MEETING MINUTES MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2025 MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Virtual Attendance Board Members:

David A. Naimon, President
Daniel A. Koroma, Vice President
Amoretta (Amie) M. Hoeber, Secretary
Keyna I. Anyiam, Board Member
Alexander C. Vincent, Board Member
Margie C. Delao, Substitute Member
Lawrence J. Halloran, Substitute Member

Virtual Attendance Board Attorney:

Kevin Karpinski

Staff Attendance:

Boris Brajkovic, Election Director
Philip Jackson, Outreach, Recruitment, and Training Manager
Lisa Merino-Dean, Administrative Specialist
Sandra Prudenti, Voter Services Manager
Mindy Williams, Elections Operations Manager
Gilberto Zelaya, Outreach Coordinator/Public Information Officer

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

October 20, 2025, Audio and Video

Convene Board of Elections Meeting (00:07)

Mr. Naimon called the meeting of the Board of Elections to order at 3:02 P.M. and declared a quorum present, with all board members in attendance.

President's Remarks (00:21)

Mr. Naimon expressed appreciation to Election Director Boris Brajkovic and staff for their efforts in hosting the Open House on October 13, 2025, which drew more than 220 attendees. The event showcased election operations, voter services, mail-in ballot processing, and training facilities. Ms. Hoeber commended staff for the design and functionality of the new Training and Canvass Center (TCC), noting its improved efficiency and appearance. Mr. Naimon echoed the sentiment, recognizing staff's contributions and the successful completion of the facility setup ahead of the 2026 election cycle.

Additions/Changes to the Agenda (3:53)

No additions or changes to the agenda were requested.

Disclosure of Campaign Contributions and Fundraiser Attendance (4:02)

No disclosures were made.

Public Comments (4:17)

Mr. Seth Miller submitted pre-recorded comments concerning No Electioneering signage and his previous experience at a polling place in a private building during the 2024 Primary Election. He urged the Board to ensure that signs are visible and placed at eye level and requested that enforcement of electioneering boundaries be conducted by election officials rather than private security personnel. Mr. Naimon noted that Mr. Miller's concerns had been discussed in March with staff and counsel, and that corrective steps are underway to remind private facilities of electioneering rules. Board members discussed the feasibility of repositioning signs. Mr. Brajkovic noted that elevating signs to eye level presents operational and ADA compliance challenges but confirmed staff would ensure signs are not obscured by foliage and will reinforce placement procedures during Chief Judge training sessions.

Mr. Roy Isenberg, an election judge from Aspen Hill, commended the Open House event for its clarity and transparency in educating the public about the Board's functions and processes. The Board thanked him for his continued service and positive feedback.

Election Director's Report (22:27)

The Election Director's Report can be found at this link.

Mr. Brajkovic summarized his report, noting it was posted publicly on the Board's website. Key highlights included:

- Voter Registration: More than 704,000 registered voters as of the end of September 2025.
- **State Board Update:** Launch of a statewide high school voter registration competition aiming for 90% registration among eligible high school seniors in each high school.
- **Personnel:** Hiring of Kristin Slagle as the Office Services Coordinator for Mail-In Voting and Candidate Filing; recruitment underway for the Voter Education and Training Specialist position.
- **Budget:** Clarified that monthly reports reflect real-time snapshots and include variances due to the timing of the payroll and processing of invoices. Future goals include creating new line items to track recurring expenses, such as community outreach.
- Section Reports:
 - Voter Services: Daily list maintenance and data processing; continuing candidate filing, and supporting outreach events
 - Voting Systems/IT: Testing and recharging of voting equipment batteries as per schedule;
 final integration testing of the Election Resource Management System.
 - Operations: Ongoing shredding of the backlog from prior election cycles to prepare the warehouse for the 2026 election cycle.
 - Outreach and Recruitment: Extensive participation in community events; coordination ongoing with schools and organizations.

• **Open House Recap:** 223 attendees toured facilities and viewed demonstrations of the mail sorter and high-speed ballot scanners.

Mr. Naimon and board members commended staff for the event's success and transparency.

Board Attorney's Report (38:07)

Board attorney, Kevin Karpinski, reported that he, alongside with Mr. Brajkovic and staff, fulfilled a Maryland Public Information Act (MPIA) request for a breakdown of Election Judges who served in the 2024 General Election by position, precinct, and party affiliation. Mr. Karpinski added that all Maryland counties had received the same MPIA request. Mr. Karpinski noted that he continues to work with staff on the finalization of Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) for use of Early Voting Centers in the 2026 election cycle, as well as ongoing review of polling place lease agreements. Mr. Karpinski reported that he and staff have been working with Fitzgerald Auto Mall to place directional signage on Fitzgerald's property to guide voters to the Board of Elections office. He noted that Fitzgerald's General Counsel was cooperative and only requested a memorandum of understanding to formalize the arrangement. Mr. Brajkovic added that staff are planning enhancements of all directional signage and building signs ahead of the 2026 cycle.

Website Update (44:04)

Website Usage Statistics can be found at this link.

Mr. Brajkovic informed the Board that the Board of Elections' website usage continues to reflect normal usage in a non-election year following the 2024 Election Cycle and noted continued efforts to improve accessibility of the Board's website.

Outreach Update (48:48)

The list of outreach events for September and October 2025 can be found at this link.

Dr. Zelaya summarized community engagement activities and confirmed upcoming high school outreach visits and civic events planned for late fall. He also discussed follow-up from National Voter Registration Day and efforts to expand partnerships with local organizations. Mr. Naimon requested that Dr. Zelaya and staff coordinate a countywide outreach effort in support of the State Board of Elections' high school voter registration competition, encouraging participation from Montgomery County schools.

Old Business (56:16)

No old business was discussed.

New Business (56:35)

Board Consideration and Action on a Polling Place Change for Precinct 13-13 (56:39)

Mr. Brajkovic presented staff's recommendation to return the polling place for precinct 13-13 to Highland View Elementary School for the 2026 election cycle, reversing the Board's June 16, 2025, vote. The proposal indicated that previously scheduled construction of Highland View Elementary School has been

delayed by MCPS past the 2026 Election Cycle. Mr. Vincent moved to approve the polling place change for precinct 13-13 to Highland View Elementary School. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hoeber and passed unanimously.

Board Consideration and Action on a Drop Box Location Change for Takoma Park Community Center (1:01:05)

Mr. Brajkovic presented staff's recommendation to relocate, due to the scheduled construction, the Takoma Park Community Center Mail-In Ballot Drop Box to the opposite side of the same facility where the Drop Box had been placed in previous election cycles. The newly proposed location for the Takoma Park Community Center Mail-In Drop Box would be at the entrance to the library and it would have a new address of 101 Philadelphia Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912. Ms. Hoeber moved to approve the change of location of the Takoma Park Community Center Drop Box to the opposite side of the facility. The motion was seconded by Ms. Anyiam and passed unanimously.

Board Consideration and Action on No Electioneering Zones for Early Voting Centers and Election Day Polling Places for the 2026 Election Cycle (1:03:54)

Mr. Brajkovic and Ms. Williams presented proposed updates to the No Electioneering boundaries for the Early Voting Centers for the 2026 election cycle based on site surveys, Drop Box placements, and ADA assessments. Mr. Naimon referenced the Riderwood Village site, noting that the adjusted boundary and signage plan will align with the Board's previously approved indoor electioneering for the senior community center. Mr. Brajkovic added that No Electioneering signage at select drop box locations will be extended to include the drop box in the No Electioneering boundary for the Early Voting Center or Election Day Polling Place. Ms. Anyiam inquired about whether Purple Line construction could affect voter access at nearby polling places. Staff confirmed that there will be a request for crossing guards at Silver Spring International Middle School, and they are monitoring the Purple Line project and will adjust as needed. The full presentation of the 2026 Early Voting Center No Electioneering Boundaries can be found at this link.

Ms. Hoeber moved to approve the staff proposal for Early Voting Center No Electioneering Boundaries. The motion was seconded by Ms. Delao and passed unanimously.

Ms. Hoeber moved to approve the staff proposal for Election Day Polling Place No Electioneering Boundaries, including the changed boundaries. The motion was seconded by Ms. Delao and passed unanimously. The full presentation of the 2026 Election Day Polling Place No Electioneering Boundaries can be found at this link.

Future Action Items (1:35:20)

- Mr. Brajkovic will explore the possibility of adding information to the Board's website on candidates who filed to appear on the 2026 primary ballot.
- Dr. Zelaya and staff will create a plan for coordinating with Montgomery County schools for the State Board of Elections' High School Voter Registration Contest.

Approval of Minutes (1:36:24)

Ms. Hoeber moved to approve the minutes from the Board Meetings on August 4, 2025, and September 8, 2025, as amended. The motion was seconded by Ms. Delao and passed unanimously.

Future Meetings (1:39:26)

All meetings begin at 3:00 P.M. unless otherwise indicated. Dates and times are subject to change.

- Monday, November 17, 2025 (In-Person and Virtual)
 - Meeting will begin at 2:30 P.M. and will first move into a closed executive session. The public meeting is expected to be reopened at approximately 3:15 P.M.
- Monday, December 15, 2025

Adjournment (1:40:39)

Mr. Vincent moved to adjourn the public meeting of the Board of Elections and move into an executive session for a discussion on the future budget, which cannot be discussed in a public meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hoeber and passed unanimously. The public meeting of the Board of Elections was adjourned at 4:43 P.M.

Report on Executive Session

The Montgomery County Board of Elections moved into an executive session at 4:45 P.M., pursuant to §3-305(b)(2), General Provisions Article, for a discussion on the future budget.

The Executive Session was adjourned at 4:58 P.M.

Approved by the Board,

The Board President's signature appears on the original document.

David A. Naimon Board President