

INGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF CANVASSERS
MEETING OF AUGUST 8, 2018
INGHAM COUNTY HISTORICAL COURTHOUSE, THIRD FLOOR
MASON, MICHIGAN

CANVASSERS PRESENT: Kathy Prout
Mary Kay Scullion
Joe Groff
Rebecca Bahar-Cook

CANVASSERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Barb Byrum, Ingham County Clerk
Liz Kane, Election/Clerk Coordinator
Lindsey LaForte, Recording Secretary
Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk

Meeting Called to Order

Chairperson Scullion called the August 8, 2018 meeting of the Board of Canvassers to order at 1:00 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Canvasser Prout, supported by Canvasser Groff, to approve the agenda.

Motion carried unanimously.

Chief Probate Judge Richard Garcia presented the Board of Canvassers envelopes for the August 7, 2018 Election to the Board of Canvassers.

Remarks by Clerk Byrum

Clerk Byrum delivered the Oath of Office to Rebecca Bahar-Cook.

Clerk Byrum stated that Ingham County saw over 32% voter turnout, the highest in over a decade, and over 8.5% of those votes were done by Absentee Voter Ballots.

Clerk Byrum requested that the Board of Canvassers be gentle with her staff, as they all left the office at 7:00 a.m., this morning and returned by 10:00 a.m.

Clerk Byrum stated that immediate family members of candidates, such as county commissioner candidates, are not prohibited from serving as a Canvasser. She further stated that Precinct Delegates were not considered "public offices" nor were they canvassed by the Board of Canvassers, and therefore may serve as a Canvasser.

Clerk Byrum stated that the Cities of Mason and East Lansing have requested to be canvassed first, followed by the City of Lansing and Meridian Township.

Clerk Byrum stated that prior to Election Day, Williamstown Township Precinct 1 and City of Williamston Precinct 2 ballots were reprinted on July 3rd due to an error with Precinct Delegates placed on the wrong ballot. She further stated that Delhi Precinct 9 Election Day ballots were printed due to a timing mark defect, which was a printer mistake.

Clerk Byrum stated that Meridian Township continued to have issues, this election. She further stated that Meridian Township Precinct 4 had voter complaints and was very disorganized.

Clerk Byrum stated that the Meridian Township Absent Voter Counting Board also had issues, as the workers did not know how to transfer results or complete the Precinct Delegate booklets. She further stated that there was still a general lack of communication with the Meridian Township Clerk, as he had indicated that they were “just packing things up” at 1:30 a.m., but were the last to bring in their materials at 5:30 a.m.

Clerk Byrum stated that it was Jennifer Shuster’s first election as the City of East Lansing Clerk and she handled it well. She further stated that Clerk Shuster had communicated well and was accessible, and had addressed an issue before the County Clerk was notified of it.

Clerk Byrum stated that Stockbridge Precinct 2 found a ballot under the tabulator at the end of the night, and their ballot count was off by one.

Clerk Byrum stated that Williamstown Township Precinct 2 retabulated their ballots on Election Night without communication, in fact, they may have intentionally not told the County Clerk that they were retabulating.

Approval of Draft Minutes

Chairperson Scullion stated the approval of the January 3, 2018, February 27, 2018, March 14, 2018, March 21, 2018 and March 28, 2018 meeting minutes was tabled.

Canvass of the August 7, 2018 Election

The Board of Canvassers commenced canvassing the August 7, 2018 Election.

Recess

The meeting was recessed at 4:42 p.m.

INGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF CANVASSERS
MEETING OF AUGUST 9, 2018
INGHAM COUNTY HISTORICAL COURTHOUSE, THIRD FLOOR
MASON, MICHIGAN

CANVASSERS PRESENT: Kathy Prout
Mary Kay Scullion
Joe Groff
Rebecca Bahar-Cook

CANVASSERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Liz Noel, Election/Clerk Coordinator
Lindsey LaForte, Recording Secretary
Jen Shuster, City of East Lansing Clerk
Kathryn Gardner, City of East Lansing Deputy Clerk
Chris Swope, City of Lansing Clerk
And Others

Meeting Called to Order

Chairperson Scullion called the meeting of the Board of Canvassers back to order at 9:00 a.m.

Canvass of the August 7, 2018 Election

The Board of Canvassers continued canvassing the August 7, 2018 Election.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that the East Lansing Precinct 5 ballot summary was off by one ballot. The issue was later resolved by Clerk Shuster explaining that one unissued ballot had been spoiled.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that the Chairperson for East Lansing Precinct 15 needed to sign the Poll Book.

East Lansing City Clerk Jen Shuster and East Lansing Deputy City Clerk Kathryn Gardner arrived at 10:34 a.m.

Nick Wicks, East Lansing Precinct 15 Chairperson, arrived at 10:51 a.m. to sign the Poll Book. He promptly departed.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that East Lansing Precinct 2's tabulator seals had been changed, but there were no remarks or signatures indicating why or when the seals were changed. Clerk Shuster signed the Poll Book and indicated that the seals were changed when the tabulator was restarted early on Election Day.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that there were discrepancies in the ballot count and number of voters in the Absent Voter Counting Board (AVCB) summaries for East Lansing Precincts 6 and 7. Clerk Shuster and East Lansing Deputy Clerk Kathryn Gardner explained that the ballot count was off in Precinct 7 because one batch of ballots had been run through the tabulator twice due to an error, and the erroneous batch had been deleted from the results file, but could not be deleted from the ballot count.

Clerk Shuster stated that East Lansing Precinct 6 AVCB was off by one ballot because the envelope was not signed by the voter when it was returned.

Chris Swope, City of Lansing Clerk, arrived at 11:34 p.m.

Clerk Swope left at 12:48 p.m.

Clerk Shuster and Ms. Gardner left at 1:04 p.m.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that the City of Lansing Ward 4, Precinct 34 Poll Book was missing a signature of the person administering the oath. This was later corrected.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that the City of Lansing Ward 4, Precinct 32 Poll Book was missing a signature of the person administering the oath. This was later corrected by the Precinct Chairperson.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that the City of Lansing Ward 4, Precinct 40 Poll Book was missing a check marks under the Election Inspectors Preparation Certificate. This was later corrected by the Precinct Chairperson.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that the City of Lansing Ward 3, Precinct 22 Poll Book was missing a check marks under the Election Inspectors Preparation Certificate. This was later corrected by the Precinct Chairperson.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that the City of Lansing Ward 2, Precinct 16 Poll Book was missing a signature of the person administering the oath. This was later corrected by the Precinct Chairperson.

Guillermo Lopez came to sign City of Lansing Ward 4, Precinct 34 Poll Book at 3:13 p.m. The Board of Canvassers confirmed with Clerk Swope that Mr. Lopez may sign the Poll Book.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that the City of Lansing, Ward 2, Precinct 21 poll book was not properly sealed, and therefore was not canvassed.

Mr. Lopez left at 3:37 p.m.

Recess

The meeting was recessed at 3:53 p.m.

INGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF CANVASSERS
MEETING OF AUGUST 10, 2018
INGHAM COUNTY HISTORICAL COURTHOUSE, THIRD FLOOR
MASON, MICHIGAN

CANVASSERS PRESENT: Kathy Prout
Mary Kay Scullion
Joe Groff
Rebecca Bahar-Cook

CANVASSERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Liz Noel, Election/Clerk Coordinator
Mandy Urquhart, Stockbridge Township Deputy Clerk
And Others

Meeting Called to Order

Chairperson Scullion called the meeting of the Board of Canvassers back to order at 9:01 a.m.

Canvass of the August 7, 2018 Election

The Board of Canvassers continued canvassing the August 7, 2018 Election.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that Stockbridge Township Precinct 2 had a discrepancy in the vote totals and the number of voters. They requested that the precinct workers attend the meeting to explain why there was a discrepancy. It was later determined to be an error in reading the tape, and the write-in votes that were previously not recorded were then recorded.

Mandy Urquhart, Stockbridge Township Deputy Clerk, and election inspectors arrived at approximately 10:00 a.m.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that Meridian Township Precinct 20 had 389 voters and only 388 ballots tabulated. They requested that the precinct workers attend the meeting to explain why there was a discrepancy.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that Meridian Township Precinct 6 had a discrepancy in the number of ballots tabulated. They requested that the precinct workers attend the meeting to explain why there was a discrepancy.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that Meridian Township Precinct 4 had a discrepancy in the number of ballots tabulated. They requested that the precinct workers attend the meeting to explain why there was a discrepancy.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that Meridian Township Precinct 14 was missing a signature of an election inspector who had taken the oath. This was later corrected by the election inspector that had not signed the Poll Book.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that Absent Voter Counting Boards sometimes have many discrepancies in the number of ballots tabulated. They requested that in the future, these discrepancies from the Ballot Summary be explained or clarified in the Remarks section of the Poll Book.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that Meridian Township Precinct 7 had distributed the same ballot style to the first 50 voters, although there were two ballot styles for that precinct. After consultation with the Bureau of Elections and determining that any affected races were not close enough to have been affected by the error, nothing further was needed.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that Meridian Township Precinct 3 was missing a checkmark on the Certificate of Election Inspectors. This was later corrected by the Precinct Chairperson.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that Delhi Township Precinct 2 was missing the Certificate of Election Inspectors and a signature of the person who verified the sealing of the ballot containers. This was later corrected by the Precinct Chairperson.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that Delhi Township Precinct 6 was missing the date on the Oath of Election Inspectors. This was later corrected by the Precinct Chairperson.

Recess

The meeting was recessed at 3:45 p.m.

INGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF CANVASSERS
MEETING OF AUGUST 13, 2018
INGHAM COUNTY HISTORICAL COURTHOUSE, THIRD FLOOR
MASON, MICHIGAN

CANVASSERS PRESENT: Kathy Prout
Mary Kay Scullion
Joe Groff
Rebecca Bahar-Cook

CANVASSERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Liz Noel, Election/Clerk Coordinator
Mandy Urquhart, Stockbridge Township Deputy Clerk
And Others

Meeting Called to Order

Chairperson Scullion called the meeting of the Board of Canvassers back to order at 9:01 a.m.

Canvass of the August 7, 2018 Election

The Board of Canvassers continued canvassing the August 7, 2018 Election.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that Alaiedon Township Precinct 1 was missing a totals tape from the envelope and the Election Inspector Certificate was incomplete. This was later corrected by the Precinct Chairperson.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that Alaiedon Township Precinct 2's Election Inspector Certificate was incomplete. This was later corrected by the Precinct Chairperson.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that Williamstown Township Precinct 2 was missing the List of Voters and Ballot Summary. This was later corrected by the Township Clerk providing the documents.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that White Oak Township Precinct 1 was missing the Election Inspector Certificate and Oath of Election Inspectors. This was later corrected by the Deputy Township Clerk providing the documents.

Approval of Draft Minutes

Moved by Canvasser Groff, supported by Canvasser Bahar-Cook, to approve the minutes.

The minutes were amended as follows:

Moved by Canvasser Groff, supported by Canvasser Prout, to request the replacement of Canvasser Owens.

A Discussion ensued regarding the importance of having four active members of the Board of Canvassers.

Motion failed due to lack of **bipartisan** support.
Abstain: Scullion **Absent:** Owens

Ayes: Prout, Groff **Nays:** None

The Board of Canvassers requested the presence of four canvassers to canvass the August Primary Election.

The Board of Canvassers requested the assistance of two additional people, one from each political party, to help **the Ingham County Board of Canvassers** canvass the November 6, 2018 General Election.

These were considered friendly amendments.

Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Canvasser Groff stated that the Ingham County Ethics Policy had provisions for members of appointed boards that did not attend meetings, without proper notice.

Discussion.

Canvass of the August 7, 2018 Election, continued

Brett Dreyfus, Meridian Township Clerk, and Bob Cwierniewicz, Meridian Township Deputy Clerk, and election inspectors from Precincts 4, 6, and 20 arrived at 1:05 p.m.

The discrepancies in the ballot summaries were explained by the election inspectors and included in the Remarks section of each Poll Book. Meridian Township Precinct 4 had put three ballots aside for duplication on Election Day and had failed to mark that in the Poll Book. Meridian Township Precinct 6 had two ballots that stuck together, so one was spoiled without being attached to a voter. The ballots for Meridian Township Precinct 20 were hand-counted, and determined to not need retabulation.

New Business

Moved by Canvasser Bahar-Cook, supported by Canvasser Groff, to change the meeting time for the Wednesday, August 15, 2018 meeting to 1:00 p.m. and request that the Clerk to reissue the notice of the meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:18 p.m.



BARB BYRUM, INGHAM COUNTY CLERK