

James City County Electoral Board

Meeting of Wednesday - Friday, March 4-6, 2020
Voter Registration and Elections Office
5300 Palmer Lane, Suite 2a-Conference Room, Williamsburg VA

Tom Gee, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM, Wednesday, March 4, 2020. Others attending were Perry DePue, Vice Chairperson; Kay Cheves, Secretary, Dianna Moorman, Director of Elections/ General Registrar, and Shiela Lohr, Deputy Director of Elections.

The main purpose of this meeting was a Canvass of the results in the Democratic Party Presidential Primary held on March 3, 2020. The meeting began on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, was recessed twice that day, and completed on Friday, March 6, 2020. The Canvass was carried out in accordance with Virginia law and election policy.

The main business of the Board on Wednesday was a Canvass of the twenty precincts in James City County. The Board also began looking at the thirty-eight (38) provisional ballots on Wednesday. The EB recessed at 12:45 PM for lunch and reconvened at 1:30 for the provisional ballot hearing for any provisional voters who wished to address the Board. Since no voters appeared for the hearing, it was unnecessary.

The Board briefly discussed their observations on Election Day. Ms. Moorman reported the use of texting to convey voting results was very popular with Election Officers. One of the staff members is working on the most effective and efficient set up for each polling place. Ms. Cheves mentioned one election officer mentioned how much a Certificate of Appreciation from the EB and staff would mean to Election Officers. Ms. Moorman indicated she and Ms. Lohr would look into the matter.

The Board recessed at 2:30 PM on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, until 12 noon on Friday, March 6, 2020. Voters who did not have an adequate ID have a right to present an adequate ID any time up to noon on Friday of election week. Seven (7) provisional voters did not have an adequate ID. The Board reconvened at noon on Friday. None of the provisional voters appeared to present identification information. The Board then made decisions about all provisional ballots. On recommendation of the Director of Elections, the Board accepted fourteen (14) and rejected twenty-four (24) provisional ballots. Mr. DePue moved approval of the fourteen accepted ballots as cast. Ms. Cheves seconded the motion that was approved unanimously.

The approved provisional votes were added to the sheet of unofficial results which shows the number of ballots cast in the primary and the turnout in each precinct. The unofficial results became the official results of the primary elections.

With the official results in hand, the Director of Elections and her staff produced the final set of official abstracts. After checking the abstracts to make sure the numbers were consistent with the official results, Board members signed the abstracts, completing the process.

The Board expressed their appreciation to the Director of Elections/General Registrar and the Deputy Director of Elections for their leadership in preparing and conducting a successful election.

Since absentee voting for the June primary begins the end of April and the complete list of candidates will not be available until the end of March, the Board agreed to move its April meeting to the first Tuesday in April, April 7, 2020, at 10 AM so to ensure the ballot order for the June primary will be available in time.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 p.m. on Friday, March 6, 2020. A copy of the official results is attached to these minutes.

Kay Cheves, Secretary