

MINUTES
Fairfax County Electoral Board
June 24, 2020

The Fairfax County Electoral Board (Board) met on Wednesday, June 24, 2020, in Conference Room 2/3 and 4/5 at the Fairfax County Government Center located at 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, to receive the election materials necessary to canvass the returns and ascertain the results of the Democratic and Republican Party Primary Elections (Primary Elections) held on Tuesday, June 23, 2020. Chairman Stephen M. Hunt; Vice Chairman Bettina Lawton; Secretary Katherine K. Hanley; General Registrar Gary Scott; Election Manager Eric L. Spicer; and Clerk to the Board Beth Dixon Methfessel were in attendance. In addition, Rovers and Office of Elections (Office) staff were present to conduct the Canvass.

The Board unsealed Conference Room 315 containing the election materials. The provisional ballots were given to the General Registrar for research purposes.

Mr. Hunt called the Canvass to order at 9:00 a.m. and introduced the Board. He welcomed and thanked the Canvass workers for their service. He recognized not only the hard work required to conduct a successful election during the ongoing health crisis, but the remaining hard work ahead to canvass the results so the election results can be verified. To comply with social distancing guidelines, he explained that the Canvass will be conducted in both Conference Rooms 2/3 and 4/5. Alexander Russell and Tom Bjerke will supervise the distribution of election materials between the two rooms. Mr. Spicer reminded the Canvass workers that face coverings must be worn at all times but encouraged all Canvass workers to take breaks whenever needed. Any issues or problems regarding the Canvass are to be brought to the Board's attention.

At 12:00 p.m., the Electoral Board convened the provisional part of the canvass as required by Va. Code § 24.2-653 to allow voters casting provisional ballots in the June 23, 2020, Primary Elections 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 and no authorized representatives present. Mr. Hunt recessed the provisional meeting subject to the call of the chair, as permitted by Virginia Code § 24.2-653.

The Canvass teams recessed for lunch at 12:00 p.m. Conference Rooms 2/3 and 4/5 were then locked. At 1:00 p.m. the conference rooms were reopened, and the Canvass resumed.

At 2:45 p.m. the Canvass concluded for all 243 precincts, as well as the Central Absentee Precincts (CAP). Staff reported that there will be **468** provisional ballots to adjudicate, 21 of which were voters who cast provisional ballots because they did not have an acceptable form of photo ID.

At 4:40 p.m. the Electoral Board reconvened the provisional part of the canvass as required by Va. Code § 24.2-653 to allow voters casting provisional ballots in the June 23,

2020, Primary Elections, to present any information that might prove they are qualified, registered voters in the precinct where they cast their provisional ballot. One (1) voter appeared to defend his/her provisional ballot.

Mr. Hunt moved that the Board enter into a Closed 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(B). The motion passed by a vote of 3-0 and the Board moved into Closed Session at 4:40 p.m.

At 4:44 p.m. the Board concluded the Closed Session. Mr. Hunt moved that the Fairfax County Electoral Board certify that in the Closed 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.

At 4:55 p.m. Mr. Hunt recessed the Canvass. The Electoral Board will reconvene the Canvass at approximately 1:00 p.m. on Friday, June 26, 2020.

Friday, June 26, 2020
Reconvened Canvass and Provisional Ballot Meeting

At 1:14 p.m. in Conference Room 315, the Electoral Board reconvened the provisional part of the canvass as required by Va. Code § 24.2-653 to allow voters casting provisional ballots in the June 23, 2020, Primary Elections to present any information that might prove they are qualified, registered voters in the precinct where they cast their provisional ballot. No voters appeared to defend their provisional ballot.

Mr. Hunt moved that the Board enter into a Closed 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(B). The motion passed by a vote of 3-0 and the Board moved into Closed Session at 1:15 p.m. There were no authorized representatives.

At 1:31 p.m. the Board concluded the Closed Session. Mr. Hunt moved that the Fairfax County Electoral Board certify that in the Closed 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.

Mr. Hunt moved that **363** out of the 468 Provisional Ballots entered as recommended on the Master Provisional Ballot Log be **qualified** for the reasons determined by a majority vote of the Electoral Board. The Provisional Ballot Log shall be retained and incorporated into the Minutes of the Canvass for the June 23, 2020, Primary Elections. The motion passed by a vote of 3-0.

Mr. Hunt moved that **105** out of the 468 Provisional Ballots entered as rejected on the Master Provisional Ballot Log be **disqualified** for the reasons determined by a majority vote of the Electoral Board. The Provisional Ballot Log shall be retained and incorporated into the Minutes of the Canvass of the June 23, 2020, Primary Elections. The motion passed by a vote of 3-0.

Reporting by Congressional District as follows:

- 1) 8th Congressional District – 16 qualified, 14 disqualified
- 2) 10th Congressional District – 12 qualified, 8 disqualified
- 3) 11th Congressional District – 335 qualified, 83 disqualified

The Board then opened and scanned the qualified provisional ballots. The Board completed the Statement of Results and signed the Abstracts for the June 23, 2020, Primary Elections. All paperwork was submitted to the Department of Elections on Friday, June 26, 2020.

Mr. Scott reported that approximately 1200 absentee ballots were received after the close of polls on Tuesday, June 23, 2020.

Ms. Lawton moved that there being no further business, the Board conclude the June 23, 2020, Primary Elections. By a vote of 3-0, and without objection, the Board adjourned at 4:29 p.m.

Attachments

Stephen M. Hunt, Chairman

Bettina M. Lawton, Vice Chairman

Katherine K. Hanley, Secretary

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