

Powhatan County Electoral Board
Meeting Minutes for CANVASS of November 4, 2020 Election
11/4/2020 – 11/6/2020

Present:

Mrs. Karen Alexander, Director of Elections
Ms. Jaime Swemba, Deputy Registrar
Mr. Frank Flanagan, Chairman of the Electoral Board
Mrs. Josephine Goodman, Vice Chair of the Electoral Board
Mrs. Andrea Weber, Secretary of the Electoral Board

Also Present:

Mr. Mike Asip, Chair of the Powhatan Democratic Committee
Ms. Jean Gannon, Representative for the Powhatan Republican Committee
Mr. Charles Bartson, Representative for the Democratic Party for Virginia
Mr. James Spinella, Representative for the Republican Party for Virginia

The Powhatan County Electoral Board Canvass was called to order at 9:24 AM. Vice Chair Goodman moved to close the meeting to the public pursuant to section 24.2-653(B) of the Code of Virginia for the purpose of considering said Provisional Ballots. On the second of Chairman Flannagan, the votes were 3 ayes, 0 nays. No provisional attendees were present.

Said meeting doors were closed and the provisional ballots were discussed in precinct order. The Director of Elections reported 51 provisional ballots had been cast on Election Day. The Provisional ballots (to include Absentee Ballots dropped at the voter precinct) were reviewed. Mr. Spinella joined the meeting at 10:56 am. 30 ballots were accepted; 19 were rejected and 2 ballots required additional research. Chairman Flannagan moved to enter into recess at 11:30 am and the meeting reconvened at 12:03 pm.

The Board reconvened in open session. The doors were opened and observers were invited to return.

Chairman Flanagan moved that the Electoral Board of Powhatan County certify that in the closed session just concluded the only matters discussed were the qualifications of the provisional voters, as directed by Section 24.2-653 of the Code of Virginia, and as identified in the motion to close the meeting pursuant to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.

Vice Chair Goodman provided the second and called the roll:

Chairman Flanagan voted AYE
Vice Chair Goodman voted AYE
Secretary Weber voted AYE

The Board began the Canvass of each precinct's vote. Vice Chair Goodman moved to recess at 11:30 am to resume Canvass at 2:00 pm on November 6th, 2020. Secretary Weber seconded and all voted AYE

The Board reconvened on November 6th, 2020. Chairman Flannagan called the meeting to order at 3:05 pm.

Vice Chair Goodman moved to close the session due to 24.2.653. Secretary Weber seconded. All voted in favor.

Director Alexander presented two ballots that required further research. Director Alexander presented research regarding provisional ballot 402B. The ballot was rejected for count and no further action was required of the Electoral Board. Director Alexander then presented her research for ballot 501E. The ballot was cast without approval of the Precinct Chair. Chairman Flannagan moved to recommend further investigation by the Commonwealth's Attorney pursuant to 24.2-1004. Secretary Weber was directed to draft and deliver a letter requesting investigation by the Commonwealth Attorney to be delivered on November 9th, 2020.

Secretary Weber moved to act on code section 24.2-662. Discussion among Electoral Board, Director of Elections and approved guests commenced. Vice Chair Goodman called for a vote to not enact said action based on the referenced code section. Chairman Flannagan and Vice Chair Goodman voted Aye, Secretary Weber voted Nay.

The Board updated the vote count and Director Alexander prepared the paperwork to certify the election results. The Board signed the paperwork and Secretary Weber sealed the results.

Chairman Flannagan requested a December 2020 meeting to discuss the 2020 election process. Topics to include locations, space, funding, early voting and other topics. Meeting will be set by November 10th.

Vice Chair Goodman asked about the process to prevent Absentee Ballot issues again. Chairman Flannagan said additional training will be provided to the Chiefs regarding provisionals

Vice Chair Goodman moved to adjourn the meeting and close Canvass at 4:16 pm. All voted in favor.



Andrea Weber
Secretary of the Powhatan County Electoral Board