



Cecil County Board of Elections

January 19, 2022

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 (wall) outside of the Cecil County Board of Elections office located in Suite 1900 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 19th day of January 2022 in the Perryville Room on the 2nd Floor of the Cecil County Administration Building located at 200 Chesapeake Boulevard in Elkton, Maryland. Public viewing of this meeting was available in person and by livestream. Board member attendance was in person and by livestream, as noted below.

ATTENDEES:	Kelly Sengstock	President
	Nancy Simpers	Vice President
	Diane Letts	Secretary
	Jennifer Castellanos-Graham	Board Member (by Livestream)
	Stephen Stiles	Board Member
	Karen Perry	Acting Director
	Nathan Reynolds	Election IT Program Manager
	Cindy Remmey	Election Program Supervisor
	Ruie Marie Lavoie	Guest: Director Baltimore County
ABSENT:	Cameron Brown	Board Counsel

DECLARATION OF QUORUM

The meeting was called to order by President Kelly Sengstock at 3:02 pm. Quorum was established with four (4) Board Members present in person and one (1) by livestream.

AGENDA

The Board reviewed the agenda, Board President Kelly Sengstock requested additions to the agenda under New Business concerning the open director position and a virtual meeting with the new council member.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

President Kelly Sengstock welcomed everyone and wished everyone a Happy New Year. She stated that she was excited to begin another election year.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the December 14, 2021 Board meeting were provided to the Board by electronic mail prior to this meeting and copy was included in the Board folders.

MOTION: Nancy Simperts motioned to approve the Minutes of the December 14, 2021 Board meeting, as written.
SECOND: Diane Letts
ACTION: Favorable and unanimous, Motion carried.

The Minutes of the December 22, 2021 Board meeting were provided to the Board by electronic mail prior to this meeting and copy was included in the Board folders.

MOTION: Nancy Simperts motioned to approve the Minutes of the December 22, 2021 Board meeting, as written.
SECOND: Jennifer Castellanos-Graham
ACTION: Favorable and unanimous, Motion carried.

The Minutes of the December 14, 2021 Closed Board meeting were provided to the Board by electronic mail prior to this meeting and copy was included in the Board folders.

MOTION: Nancy Simperts motioned to approve the Minutes of the December 14, 2021 Board meeting, as written.
SECOND: Diane Letts
ACTION: Favorable and unanimous, Motion carried.

The Minutes of the December 22, 2021 Closed Board meeting were provided to the Board by electronic mail prior to this meeting and copy was included in the Board folders.

MOTION: Nancy Simperts motioned to approve the Minutes of the December 14, 2021 Board meeting, as written.
SECOND: Diane Letts
ACTION: Favorable and unanimous, Motion carried.

DIRECTOR' S REPORT

Prior to the meeting, an electronic version of the Director's Report was delivered to the Board and Board Counsel. An updated copy was provided at this meeting in the Board folders.

Board Folders: Agenda, January 19, 2022 Board Meeting
Board Meeting Minutes, December 14, 2021
Directors' Report, January 2022
Monthly Statistics Report, December 2021
County Bulletins and Registrars – Sent Electronically
Municipal Election Dates 2022
Required Board Attendance Dates

Meetings, Trainings, and Important Dates:

December 15, 2021 County Mandated Defensive Driver Training. Ruie Lavoie and Lynn Meyers attended.
December 15, 2021 State Board Election Judge Manual Workgroup Meeting. Ruie Lavoie attended virtually.
December 16, 2021 iGO Notarizing Online Training. Cindy Rimmey attended.
December 16, 2021 State Director's Meeting. Ruie Lavoie, Nathan Reynolds and Cindy Rimmey attended.

December 16, 2021	State Board Meeting. Ruie Lavoie joined by livestream.
December 20, 2021	MAEO Holiday Social. Ruie Lavoie, Karen Perry, Cindy Remmey, and Nathan Reynolds attended.
December 24, 2021	State and County Offices Closed, Christmas Day Observance
December 28, 2021	Ruie Lavoie's last day as Director of Cecil County
December 31, 2021	State and County Offices Closed, New Year's Day Observance
January 10, 2022	Election Director Recruitment posted.
January 11, 2022	MAEO Mail -in Ballot Committee Meeting, Karen Perry attended.
January 11, 2022	MAEO Legislative Committee Meeting, Karen Perry attended.
January 13, 2022	State Director's Meeting. Karen Perry, Nathan Reynolds, and Cindy Remmey attended virtually.
January 14, 2022	Redistricting Emergency Meeting. Karen Perry attended.
January 17, 2022	Office Closed Martin Luther King Jr. Day
January 18, 2022	MAEO Monthly Meeting. All staff attended virtually.

Scheduled/Upcoming:

January 27, 2022	State Board of Elections Board Meeting.
January 28, 2022	Emergency MAEO meeting Covid & Redistricting issues.
February 14, 2022	North East Municipal Election 7am-7pm
February 15, 2022	MAEO Mail-in Ballot Committee Meeting, Karen Perry to attend.
February 16, 2022	Monthly Election Board Meeting
February 21, 2022	Office Closed, President's Day
February 22, 2022	Candidate Filing Deadline 9 pm

Municipal Election Dates

Included in the Board folders is sheet with the dates of all the Municipal dates for Cecil County. All local Municipalities have responded with the dates of their planned elections.

Required Board Attendance Dates

Included in the Board folders is sheet with the dates of all the required attendance for the Board. Kelly Sengstock reminded the Board that Board meetings should be attended in person and is requesting that all members plan to attend in person for the March meeting and all meetings thereafter. Many important action items will be coming up due to the election. Ms. Sengstock also stated that according to the board by-laws, a request needs to be made to the Board President if virtual attendance is needed. It was also discussed that the by-laws need to be reviewed and possibly updated with new terminology (i.e., video conferencing vs. Livestream).

2022 Gubernatorial Primary Election

Candidate filing began February 23, 2021. To date, twelve (12) candidates have filed for local contests and one candidate withdrew. Candidate information can be found on the Cecil County election website or on the State Board election website. Two more candidates have made appointments to file next week.

Election Office Security

We received an estimate for the work to be completed for the camera install. We are waiting on a timeline for completion from the County IT Department of when the work will begin.

Voter Registration Department

The ERIC Report, Audit, DHMH Report and Jury list were completed and sent to SBE prior to the deadline. Audits done in December by SBE of our county's work came back with no findings. Job well done!

Mail-in Ballot Applications

The applications are scheduled to be mailed to all registered (Democratic and Republican) voters in February of 2022. Voters registered to "other" parties' applications will be mailed after the candidate filing deadline. The election office is reaching out the post office to set up open line of communication with upcoming bulk deliveries and mailings.

Ballot Drop Boxes

The required documents for the approved ten (10) drop boxes has been submitted to the State Board for their review and approval at the January 2022 meeting.

Legislative Session

The 2022 Legislative Session started on January 12, 2022. More information to follow about election related bills. Karen Perry will be sharing a spreadsheet put together by Katie Berry, Carroll County Director, that has all the proposed election related bills for this session, MAEO's stance on the bill and other notes. This will be sent electronically.

Election Judge Recruitment and Training

Election Judge inquiry letters (303) were sent out the first week of January, responses are already being returned. So far, the office has received 75 applications to serve in the 2022 election cycle. Today another mailing of 250 letters went out to previous judges.

Election Judge Manual

We are currently working on Chapters 1-3 of the Election Judge manual. Other chapters will be updated as they are released by the State Board.

Voter Outreach and Education

When requested, we attend meetings and/or conducting volunteer voter registration training. Brenda Ross completed a VRV training on 1/7/2022 in our office.

Office Hours and Work Schedule

As much as possible, the election office remains by appointment only. COVID safety protocols and cleaning continues. When work duties allow, teleworking in shifts continues. Karen Perry has a pre-approved vacation from Thursday, February 4- Monday, February 7, 2022.

BOARD COUNSEL'S REPORT

No report currently.

OLD BUSINESS

None currently

NEW BUSINESS

Open Director Position: Kelly Sengstock report that the open Director position posted on January 10, 202 and will close on January 24, 2022. Once closed Ms. Sengstock will review the applications. The first set of interviews will contain four panelists from around the state. From this set of interviews, the three to four applicants will be picked for a second round of interviews. A second round of smaller interviews will be conducted with members of the board. Ms. Sengstock will keep the Board informed of any updates.

Meeting with Council Member: Kelly Sengstock reported that she has been communicating with the New County Council member, Ms. Culberson. Ms. Culberson has questions about the voting process and elections. A virtual meeting will happen sometime in February with Ms. Sengstock, Ms. Culberson, Karen Perry and Ruie Lavoie to answer her questions.

QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS

Board Vice president, Nancy Simperts asked if the election office still sent volunteers to the college and high schools for voter registration. Karen Perry replied, if allowed (no covid restrictions) we will go to Cecil College for voter outreach. She also stated that a member of the Cecil County Board of Education goes to all the high schools and holds a voter registration drive. There was discussion about sending an Election Judge recruitment flyer to the schools as well.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DISCLOSURES

Jennifer Castellanos-Graham disclosed that she attended the Cecil County Democratic Club meeting at the being of January.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next meeting will be held on February 16, 2022 at 3:00 pm in the Perryville Room on the 2nd floor of the Cecil County Administration Building located at 200 Chesapeake Boulevard in Elkton, Maryland. The meeting will be available for public viewing in person or by live stream.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, with a motion to adjourn by Nancy Simperts and a second by Diane Letts, the meeting was adjourned at 3:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Diane Letts, Secretary



Kelly Sengstock, President

Approved this 16th day of February 2022