

## **Minutes**

Talbot County Board of Elections  
Conference Room 1  
Easton, MD 21601  
*July 17, 2024*

### **Present:**

#### **Board**

Susan MacKinnon	(D)
Denise Lovelady	(R)
Walter Black	(D)
Barbara H. Perry	(D)
Gugy Irving III	(R)

#### **Staff**

Tammy Stafford, Talbot County Election Director  
Donna Hacker, staff member

#### **Board Attorney**

Lyndsey Ryan

#### **Public Attending**

Members of the public were in attendance

The monthly meeting of the Talbot County Board of Elections was held July 17, 2024, in the Conference Room indicated above. Ms. MacKinnon called the meeting to order at 9:46 a.m. and noted that a quorum was present. She welcomed guests and reminded all of Public Comment protocols.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Ms. MacKinnon asked if the Board had any corrections or additions to the minutes of June 20, 2024 and Special Meeting minutes of July 9, 2024. There were none. Ms. Lovelady moved to accept both minutes. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

### **Changes to Agenda**

Ms. MacKinnon asked if there were any changes to the agenda. There were none.

### **Approval of the Agenda**

Ms. MacKinnon asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Ms. Perry moved to accept the agenda. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

### **Public Comments**

Mr. Judy said there had been multiple requests for public records of machine generated reports that had not been answered. Ms. Ryan responded that all PIA requests had been answered except the most recent one that is being worked on. Ms. Stafford said she would look into it. Mr. Judy cited several surveys about voting, voter id and hand counting of ballots. He provided information to Ms. Stafford.

Mr. Harrison said that there should only be paper ballots with citizenship verified and hand counting of ballots. He also asked why we do not have live streaming like other boards.

Mr. Bernard mentioned the need for a flag at meetings. He questioned the process on attending the meeting via Zoom since people must log in and Ms. Stafford must set up computer to allow for participation in the meeting. Ms. Stafford stated that since this is a county facility the request for a flag needs to be submitted to the county council. She stated that live streaming was being looked into. Ms. Stafford said that cell phones could not be used to take pictures in this building but Ms. Ryan clarified that they could be taken in our meeting but not in any other locations of the building.

### **Election Director's Report**

Ms. Stafford provided the Board with a written Director's Report on activities since the last Board meeting. A copy of the report is attached to these minutes. Ms. Stafford provided updated information on personnel, meetings attended, correspondence, budget and other projects.

Under personnel, interviews were concluded on July 2, 2024 for the Election Program Manager II position and an offer has been extended. Ms. Stafford will have the announcement at the board's August meeting.

Under meeting attended, Ms. Stafford virtually attended the July MAEO meeting. She will also attend the International Organization of Government Officials in New Orleans next week.

Under correspondence, she has one PIA request that has just been received that is being worked on.

Under budget, the numbers are not finalized from the county but we are currently under budget this year. Ms. MacKinnon asked for a couple of clarifications on the FY 2024 budget.

Under other projects, 6 people received voter registration training on July 16, 2024. If anyone else needs this training, they should contact Ms. Stafford.

### **Board Attorney's Report**

Ms. Ryan stated that there was one PIA request that is being worked on. She clarified about the upcoming addition to the August agenda of "letters and requests". These need to be to the Board of Elections 14 days prior to the next meeting to be considered. These are in lieu of the individual board emails. These letters and requests should be specific to the Board to address rather than items that should go directly to the office. Ms. Ryan will draft a statement to be put on the website explaining this process.

**Old Business**

- A. **Facility for Election Office** - Nothing to report.
- B. **By-Laws** – Ms. Stafford stated that the State Board of Elections had three new members and are trying to catch up on the By-Laws review.

**New Business**

- A. **MAEO Conference** – This is a required meeting to be held on August 20, 2024 at the Baltimore County Board of Elections. There will be guest speakers but no break-out sessions except for the board attorneys. It can be attended in person or virtually. Three members said they would attend in person. Ms. Stafford will get the details on logging in virtually.

**Disclosures** – None.

**Confirmation of next meeting**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Elections will be on Wednesday, August 21, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.

**Canvass Board Post Election Certification meeting** – At 10:20 a.m. Mr. Black called for a motion to call to order the Board of Canvassers. Ms. MacKinnon so moved, motion was seconded and passed unanimously. At 10:23 a.m. the Board of Canvassers concluded and the Board of Elections resumed its meeting at 10:24 a.m.

**Closed Session** – No closed session was needed.

**Adjournment**

Ms. Black moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

Attested,

Respectfully submitted,



Susan MacKinnon, President



Barbara H. Perry, Secretary

**TALBOT COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS**  
**ELECTION DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

July 17, 2024

**Notice and Distribution of Materials**

Meeting materials were prepared and mailed to Board Members July 9, 2024.

The Agenda for the June meeting was posted on the Board of Elections web page July 9, 2024. The agenda was posted on the office door and in the entrance of the building July 9, 2024.

**Personnel:**

Interviews were conducted July 2, 2024 to fill the Election Program Manager II position.

**Meetings Attended:**

I attended the June and July MAEO meetings.

**Correspondence:**

**Voter Registration Activities:**

**Monthly Statistical Report-** The Report was distributed to board members in the monthly packet. As of July 3, 2024, there were 28, 826 active registered voters in Talbot County and 1, 701 Inactive voters, for a total voter count of 30, 527.

**Voting System Activities:**

Staff is conducting post election maintenance (PEM).

**Candidate Filing:**

Nothing to report.

**Precinct and Polling Issues:**

Staff is reaching out to election judges who served in the primary, as well as, those who did not and new recruits to begin scheduling for the General Election.

A copy of the Election Connection Newsletter was included in your packets.

**Budget:**

A report documenting Board of Elections Expenditures for FY 2024 as of July 9, 2024 was included in the Board packets.

**Other projects:**

Nothing to report at this time.

**Upcoming Meetings/Events:**

MAEO Conference will be a one-day event held at the Baltimore County Board of Elections Office, Tuesday, August 20, 2024.