

# Minutes

Talbot County Board of Canvassers  
215 Bay Street  
Easton, MD 21601  
November 10, 2016

## Present:

### Board

Joseph H. Secrist, Chairman (R)  
Walter W. Black (D)  
Richard B. Bulman (R)  
Susan MacKinnon (D)  
John F. Hall (R)

### Staff

Patricia L. Mitchell  
Norman Bauer, Election Technician

### Public

Charles Yonkers  
Walter Johnson

The meeting of the Talbot County Board of Canvassers began at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, November 11, 2016 in Conference Room # One at the County office Building at the address above. All members of the Board of Canvassers were present, such that, necessarily, a quorum existed and at least one member of the Board of Canvassers who is a registered voter of the principal minority party was present.

Mary Ann Shortall, the Clerk of the Court for Talbot County, had administered and recorded the oath of each member of the Board of Canvassers prior to the conduct of the primary election canvass which began April 28, 2106. At the meeting on April 28, 2016, the Board of Canvassers elected Joseph H. Secrist as Chairman of the Board of Canvassers and John F. Hall as Secretary.

## PUBLIC NOTICE OF CANVASS

Patricia L. Mitchell, Election Director noted that public notice of the first absentee canvass was provided and that the notice was provided by posting a notice at the Board office and on the Board's webpage.

## VERIFICATION OF BALLOT SCANNER(S)

Ms. Mitchell presented documents to the Board of Canvassers showing that the ballot scanner being used in the canvass successfully passed Logic and Accuracy Testing. She reported that the memory card created for this canvass was placed in the ballot scanner and

sealed. She provided the Board of Canvassers with the results from the Logic and Accuracy Testing. She further noted the following information from Logic and Accuracy Testing documentation for each ballot scanner being used in the canvass:

Ballot Scanner Serial Number	Seal Number
0314410255	121557

Mr. Bauer verified that the seal on the ballot scanner was intact, and recorded the optical scan ballot scanner's serial number and seal number.

Ballot Scanner Serial Number	Seal Number
0314410255	121557

Mr. Bauer noted that the ballot scanner's serial number and seal number from Logic and Accuracy Testing matched the ballot scanner's serial number and seal number before the canvass began.

The Board of Canvassers confirmed that the count on the ballot scanner was zero. The Board of Canvassers posted one copy of the Zero Report from the ballot scanner(s) on the white board of the conference room. Ms. Mitchell printed a second copy of the Zero Report, which remained attached to the ballot scanner. The Board of Canvassers signed the Zero Report attached to the ballot scanner.

## **CANVASSING**

### Overview of Canvass Process

Ms. Mitchell explained the process to provide information to the Board of Canvassers or challenge a decision of the Board.

### Canvass Participants

The members of the ballot processing, duplicating, and optical scan operating teams are listed below.

Team	Names of Bi-Partisan Ballot Processing Team Members
Team #1	Susan MacKinnon and Richard B. Bulman
Team #2	Walter Black and John Hall
Team #3	Joseph H. Secrist and Patricia L. Mitchell

Team	Names of Bi-Partisan Duplicating Team Members
Team #1	Same as above
Team #2	Same as above
Team #3	Same as above

Team	Names of Ballot Scanner Operating Team Members
Team #1	Patricia L. Mitchell and Norman Bauer

Canvassing of Absentee Ballots

Ms. Mitchell reported that, to preserve the secrecy of the ballot for the remaining canvasses, five absentee ballots of each ballot style were held back for the provisional canvass, and five ballots of each ballot style were held back for the second absentee canvass. Eight hundred seventy-nine envelopes containing absentee ballots were presented for canvassing at this canvass.

One envelope contained no ballot; the authorization form accompanying another ballot was not signed; one voter had died before signing the oath contained on the envelope.

A recurring problem was the failure of the person authorized to sign, on the envelope, the name of the voter followed by his or her own initials. All such envelopes were accepted, since compliance, while imperfect, was deemed sufficient.

Printing Canvass Results

After scanning all accepted absentee ballots, Mr. Bauer locked the ballot scanner and printed an Election Results Report. The Board of Canvassers confirmed that the number of accepted ballots equaled the number of ballots counted by the ballot scanner. The Board of Canvassers signed the Voting Results Report. Ms. Mitchell posted a second copy of the report in the office of the Board of Elections.

**RELEASE OF UNOFFICIAL RESULTS**

Joseph H. Secrist announced the results from the first absentee canvass. He further announced the following statistics from the first absentee canvass:

Absentee 1 Canvas Statistics	Number of Ballots
Total Absentee Ballots Presented at 1 <sup>st</sup> Absentee Canvass	878
Accepted Ballots	876
Rejected Ballots	2

The details of the tally are shown on the document attached hereto as Exhibit A.

**NEXT BOARD OF CANVASSERS' MEETING**

The Board of Canvassers will meet on Wednesday, November 16, at 10:00 a.m. to canvass provisional ballots.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Attest:



Joseph H. Secrist, Chairman



John F. Hall, Secretary

Talbot Cc      November 10, 2015 Minutes  
2016 Presidential General Election

District & Precincts	Envelops Received	Number of Absentee Ballots	Accepted	Rejected	Running Total
1-1	187	187	187		187
1-2	174	174	174	0	361
1-3	47	47	47	0	408
1-5	106	106	106	0	514
2-1	103	102	102	0	616
2-2	17	17	17	0	633
2-3	29	29	29	0	662
3-1	60	60	58	2	722
3-3	41	41	41	0	763
4-1	72	72	72	0	835
5-1	16	16	16	0	<u>851</u>
5-2	<u>27</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>878</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>879</b>	<b>878</b>	<b>876</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>878</b>

EXHIBIT A