 315, Fairfax County Government Center, Fairfax. The Board will allow 30 minutes for voters who cast a provisional ballot for the April Special Election to appear in person. The Canvass will resume at 10:00 a.m.

Monday, April 27, 2026
Reconvened Canvass and Provisional Ballot Adjudication Meeting

At 9:30 a.m. the Electoral Board reconvened the provisional part of the canvass as required by Va. Code § 24.2-653(B) to allow voters casting provisional ballots in the April

Special Election to present any information that might prove they are qualified, registered voters in the precinct where they cast their provisional ballot. There were no provisional voters. At 10:00 a.m. the Board closed the part of the meeting that allows provisional voters to appear in person. Ms. Challender moved to adopt the revised agenda. The motion passed by a vote of 3-0.

Ms. Hanley moved that the Board enter a Closed/Limited Access Session for the purpose of considering whether each person who submitted a provisional vote at the election was qualified to do so. Attendance at this meeting shall be permitted for appropriate staff and legal counsel of the Electoral Board, as well as one authorized representative of each political party or independent candidate as specified in §24.2-653.01(B). The motion passed by a vote of 3-0, and the Board moved into Closed/Limited Access Session 10:01 a.m. The representative for the FCRC was Doug Friedly.

At 11:15 a.m. the Board concluded the Closed/Limited Access Session. Ms. Hanley moved that the Fairfax County Electoral Board certify that in the Closed/Limited Access Session just concluded, the only matters discussed were the qualifications of provisional voters, as permitted by Virginia Code § 24.2-653(B), and as identified in the motion to close the meeting pursuant to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. The motion passed by a vote of 3-0.

Ms. Hanley moved that the **3,416** Provisional Ballots entered as qualified on the Provisional Ballot Log for the April Special Election, be accepted and counted for the reasons determined by a majority vote of the Electoral Board. This record shall be retained and incorporated into the Minutes of the Canvass beginning on April 22, 2026. The motion passed by a vote of 3-0.

Ms. Hanley moved that the **130** Provisional Ballots entered as disqualified on the Provisional Ballot Log for the April Special Election, be rejected for the reasons determined by a majority vote of the Electoral Board. This record shall be retained and incorporated into the Minutes of the Canvass beginning on April 22, 2026. The motion passed by a vote of 3-0.

Extraction and scanning of the qualified provisional ballots were conducted in Suite 251. Central Absentee Precinct (CAP) Canvass began at 11:30 a.m. in Suite 251 and was completed at 12:15 p.m.

Of the 3,546 provisional ballots cast, 3,416 were qualified. Of this number, 2,247 were SDR provisionals. Of the 3,546 provisional ballots cast, 96% received a recommendation to be qualified and counted.

Ms. Ardalan reported that a total of 352 ID Confirmation Statements were submitted, 173 in early/absentee voting, and 179 in the precincts on election day. During early voting, 167 Affirmation of Eligibility forms were signed; and 295 on election day for a total of 462.

The 3,416 qualified provisional ballots were extracted and scanned on the ballot scanner. The results were uploaded into ERM after which the Board reviewed 34 ballot images that scanned as undervotes. Twenty-five ballots were marked in such a way that the Board unanimously determined that the intent of the voter was clear, and the 25 ballots were counted.

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The scanning was completed at 5:15 p.m. and a report was generated for the Statement of Results. The Board signed the tapes and reviewed the Statement of Results.

Ms. Hanley moved that the canvass of the April 21, 2026, Special Election, Proposed Constitutional Amendment is complete with the results of the election ascertained as follows: 269,116 voting Yes and 117,075 voting No. The motion passed by a vote of 3-0.

At 5:58 p.m. the Board signed the Abstract. The Abstract, the Election Results Certification Checklist, and a set of voided ballots were sent electronically for review to the Department of Elections. All printer oaths have been received and filed with the Electoral Board minutes and supporting documents.

Mr. Pinkney moved that there being no further business, the April Special Election be concluded. The Canvass was adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

Attachments

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Hon. 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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