Meeting Minutes Wednesday, November 27, 2024 MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS/BOARD OF CANVASSERS MEETING

In-Person Attendance Board Members:

David A. Naimon, President Amoretta (Amie) M. Hoeber, Secretary

Virtual Attendance Board Members:

Daniel A. Koroma, Vice President Keyna I. Anyiam, Board Member Diane Nash Dillon, Board Member Margie C. Delao, Substitute Member

Virtual Attendance Board Attorney:

Kevin Karpinski

In-Person Staff Attendance:

Boris Brajkovic, Director
Janet Ross, Acting Deputy Director/IT Manager
Laletta Dorsey, Voter Registration Specialist
Michelle Gonda, Vote By Mail Specialist
Anna Johnson, Election Aide II
Lisa Merino-Dean, Administrative Specialist
Aishah Mills-Pherigo, Acting Recruitment Manager
Sandra Prudenti, Voter Services Manager
Gilberto Zelaya, Outreach Coordinator and Public Information Officer

Virtual Staff Attendance:

Mindy Williams, Operations Manager

A video of the meeting may be found on YouTube at the link below:

Virtual November 27, 2024 Certification Board Meeting Audio

Convene Board Meeting (0:30)

Mr. Naimon called the meeting to order and declared a quorum present.

Mr. Brajkovic expressed his gratitude for the hard work of all the Board of Elections staff and their contributions to successful administration of the 2024 Presidential General Election.

Mr. Brajkovic reported that in Montgomery County, 523,824 ballots were cast and counted in the 2024 Presidential General Election. The distribution of the ballots cast was: 156,503 during Early Voting, 175,053 on Election Day, 26,431 Provisional Ballots, and 165,927 returned and canvassed Mail-In Ballots. He reported that following the conclusion of the Canvass, Board of Elections' staff conducted precertification audits as required by the State Board of Elections.

Mr. Naimon extended his thanks to the Board of Elections staff for all of their work.

Ms. Hoeber moved to certify the results from the 2024 Presidential General Election as presented by the Election Director and staff. The motion was seconded by Ms. Anyiam and passed unanimously.

Mr. Naimon reported that 76.64% of eligible Montgomery County voters cast ballots in the 2024 Presidential General Election. Mr. Naimon reported that the certified results included a record number of more than 26,000 Provisional Ballots that were deemed eligible and counted.

Mr. Naimon added that in addition to accepting more than 523,000 ballots to be counted, the Board, in accordance with State Law, rejected more than 2,000 ballots. He indicated he will be working with fellow Board Members and Staff to better communicate with voters about how to make sure their votes will be counted and to have fewer provisional ballots cast to lessen the burden on both voters and staff.

Mr. Naimon pointed out that Montgomery County's number of mail-in ballots was the most of any jurisdiction in the State, and more than 50,000 more mail-in ballots than the next closest jurisdiction. He also thanked Governor Wes Moore and the Maryland General Assembly for enacting legislation in 2023 to provide for early canvassing of mail-in ballots. Canvass began on Tuesday, October 15, 2024, and more than 75,000 mail-in ballots were canvassed before Election Day.

Ms. Hoeber spoke about the hundreds of ballots that were rejected due to not fulfilling the legal requirements, including the absence of a signed oath or being untimely. Ms. Hoeber urges voters to return their mail-in ballots as soon as possible in the future to ensure that they have met all legal requirements and that there is ample time to cure any ballots that do not meet these requirements. Ms. Hoeber added that she will be working to educate voters so that there will be fewer rejected ballots.

Mr. Koroma thanked the staff for all of their hard work as well as all of the volunteers who diligently participated in the election process.

Ms. Anyiam expressed her gratitude for the hard work of the staff and of all of the volunteers who sacrificed their time to serve as Election Workers throughout the election.

Ms. Delao added her thanks to the staff and all Election Workers who put in meticulous work and great contributions towards ensuring that fair and free elections are carried out in Montgomery County.

Ms. Dillon also added her thanks and admiration for everyone who participated in this Election.

The Board President, David A. Naimon, and Board Secretary Amoretta (Amie) M. Hoeber signed the certification documents.

Mr. Naimon adjourned the meeting at 3:30 PM.

Approved by the Board

David A. Naimon Board President 4899-3535-5141, v. 1