

# Minutes

Talbot County Board of Canvassers  
215 Bay Street  
Easton, MD 21601  
*November 18, 2016*

## Present:

### Board

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

### Staff

Teresa Goode, Data Entry Specialist, II  
Norman Bauer, Election Technician

### State Board of Elections

Janet Smith, Manager of Audits, Voter Registration Division  
Cortnee Bryant, State Board of Elections  
Regina Carpenter, State Board of Elections  
Desvin Gabbidon, Regional Manager, Field Support Division,  
State Board of Elections (who joined the meeting at 2:20 p.m.)

The meeting of the Talbot County Board of Canvassers began at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, November 18, 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 a quorum existed (as was so declared by Mr. Secrist), 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 canvas 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

Ms. Goode stated that public notice of the canvassing had been given by posting at the Board Office and on the Board's website.

## VERIFICATION OF BALLOT SCANNER(S)

Mr. Bauer had, on November 10, 2016, presented documents to the Board of Canvassers showing that the ballot scanner being used in the canvass successfully passed Logic and Accuracy Testing. He noted the following information from Logic and Accuracy Testing documentation for each ballot scanner being used in the canvass:

Ballot Scanner Serial Number(s)	Seal Number(s)
0314410255	199191

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

Ballot Scanner Serial Number(s)	Seal Number(s)
0314410255	199191

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.

Mr. Bauer further reported that the public count was zero, and the protected count was 1,320. Additionally, he identified the ballot box seal (199146) and demonstrated that the ballot box was empty. He further identified the top rear main seal (21-7908); the front tape seal (21-8547); the left seal (121700); the right seal (121602); and the bottom seal (121562).

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 on the white board in the conference room where canvassing occurred. Mr. Bauer 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

### Canvass Participants

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

Team	Names of Bi-Partisan Ballot Processing Team Members
Team #1	Joseph H. Secrist (R) and Cortnee Bryant (D)
Team #2	Richard R. Bulman (R) and Susan MacKinnon (D)
Team #3	John F. Hall (R) and Walter W. Black (D)

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

Team #3	Same as Team #3 above
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Team	Names of Ballot Scanner Operating Team Members
Team #1	Norman Bauer and Janet Smith

Canvassing of Absentee Ballots

Ms. Smith reported that, to preserve the secrecy of the ballot, five absentee ballots of each ballot style were held back from the first absentee canvass and will be canvassed during this canvass. Four Hundred Eighty-One absentee ballots were presented for canvassing at this canvass. Ms. Smith explained that some of the absentee ballots had been received by the State Board, where the timeliness of receipt had been verified. She said that the documentation of such timely receipt was at the Board office. Following the scanning of all accepted ballots, it appeared, initially, that there were two envelopes in excess of the number of ballots counted. However, the Board concluded that the extra two envelopes were envelopes that were contained within the envelopes by which the ballots had been mailed.

The Board recessed for lunch at 12:50 p.m. and reconvened at 1:35 p.m. During the recess, Ms. Smith was present to secure the meeting room and ballots.

Printing Canvass Results

After scanning all accepted ballots, Mr. Bauer locked the ballot scanner and printed a Voting Results Report. The Board of Canvassers confirmed that the number of accepted ballots equaled the number of ballots counted by the ballot scanner(s). [The Board of Canvassers signed the Voting Results Report and posted a second copy of the report on the wall in the Board office.

**RELEASE OF UNOFFICIAL RESULTS**

Mr. Secrist announced the following statistics from the second absentee canvass:

Absentee 2 Canvass Statistics	Number of Ballots
Total Ballots Presented at 2 <sup>nd</sup> Absentee Canvass	481
Accepted Absentee Ballots	471
Rejected Absentee Ballots	10

Of the ballots which were rejected, six were not timely mailed, and four did not contain the signature under the required oath.

**NEXT BOARD OF CANVASSERS' MEETING**

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board of Canvassers unanimously set the date and time of the canvassing of provisional ballots as Monday, November 28, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was recessed at 3:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Attest:

  
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Joseph H. Secrist, Chairman

  
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John F. Hall, Secretary