

Primary Election – August 18, 2026

CANVASSING BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, August 18, 2026

IN ATTENDANCE:

Canvassing Board Members

County Judge Florence Taylor Barner, Chair
Robert McKinzie, County Vice Mayor
Joe Scott, Supervisor of Elections

SOE Staff

Mary Hall, Chief Deputy Supervisor of Elections
Tiawan McNeal, Director of Voter Services
Kevron Aird, Election Systems Manager
Other members of the SOE's staff

Also, in Attendance

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

MEETING CONVENED:

6:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by Judge Florence Taylor Barner at 6:00 p.m. Present were Judge Florence Taylor Barner, Vice Mayor Robert McKinzie and Supervisor of Elections Joe Scott.

Pledge of Allegiance

A motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting was made and approved by the Canvassing Board members.

Vote-by-Mail Ballot Review

Chief Deputy Mary Hall presented the following Vote-by-Mail (VBM) ballot categories to the Canvassing Board members for review and consideration:

- **48 VBM ballots with voter intent:** The Canvassing Board members reviewed and made a determination on each ballot presented. A motion to process and duplicate the ballots was approved by the Board.
- **92 VBM ballots with overvotes:** A motion determining that all ballots were overvotes and were ready to be tabulated was approved by the Board.

- **16 blank VBM ballots:** A motion determining that all ballots were blank and ready to be tabulated was approved by the Board.
- **4 damaged VBM ballots with overvotes:** A motion determining that three of the four ballots were overvotes and that one ballot required review of voter intent and was moved to the voter intent pile was approved by the Board.
- **2 VBM certificates containing two ballots:** A motion to reject the ballots was approved by the Board.
- **1 VBM ballot certificate with no ballot enclosed:** The matter was brought to the Canvassing Board members' attention for informational purposes only.
- **56 VBM ballots signed by someone other than the voter** (stored in a bag with seal #0391635): Member of the public Rita Regan raised a question regarding whether the ballots were signed by the same person. Response: the ballots were signed by an individual residing in the same household as the voters.
- **12 VBM ballots with signature differences** (stored in a bag with seal #0391636): A motion determining that all ballots had been properly cured and are ready to be processed was approved by the Board.
- **2 VBM ballots without signatures with cure affidavits attached** (stored in a bag with seal #0391634): A motion determining that the ballots had been properly cured and were ready to be processed was approved by the Board.
- **1 VBM ballot from a deceased voter** (stored in a bag with seal #0391633): A motion to reject the ballot was approved by the Board.
- **8 VBM ballots received from voters who had moved out of the county** (stored in a bag with seal #0391631): A motion to reject the ballots in accordance with applicable law was approved by the Board.

The Board recessed for 10 minutes.

The Board reconvened and subsequently requested an additional five-minute recess.

The Board reconvened and was ready to proceed.

1 VBM ballot requiring further review due to an ineligible identification. A better copy of the identification was provided. A motion to approve the ballot was granted by the Board.

1 VBM ballot mailed to the voter on July 14th. After the ballot was mailed, the Supervisor of Elections Office received notification from the state that the voter was a convicted felon. The voted ballot was returned in August. Based on legal counsel's recommendation, it was determined that the voter was a convicted felon; therefore, the Board rejected the ballot.

One individual who received a VBM ballot and a sample ballot returned the sample ballot voted. The Board requested guidance from legal counsel regarding the matter. Herman Schnell addressed the Board and referenced Section 101.041, Florida Statutes, regarding the casting of an official ballot.

Victoria Olson of the League of Women Voters asked whether the voter would have an opportunity to cure a ballot in this circumstance. Response: this type of ballot was not eligible for the cure process.

Chief Deputy Mary Hall explained that the voter was credited for voting because the marked sample ballot was returned inside the voter certificate. Following further research, it was determined that the ballot contained a clear indication of the voter's intent. The Supervisor of Elections Office and the Vice Mayor approved the ballot for duplication. The Judge did not approve the ballot.

The Board agreed to set the ballot aside in the event that anyone wished to challenge the determination.

The Board recessed for 45 minutes, with a scheduled return at 8:45 p.m.

Upon reconvening, Kevron Aird addressed the Board regarding VBM ballots received from the secure ballot intake stations. Based on the number of ballots received, he requested a one-hour recess.

The Board recessed until 9:45 p.m.

Board is back in session. All precincts have reported.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next Canvassing Board meeting will be held on Thursday, August 20, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.

RECESS

There being no further business to come before the Board, Judge Florence Taylor Barner recessed the Canvassing Board meeting at 10:19 p.m.