

Primary Election – August 20, 2024

CANVASSING BOARD MEETING

Thursday, August 15, 2024

IN ATTENDANCE:

Canvassing Board Members

County Judge Giuseppina Miranda, Chair
Nan H. Rich, County Mayor
Lamar P. Fisher, County Commissioner

SOE Staff

Mary Hall, Chief Deputy Supervisor of Elections
Kevron Aird, Deputy Supervisor of Elections
Other members of the SOE's staff

Also, in Attendance

Devona Reynolds Perez, SOE Counsel
Scott Andron, Canvassing Board Counsel
Ricardo Abraham, Counsel
Members of the Public

MEETING CONVENED:

11:12 A.M.

The meeting was called to order by Judge Giuseppina Miranda at 11:12 a.m. In attendance were Judge Giuseppina Miranda, County Mayor Nan H. Rich, and County Commissioner Lamar P. Fisher.

A motion to approve the minutes from the last Canvassing Board meeting, held on August 7th, with minor corrections was approved by the board.

Chief Deputy Mary Hall presented the following items to the Canvassing Board members:

(146) UOCAVA ballots: These were presented to the board for review and approval. Chief Deputy Hall explained that UOCAVA voters had given up their right to secrecy. These voters have the capability to vote through a computer software and fax it back to the Supervisor of Elections Office. Once received, the ballots are duplicated using a code on each ballot. The board directed Chief Deputy Hall to process the UOCAVA ballots. The ballots were also made available for public inspection.

(18) Vote-by-Mail (VBM) Cure affidavits (Seal # 0826165): These affidavits were presented to the board because voters returned their VBM ballots without signatures. After being notified, the voters provided a VBM Cure Affidavit. The board reviewed the VBM ballot certificates and voted at the end. A motion to accept all 18 VBM ballots with Cure Affidavits was granted by the board.

(6) VBM ballots for election #235: These ballots were processed as voted once the signature was verified, but no ballot was enclosed when opened. These voters had already voted in the system.

Two VBM ballots enclosed inside one voter certificate: According to Florida rules, these ballots will be rejected; however, the voter from the certificate will be considered as having voted.

(2) Voters requested a VBM ballot each: These voters received and returned their VBM ballots, but when the envelope was opened, it contained the 2024 March Election ballot. These ballots will not be counted.

(50) VBM blank ballots: These were presented to the board for review, and the board confirmed that the ballots were blank.

(203) VBM ballots with overvotes: These were presented to the board to confirm that the ballots contain true overvotes in certain races. The board confirmed that the ballots are overvotes and ready to be processed today.

(38) VBM ballots with voter intent: These were presented to the board for review and determination. A motion to accept the VBM ballots and duplicate them as indicated by the board was granted.

Previously reviewed VBM ballots with voter intent: These were duplicated and presented to the Canvassing Board members. Staff had a question about one of the VBM ballots, and the board confirmed the voter's intent. A motion for the duplicated VBM ballots to be processed, since they were reviewed by the staff, was granted by the board.

(215) VBM ballots duplicated by staff: These ballots could not be run through the machine. A motion that all VBM ballots were duplicated correctly and for SOE staff to process the ballots was granted by the board.

A motion was made to recess for 15 minutes and reconvene at 12:45 p.m. After returning, the board agreed to another 15-minute recess and reconvened at 1:05 p.m.

Back in session, the Canvassing Board members were presented with a VBM ballot certificate that was reviewed at the last Canvassing Board meeting. During public inspection, there was a question about whether the daughter had signed the mother's ballot. A motion to approve the ballot and process it, with the determination that it was indeed the mother who signed, was granted by the board.

VBM ballots that were challenged or protested in accordance with F.S. 101.68(2)(c)(4) and 101.5614(4)(a) were presented to the board.

Precinct V021: The board asked staff to request a cure affidavit.

For the record, the Republican Party is not challenging based on F.S. 101.111.

Manually duplicated ballot: This ballot was presented to the board to determine if it was duplicated correctly. The board confirmed that it was duplicated correctly and granted the motion for it to be processed.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Next Canvassing Board meetings will be held on the following dates and time:

- Monday, August 19th at 5:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, August 20th at 6:00 p.m.
- Thursday, August 22nd at 5:00 p.m.

RECESS

With no further business to be conducted, Judge Giuseppina Miranda recessed the Canvassing Board meeting at 1:14 p.m.