MINUTES
Fairfax County Electoral Board
April 10, 2025

The Fairfax County Electoral Board (Board) met on Thursday, April 10, 2025, in Conference Room 315 at the Fairfax County Government Center located at 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Chairman Hon. Katherine K. Hanley; Vice Chairman Kevin R. Pinkney; Secretary Jeffrey K. Shapiro; General Registrar Eric L. Spicer; Deputy Director Cheryl Jones; and Clerk to the Electoral Board Beth Dixon Methfessel were present.

IT Manager Cord Whitehouse; Election Manager Ravi Udeshi; Deputy Registrar for Voter Registration Bushra Ardalan; Deputy Registrar for Voter Satellite Offices Florence Brown; Deputy Communications Specialist Sean Stewart; Election Officer Manager Gretchen Coleman; Training and Operations Manager Sean Rogers; Finance Manager Merin Mani; John Barker, Judy Clardy, Larry Danforth, Ann Hines, Alejandra Malanowski, Jean Thoensen, and Bill Turley (Office of Elections (Office) staff and/or rovers); Gregory Brandon (Fairfax County Democratic Committee (FCDC) Central Communications); Andi Bayer (Fairfax County Republican (FCRC) Election Integrity Task Force); Maggi Luca (League of Women Voters (LWV) – Fairfax); Doug Friedly and Pat O'Brien (members FCRC); and Benjamin Mobley (Fairfax County Election Officer) also attended the meeting in person.

The following individuals participated using the Zoom videoconferencing platform: Human Resources Manager Yoon Choi-Lee; IT Staff George Panagakos, LaTeef Owodunni, and Todd Strelow; Office staff Nazila Arefi, Antemira Elliot, Lisa Hogle, B. Gissell Jimenez, Abigale Peters, Jerald Taylor, and Fily Vilasanta; Megan Challender (FCDC Election Law and Voter Protection); Maria Vorel (FCDC Precinct Operations); Arina van Breda (Director, Voter Registration and Voter Information LWV - Fairfax); Christine Brim (FCRC Election Integrity Task Force); Steve Barch, Mark Beale, Karen Campblin, William Denk, Phyllisa Goldenberg, Peggy Morrison, and Raouf Kheir (Fairfax County rovers and/or 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. Shapiro moved approval of the agenda, and the motion passed by a vote of 3-0.

Mr. Pinkney moved to adopt the Draft Minutes of the Board meeting held on March 13, 2025. Mr. Pinkney's motion passed by a vote of 3-0.

Mr. Shapiro made a motion to appoint 38 election officers (EO) (10 Democrats, 6 Republicans, and 22 Unaffiliated) for a term ending February 28, 2027. Mr. Shapiro's motion passed by a vote of 3-0.

Under the General Registrar's (GR) report dated April 9, 2025 (found under Board Documents for the April 10, 2025, Electoral Board meeting Electoral Board Meetings |

Elections), Mr. Spicer presented the General Registrar's report and updated the voter registration numbers since the last Electoral Board meeting:

Voter Registration

Registered Voters	As of 3/1	As of 4/1	Change from 3/1
Active Registered Voters	762,577	758,472	-4,105
Inactive Registered Voters	37,300	41,973	+4,673
Total	**799,877**	**800,445**	**+568**

Active Voter Registration Subtractions (Cancellations and Transfers Out)	3/1 – 3/31	Year-to-Date 2025 (1/1 to 3/31)
Deceased (multiple sources)[1]	453	1,445
Out-of-State (multiple sources)[2]	509	1,303
Declared Non-Citizen (from ELECT)	64	116
Declared Mentally Incapacitated (from Court)	1	13
Felony Conviction (from ELECT)	15	29
Voter Request (paper form from voter)	31	72
Transfer Out to Another Jurisdiction in VA	1,437	3,753
Other Subtractions (administrative error, other)	6	13
Total Cancellations and Transfers	**2,516**	**6,744**

Active Voter Registration Additions	3/1 – 3/31	Year-to-Date 2025 (1/1 to 3/31)
New Voter Registrations (multiple sources)	2,163	6,258
Transfer In from Another Jurisdiction in VA	976	2,790
Other Additions (reactivated, reinstated, other)	416	1,112
Total	**3,555**	**10,160**

Voter Registration Transactions[3] (includes transactions that result in additions, subtractions, and no change)	3/1 – 3/31	Year-to-Date 2025 (1/1 to 3/31)
Online DMV (from ELECT)	18,828	52,956
Online Citizen Portal (from ELECT)	518	1,465
Online Third-Party DMV Verified (from ELECT)	34	123
Va. Paper Form Third Party (delivered to the office)	374	1,237

Va. Paper Form In-Person (office walk-ins, new citizen ceremonies, at polling locations)	33	60
Va. Paper Form by Mail (delivered to the office)	64	226
Federal Post Card Application (multiple sources)	268	766
National (EAC) Paper Form (delivered to the office)	58	107
Same Day Registration (office or voting locations)	0	0
Others (voter card, confirmation notice, update form)	168	344
Public Assistance, Disability Offices	0	0
Discretionary Agencies (BVS, NTIS, Social Security Administration)	602	1,843

[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).

Ms. Ardalan explained that voter registrations from the DMV hopper that match an existing voter registration record in VERIS 100% are automatically recognized by the system and treated as "administrative duplicate matches." All registrations that do not match 100% are processed. In Fairfax County, there has not been a large batch duplicate glitch from the DMV hopper since 2022.

As of April 3, 2025, the Office has received the following responses to the Confirmation Mailing sent by the Virginia Department of Elections (ELECT) on February 7, 2025:

Moved Out of State	795
Moved Within VA	22
No Change	26
Undeliverable	1,102
Incomplete	12
Total	**1,957**

This is part of a list maintenance process mandated by Virginia Code § 24.2-428 and the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA). ELECT confirmed that a second confirmation mailing is scheduled to be sent on June 25, 2025.

Early voting for the June 2025 Republican and Democratic primary elections will take place at 16 locations, as for past primary elections. They will be open on two Saturdays: June 7 and June 14. There will be no Sunday voting. Early voting will begin on May 2 at the Fairfax County Government Center (8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on weekdays), Mount Vernon

Governmental Center (1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on weekdays), and North County Governmental Center (1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on weekdays). The remaining 13 satellite voting locations will open on Saturday, June 7, and remain open for seven days including two Saturdays (June 7 and June 14) but not Sunday. Mr. Pinkney requested the turnout numbers since the Covid pandemic (post-2021) for the 45 days prior to a primary election and if possible, the record of the check-in times. Mr. Udeshi explained that this information is available and has been used to set or adjust the early voting satellite schedule.

EOs will be assigned to early voting satellite locations in accordance with Code of Virginia requirements regarding party parity. Since this will be a dual-party primary, EOs will be staffed as in general elections. Each location will be assigned a Chief EO representing the Republican Party, an Assistant Chief EO representing the Democratic Party, and an equal number of regular EOs of each major party affiliation. Each satellite will be staffed daily with between six and nine EOs, with the number of EOs varying depending on the location and expected number of voters.

Three bills were signed by the Governor relevant to office operations:

- **HB1735/SB991**: Reduces from 21 to 10 days the number of days during which registration records are closed before primary and general elections.
- **SB1044**: Requires each locality to report to ELECT for each precinct the total number of provisional ballots cast, the number of those provisional ballots determined to be valid by the electoral board, and the results of such valid provisional ballots by voters assigned to such precinct.
- **SB1174**: Adds "referendum" to the description of materials that are prohibited from being distributed within the 40 ft line.

On Thursday, March 20, several office staff and members of the seasonal outreach team attended a naturalization ceremony held in the Board Auditorium at the Fairfax County Government Center. United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) organized the event with sponsorship from the Fairfax County 250th Commission. With help from the League of Women Voters, completed voter registration applications were collected from all 75 new citizens and more than 10 citizens amongst the audience of family and friends. USCIS is interested in organizing more events at the Government Center in the future.

Merin Mani transferred from the Fairfax County Police Department to become the Finance Manager, effective April 5, 2025.

Comprehensive acceptance testing of all 700 DS300 and three DS950 ballot scanners were completed. This included a preliminary logic and accuracy test of each device to confirm the scanners operate correctly and process ballots as expected. Any scanner that did not meet testing standards was returned to the vendor for replacement. In addition to device testing, a full mock election was conducted to serve as an end-to-end test of all election processes involving the new scanners and updated Electionware system.

The lease with KNOWiNK on the current pollbook equipment has been extended, at no extra cost, through the June 2025 election, with the delivery of the new equipment expected in July 2025. Approval by the State Board of Elections of the new ballot marking device is

expected on May 27, 2025, with delivery of the equipment in July. Mr. Pinkney requested a copy of the contract.

Based on the Electoral Board policy enacted at the September 16, 2024, Electoral Board meeting, ELECT cancelled the registration records for 64 individuals between March 1 and March 31, 2025, on the grounds that they were potential non-citizens. Of those 64, four affirmed their citizenship after the cancellation. On April 3, 2025, the General Registrar referred the remaining 60 individuals to the Commonwealth's Attorney and Attorney General.

Under the Chairman's report, Ms. Hanley distributed information about Countywide and Departmental Awards. Mr. Spicer announced the employees from the Office chosen to receive an Outstanding Performance Award (OPA) – Bushra Ardalan, Judith Clardy, Gretchen Coleman, Sean Rogers, Jean Thoensen, Sean Stewart, William Turley, Florence Brown, Gerald Taylor, and Mark Beale. The Board of Supervisors will recognize these individuals at their meeting on May 2, 2025.

There were no reports from the Vice Chairman or Secretary.

There was no Old Business.

Under New Business, Mr. Udeshi presented the Resource Allocation for the June 17, Party Primary Elections (found under Board Documents for the April 10, 2025, Electoral Board meeting Electoral Board Meetings | Elections). The Board discussed reviewing past turnout and check-in times to potentially adjust the early voting satellite schedule for future elections. No action was taken.

Mr. Pinkney asked if ELECT has offered any guidance with respect to the federal Executive Order regarding election integrity. Mr. Spicer responded that no advisory from ELECT has been received. Mr. Pinkney queried the Board about an email received from an individual alleging election interference. Ms. Hanley responded that the email was received from a candidate requesting the Board to examine certain actions taken by a political committee. She explained that the Board has no authority to do so.

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 distributed copies to the Board of an April 5, 2025, New York Times article (found under Board Documents for the April 10, 2025, Electoral Board meeting Electoral Board Meetings | Elections). Mr. Whitehouse explained that there has been no change since his report at the last Board meeting. The County does not utilize funding from the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), nor does it rely on CISA's security alerting system. Mr. Whitehouse will continue to monitor the situation for developments that may affect the County.

Ms. Bayer asked if the political committees were notified of the mock election. Mr. Spicer explained that the mock election was conducted by staff as part of the acceptance testing of the new voting equipment. Mr. Udeshi added that because of the upgrade of the hardware and the Electionware server, the testing only covered the internal configuration of an election to ensure that all processes integrate and function properly. The test did not include the ballot-marking devices.

Ms. Challender asked if the Board has considered reversing the policy on referral of potential non-citizens to the Commonwealth's Attorney and the Attorney General. After discussion by the Board, no action was taken on this request.

Mr. Denk asked how many voting machines failed acceptance testing and what was the cause of the failure. Mr. Udeshi explained that after initial acceptance testing, seven machines did not pass and were returned to the vendor for replacement or repair. A mini-L&A test was then conducted to ensure that 100% of the voting equipment functioned properly.

Mr. Shapiro moved to adjourn. The motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 4:59 p.m.

Attachments

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Hon. Katherine K. Hanley, Chairman

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Kevin R. Pinkney, Vice Chairman

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Jeffrey K. Shapiro, Secretary

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