

MINUTES  
Fairfax County Electoral Board  
October 28, 2020

The Fairfax County Electoral Board (Board) met on Wednesday, October 28, 2020, in Conference Room 315 at the Fairfax County Government Center located at 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Chairman Stephen M. Hunt; Vice Chairman Bettina Lawton; Secretary Katherine K. Hanley; General Registrar Gary Scott; Deputy Registrar Viki Kinsman; Election Manager Eric L. Spicer; Election Officer Manager Ravi Udeshi; Assistant Registrars Cheryl Jones and Pat Ferguson; Supply Manager Kay Garrison; Public Information Officer Brian Worthy; and Clerk to the Board Beth Dixon Methfessel were present.

The following individuals participated through Polycom service: Keith Damon representing the Fairfax County Republican Committee (FCRC); Jack Kiraly, Executive Director of the FCDC; Kristin Cabral and Stephen Spitz also representing the FCDC; Donna Rostant, member of the FCDC; Wayne Knight and Maggi Luca, members of the League of Women Voters (LWV); and Catharine Trauernicht, member of FCRC.

Mr. Hunt called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and introduced the Board. Ms. Lawton moved to approve the agenda, and by a vote of 3-0, the October 28, 2020, meeting agenda was adopted.

Ms. Hanley made a motion to appoint 205 election officers (EOs) (84 Democrats, 100 Independents, and 21 Republicans) for a term ending February 28, 2021. The motion passed by a vote of 3-0.

Under the General Registrar's update, Mr. Scott reported that the voter registration deadline was extended by the courts for two days because a fiber optic cable was cut near Chesterfield County, Virginia, shutting down the statewide voter registration system (VERIS). The rolls closed on October 15, 2020. Almost 270,000 absentee ballots have been mailed out, with 175,000 returned to date. One-third have been returned via the drop-off boxes. Ms. Hanley added that over 160,000 absentee ballots have already been pre-processed.

Approximately 11,000 people per day are voting at the satellites. The hours at the satellite offices will be expanded and will open from 11:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 29 and Friday, October 30.

The Department of Elections did not close the Citizen's Portal for absentee ballots and as a result, the Office of Elections (Office) has received over 1,000 absentee ballot applications. All of these voters will receive a denial letter since they submitted their application after the deadline. Voter registrations will be held in a suspense file for processing after the November elections.

As required by statute, the Office has notified 1,556 absentee voters of omissions on their B envelope [the return envelope for the absentee ballot containing personally identifiable information] and 615 have cured these issues. Ms. Rostant asked what the deadline is for voters

to cure their B envelope omissions. Mr. Scott responded that absentee voters have until 12:00 p.m. on Friday, November 6, 2020.

Chief and Assistant Chief election officers are picking up their election materials using space in the cafeteria of the Fairfax County Government Center. Mr. Spicer and Mr. Udeshi were commended for the quick and efficient process that complied with all social distancing protocols.

The Satellite Absentee Coordinator, Holly Markwalter's last day was October 18, 2020.

Ms. Hanley commented that 275 students from over 30 high schools will be assigned to polling places. The page program was administered entirely on-line.

There being no further business, Ms. Hanley moved to adjourn. The motion carried, and without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 5:11 p.m.

#### Attachments

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Stephen M. Hunt, Chairman

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Bettina M. Lawton, Vice Chairman

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Katherine K. Hanley, Secretary