

MINUTES
Fairfax County Electoral Board
June 19, 2024

The Fairfax County Electoral Board (Board) met on Wednesday, June 19, 2024, 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 Democratic and Republican Party Primary Elections (Party Primaries). Chairman Katherine K. Hanley, Vice Chairman Jeffrey K. Shapiro, Secretary Amb. (ret.) Christopher P. Henzel, Election Manager Ravi Udeshi, 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 to order at 10:02 a.m., introduced the Board, and welcomed the Canvass workers. She thanked everyone for a well-run, successful election. She asked that any issues encountered on election day be brought to the attention of the Board.

Ms. Hanley asked Mr. Udeshi to give instructions on conducting the Canvass. Mr. Udeshi explained to the eighteen assembled teams that the canvass procedures include verification of signatures on the statement of results A and B, the machine tapes, the election officer oath, and the ballot receipt. The compensation sheet, the voter count worksheet, the closing numbers worksheet, and the Chief's Notes must be returned and completed. Even if no signatures are missing, a "missing signature" envelope should be completed for each precinct. 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. Corrections should be made in red. Once these steps are completed, the election documents will be divided by staff to allow for efficient follow-up. 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.

At 12:00 p.m. in Conference Room 8, 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 June 18, 2024, Party Primaries, to present any information that might prove they are qualified, registered voters in the precinct where they cast their provisional ballot. Ms. Hanley also moved that the Board enter a Closed Session to discuss personnel matters, as permitted by Va. Code § 2.2-3711(A)(1), specifically, the complete the annual review of the General Registrar as required by Va. Code § 24.2-109.1. The motion passed by a vote of 3-0, and the Board entered a Closed Session at 12:03 p.m. There were no provisional voters. There were no authorized representatives for any candidate.

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

The provisional voter log was completed and distributed to the chairman of the local political committees at 3:30 p.m.

Staff reported that there will be approximately **400** provisional ballots to adjudicate.

At 2:50 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 Henzel then called the roll for the vote on the above statement:

Voting Yes:	Chairman Hanley
	Vice Chairman Shapiro
	Secretary Henzel

The Precinct Canvass was completed at approximately 3:15 p.m.

An updated agenda was emailed to the Electoral Board Notice List.

- Wednesday, June 19 - Precinct Canvass completed 3:15 p.m.
- Sunday, June 23 – 11:00 a.m. Provisional Ballot Adjudication; CAP Canvass, Conference Rooms 315, 319
- Sunday, June 23 – Completion of Abstracts, Suite 323

At 3:20 p.m. the Electoral Board recessed the Canvass until Sunday, June 23, 2024, at 11:00 a.m.

Sunday, June 23, 2024
Reconvened Canvass and Provisional Ballot Meeting

At approximately 11:02 a.m. the Electoral Board reconvened the Canvass in Conference Room 315/319 as required by Va. Code § 24.2-653 to allow voters casting provisional ballots in the June 18, 2024, Party Primaries 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. There were no authorized representatives for any candidates.

Ms. Hanley moved that the Board enter 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 candidate, as specified in §24.2-653.01(B). The motion passed by a vote of 3-0, and the Board moved into Closed Session at 11:04 a.m.

At 11:52 p.m. the Board concluded the Closed Session. Ms. Hanley 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.

Ms. Hanley moved that the **115** Provisional Ballots entered as **qualified** on the Provisional Ballot Logs for the Republican Party Primary Election held on June 18, 2024, 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 held on June 19, 2024. The motion passed by a vote of 3-0.

Ms. Hanley moved that the **10** Provisional Ballots entered as **disqualified** on the Provisional Ballot Logs for the Republican Party Primary Election held on June 18, 2024, 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 held on June 19, 2024. The motion passed by a vote of 3-0.

Ms. Hanley moved that the **250** Provisional Ballots entered as **qualified** on the Provisional Ballot Logs for the Democratic Party Primary Election held on June 18, 2024, 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 held on June 19, 2024. The motion passed by a vote of 3-0.

Ms. Hanley moved that the **13** Provisional Ballots entered as **disqualified** on the Provisional Ballot Logs for the Democratic Party Primary Election held on June 18, 2024, 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 held on June 19, 2024. The motion passed by a vote of 3-0.

On behalf of the Board, Ms. Hanley commended staff for their exceptional job in improving the accuracy, organization, and clarity of the provisional ballot logs. The enhancements will prove invaluable when the numbers of provisionals will be substantially larger for the November election.

The CAP Canvass began at 11:57 p.m. At 12:50 p.m. the Canvass of the fifteen satellite voter offices plus the Fairfax County Government Center was completed.

Of the 388 provisional ballots cast, 365 were qualified. Of this number, 221 were SDR provisionals, 73 cast in the Republican Party Primary Election, and 148 cast in the Democratic Party Primary Election. Of the 388 provisional ballots cast, 94% received a recommendation to be qualified and counted.

Ms. Ardalan reported that a total of 72 ID Confirmation Statements were submitted, 30 in early/absentee voting, and 42 in the precincts on primary day. Thirteen (13) Affirmation of Eligibility forms were signed in early voting and 36 on primary day.

The 365 qualified provisional ballots were extracted and scanned on the high-speed DS850. The scanning was completed at 1:30 p.m. The results were uploaded into ERM, and a report was generated for the Statement of Results. After ballot extraction and scanning, it was discovered that one ballot included in the qualified Republican Party Primary Election should have been labeled and scanned with the qualified ballots for the Democratic Party Primary Election. Five ballots required hand-counting.

Ms. Hanley moved that the provisional ballots entered as qualified on the Master Provisional Ballot Logs for the Republican Party Primary Election that were accepted and counted be changed to 114 and additionally, the provisional ballots entered as qualified on the Master Provisional Ballot Logs for the Democratic Party Primary Election that were accepted and counted be changed to 251. The disqualified number of ballots did not change. The motion passed by a vote of 3-0.

Once the updated results from the provisional ballot adjudication were uploaded and verified in the ERM system, the Board completed the Statement of Results for the qualified provisional voters for the June 18, 2024, Party Primaries.

At 4:55 p.m. the Board certified the results of the election and signed the Abstracts. At 5:34 p.m. the Abstracts, 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. Henzel moved that there being no further business, the June 18, 2024, Party Primaries be concluded. By a vote of 3-0, and without objection, the Board adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Attachments

Hon. Katherine K. Hanley, Chairman

Jeffrey K. Shapiro, Vice Chairman

Amb. (ret.) Christopher P. Henzel, Secretary