



Cecil County Board of Elections

January 18, 2023

MINUTES

PUBLIC NOTICE OF THE MEETING

Public notice of the Board meeting was provided by displaying the meeting information and agenda on the bulletin board located in lobby of the Cecil County Administration Building, and by posting on the Election agency website and Election agency social media platforms. A copy of the agenda was made available.

Minutes of the Cecil County Board of Elections meeting held on the 18th day of January 2023 in the North East Room on the 1st Floor of the Cecil County Administration Building located at 200 Chesapeake Boulevard in Elkton, Maryland. Public viewing of this meeting was available in person. Board member attendance was in person and by phone, as noted below.

ATTENDEES:	Kelly Sengstock	President
	Nancy Simpvers	Vice President
	Diane Letts	Secretary
	Jennifer Graham	Board Member
	Stephen Stiles	Board Member
	Doug Walker	Director
	Cindy Remmey	Acting Deputy Director
	Bradley Moore, Esq.	Board Counsel

DECLARATION OF QUORUM

The meeting was called to order by President Kelly Sengstock at 3:06 p.m. Quorum was established with all five Board members present in person.

AGENDA

Director presented the attached Agenda.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

President Kelly Sengstock wished all a Happy New Year. She reminded members of the April 30, 2023 ethics filing deadline.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the December 14, 2022 Board meeting were provided to the Board by electronic mail prior to this meeting and a copy was included in the Board folders.

MOTION:	Nancy Simpvers motioned to approve the Minutes of the December 14, 2022 Board meeting.
SECOND:	Diane Letts
ACTION:	Favorable and unanimous, Motion carried

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – January 2023

Board Folders: Agenda, January 18, 2023 Board Meeting
Board Meeting Minutes December 14, 2022
Director's Report, January 2023
Draft Minutes of General Election Canvass
Notice of General Election Manual Audit
Monthly Statistical Report, December 2022
SB-89: Elections—Ballot Questions—Publication of Proposed Laws
MAEO January 2023 Meeting Agenda

Meetings, Trainings, and Important Dates:

December 14, 2022	Board Meeting
December 14, 2022	Delivery of Election Results
December 14, 2022	Certification of Campaign Finance Reports
December 14, 2022	Deadline to challenger GG22
December 15, 2022	Election Directors Meeting
December 19, 2022	State Board Meeting
January 18, 2023	Board Meeting

Upcoming:

January 19, 2023	Election Directors Meeting
January 24, 2023	MAEO Business Meeting (10:00 a.m.)
January 24, 2023	MAEO Holiday Social
February 9, 2023	Manual Audit (10:00 a.m.)
February 27, 2023	Candidate filing for PP2024 begins
March 8, 2023	Completion of Manual Audit Deadline
March 22, 2023	Posting of Manual Audit Deadline
May 14-19, 2023	MAEO Conference
April 11-18, 2024	Presidential Primary Early Voting
April 23, 2024	Presidential Primary Election Day (PP24)
October 24-31, 2024	Presidential General Early Voting
November 5, 2024	Presidential General Election Day (PG24)

GG22 Canvass Minutes

The Director provided Board members draft minutes from the four post-General Election Canvass for their review and asked the Board to convene as the Board of Canvassers when this meeting adjourns to approve them.

Manual Audit

The Manual Audit must be completed within 120 days of Election Day making the deadline March 8, 2023. Staff observed and assisted the Harford County LBE with their manual audit on Monday, January 9, 2023. We are scheduled to conduct our audit of 1,952 total ballots on Thursday, February 9, 2023 (with a snow date of Thursday, February 23). Ballots to be audited include 927 Election Day ballots from precinct 05-04 (North East Elementary School), 268 from the first day of Early Voting at the County Administration Building 181 vote by mail ballots and 576 Provisional ballots accepted-in-full from the post-election Canvass. The required notice of the Manual Audit is attached. President Kelly Sengstock and Board member Stephen Stiles indicated they intend to attend the Manual Audit.

Operational Budget

On Thursday, January 19, the Director is scheduled to discuss the FY24 budget in a meeting with County Executive Hornberger, County Administrator Overbay, County Attorney Scott, Finance Director McCollum and the new Budget Manager, Antonio Prattico.

Election Deputy Director Vacancy

Closed session.

Pending Legislation

Senate Bill 89 would require SBE and LBEs to post the complete text of certain language or enactments relating to certain ballot questions, primarily Constitutional amendments, and county charters, for at least 65 days before the General Election; and would prohibit the questions from appearing on the ballot unless the proposed language on the enactment has been written. The bill has had a first reading in the Senate and been referred to the committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment. The Director believes this bill would have no significant fiscal impact on the LBE. If enacted it would take effect October 1, 2023.

2023 MAEO Membership

The Director has submitted the names of all Board members, learned Counsel, and staff to MAEO for 2023 membership, as well as a request to the County finance office to remit dues payable. MAEO has scheduled a business meeting and holiday social for Tuesday, January 24, 2023. A meeting of the MAEO Legislative Committee has been proposed for that date as well. Election staff has rescheduled the Manual Audit in order to attend the business meeting. The business meeting agenda is attached to the Board materials.

May Board Meeting Date

The May 17, 2023 Board meeting conflicts with the May 14-19 MAEO Conference in Worcester County. The Director suggested the Board may wish to consider holding the meeting on May 10 or 24. President Sengstock suggested meeting after the MAEO Conference might make the most senses and asked Board members to indicate their preference at the February Board meeting.

BOARD COUNSEL'S REPORT

Attorney Bradley Moore reported that there have been no further developments on an allegedly stolen campaign sign. Also, the Chief Judge struck by a voter on Election Day has not sought further counsel.

OLD BUSINESS

- a. Board Counsel Position
 - a. Considered in Closed Session
- b. Deputy Election Director Position
 - a. Considered in Closed Session

NEW BUSINESS

- a. No New Business

QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS

None at this time.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 15, 2023. Board meetings will be available for public viewing in person.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, with a motion to adjourn by Nancy Simpers and a second by Jennifer Graham, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

BOARD OF CANVASSERS

The Board reconvened as the Board of Canvassers. Chair Kelly Sengstock called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

The Acting Deputy Director presented seven Primary Election ballots at arrived during the General Election.

MOTION: To Reject the Primary ballots by Nancy Simpers

SECOND: Stephen Stiles

ACTION: Favorable and unanimous, Motion carried

The Acting Deputy Director presented five not timely General Election ballots.

MOTION: To Reject the Not Timely ballots by Nancy Simpers

SECOND: Diane Letts

ACTION: Favorable and unanimous, Motion carried

There being no further business, with a motion to adjourn by Jennifer Graham and a second by Nancy Simpers, the meeting adjourned at 4:08 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

The closed session convened at 4:10 p.m. to discuss personnel matters The Election Director left the closed session at 4:55 p.m. and returned at 5:17 p.m. The closed session adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Diane Letts, Secretary



Kelly Sengstock, President

Approved this 15th day of February 2023