



VOTER REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS

City of Fairfax

November 4-10, 2020

Electoral Board Meeting Minutes



Brenda F. Cabrera
Director of Elections/General Registrar

Electoral Board
Secretary: **Richard Herrington**
Chairman: **Curtis Chandler**
Vice Chairman: **Lorraine Koury**

November 4, 2020

PRESENT:

Richard Herrington, Secretary; Curtis Chandler, Chairman; Lorraine Koury, Vice Chairman; and Brenda Cabrera, Director of Elections/General Registrar (DE/GR).

CALL TO ORDER:

The Chairman called the election Canvass meeting for the November 3, 2019 Presidential Election to order at 10:07 a.m.

The DE/GR reported her staff was not able to locate an ID Only Provisional Ballot which a precinct had placed in Envelope 1A. The Vice Chairman moved that the DE/GR staff be authorized to open 1A envelopes to find the ID Only Provisional Ballot. The motion was seconded by the Chairman and when the question was called, the motion passed unanimously.

At 10:11 a.m., the Provisional Ballot meeting opened. No person was present to address the Electoral Board and the Provisional meeting was immediately recessed as research was on-going. Ascertainment of the election began following standard practice beginning with Precinct One.

At 10:31 a.m. the Electoral Board and DE/GR were notified by the Fairfax District of the Virginia Health Department that all officers of election, the Electoral Board and DE/GR staff could be tested without charge should they exhibit any COVID-19 symptoms. It was also determined by the DE/GR staff that no ID Only Provisional Ballots had been cast during the election.

At 11:30 a.m., the Canvass stood in recess.

At 11:50 a.m., the Canvass reconvened. It was noted signatures of some officers of election were missing from required documentation and those officers of election would need to expeditiously return to the Office of Elections. The DE/GR assigned the notification action to her staff and officers of election immediately began to appear to affix their signatures where required.

At 1:54 p.m., the Canvass stood in recess for lunch. The Canvass would reconvene at 3:00 p.m.

At 3:08 p.m. the meeting reconvened and work continued. Work on the precincts finished at 4:35 p.m. and the DE/GR reported that research on provisional ballots would not be finished today. It was recommended that the Electoral Board recess until at least Friday, November 6, 2020. Discussion followed and it was the sense of the Electoral Board that to ensure the DE/GR had sufficient time to complete all research, the Canvass could stand in recess until Monday November 9, 2020.



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The Canvass and Provisional Ballot meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m. It will reconvene at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, November 9, 2020.

November 9, 2020

PRESENT:

Richard Herrington, Secretary; Curtis Chandler, Chairman; Lorraine Koury, Vice Chairman; and Brenda Cabrera, Director of Elections/General Registrar (DE/GR).

CALL TO ORDER:

The Chairman called the election Canvass and Provisional Ballot meeting to order at 10:47 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES ELECTORAL BOARD MEETINGS SEPTEMBER 29, 2020 and OCTOBER 28, 2020

The Chairman stated the minutes for the September 29, 2020 and October 28, 2020 Electoral Board meetings required approval.

- The Chairman moved the minutes for the Electoral Board meeting of September 29, 2020, as amended, be approved. The Vice Chairman seconded the motion and when the question was called, the motion passed unanimously.
- The Chairman moved the approval of the minutes for the October 28, 2020 emergency Electoral Board meeting be approved and the Vice Chairman seconded the motion. When the question was called, the motion passed unanimously.

CANVASS AND PROVISIONAL BALLOTS

The DE/GR and the Electoral Board continued the Canvass to verify election results. Research continued related to certain ballots and officers of election provided missing signatures on required documents.

At 11:32 a.m. the Chairman stated, "I move the Canvass be convened in closed session pursuant to § 24.2-653.B of the Code of Virginia to evaluate the eligibility of provisional voters for the purpose of considering whether each person who submitted a provisional ballot at the Election was qualified to do so, and I also move that the DE/GR, as specified in § 24.2-653.B, be allowed to remain in the room during the closed meeting, and that any persons who cast provisional votes and who are present be allowed to enter the room while their qualifications are considered and to present any relevant information on their behalf to the Board." The motion was seconded by the Vice Chairman and when the question was called, the motion passed unanimously.

At 12:49 p.m., the Chairman moved that the provisional ballots meeting of the Electoral Board of the City of Fairfax adjourn and the Electoral Board reconvene in open session. The motion was seconded by the Vice Chairman and passed unanimously.

At 12:50 p.m. the Chairman moved the Electoral Board of the City of Fairfax certify that in closed session



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just concluded the only matters discussed were the qualifications of provisional voters, as directed by § 24.2-653.B of the Code of Virginia, and as identified in the motion to close the meeting pursuant to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, and that the Chairman’s motion be approved in open session. The Vice Chairman seconded the motion. When the question was called, the motion passed unanimously:

Roll Call Vote:

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Vote:</u>
Chairman	Curtis Chandler	<u>Aye</u>
Vice Chairman	Lorraine Koury	<u>Aye</u>
Secretary	Richard L. Herrington	<u>Aye</u>

At 12:52 p.m., the Electoral Board stood in recess for 10 minutes. All provisional ballots, in precinct order, were reviewed and the eligibility of voters to cast provisional ballots was determined.

The Electoral Board voted on the eligibility of 97 provisional ballots:

- The Electoral Board determined 82 provisional ballots were eligible to be counted.
- The Electoral Board determined 15 provisional ballots were not eligible to be counted.

The 82 provisional ballots were cast and the votes tallied. The provisional ballot results were entered into VERIS and the DE/GR began preparation of the necessary abstracts and election documents at 2:35 p.m.

At 2:38 p.m. the election Canvass stood in recess until 4:30 p.m. or such time as the DE/GR could have all documents prepared.

At 4:25 p.m. the DE/GR notified the Electoral Board processing of the required documents was delayed and recommended reconvening the Canvass the morning of Tuesday, November 10, 2020. The Vice Chairman coordinated the scheduling for reconvening the Canvass and the Electoral Board stood in recess until 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, November 10, 2020.

November 10, 2020

PRESENT:

Richard Herrington, Secretary; Curtis Chandler, Chairman; Lorraine Koury, Vice Chairman; and Brenda Cabrera, Director of Elections/General Registrar (DE/GR).

CALL TO ORDER:

The Chairman called the election Canvass to order at 10:37 a.m. The DE/GR presented to the Electoral Board the necessary abstracts of the election for review and signature.

At 11:35 a.m., all election related documents had been reviewed, signed, and sealed.



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There was an issue reported to the Electoral Board by a precinct Chief that required discussion: A voter on Election Day presented identification to an officer of election at the precinct as if to vote, when in actuality the person was trying to determine if the City's voting records properly indicated the person had already voted. When the person was told the records available to the officer of election indicated the person had already voted absentee, the person stated, "You passed the test" and departed. Because of the need by the officer of election to serve other voters that were checking-in, the Chief was not notified of this incident until the person departed the precinct. The officer of election could not remember the name of the person. The Electoral Board considered the possibility of further investigating the incident but realized the futility of pursuing the matter without a name. Even with the name of the person, without an attempt by the person to attempt to vote, there is little that could be done except for having the DE/GR or Electoral Board notify that person that such activity could be considered obstructing or impeding other voters. This incident will be covered in future training of all officers of election.

The Electoral Board discussed delivery of the documents to the Fairfax County Clerk of the Court; the Secretary, as required, coordinated the required delivery all election related documents to the Clerk of the Court.

The Electoral Board commended the DE/GR and her staff for an extraordinarily successful election and efficient use of resources during the unprecedented public health situation now experienced throughout the Nation.

The Secretary will affect delivery of the documents to the Clerk of the Court.

The Canvass adjourned at 11:48 a.m.

Richard L. Herrington, Secretary
City of Fairfax Electoral Board