



# Washington County Board of Elections

## MINUTES

### WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

April 8, 2025

17718 Virginia Avenue

Hagerstown, MD 21740

240-313-2050

#### **Present:**

#### **Board:**

Tammy Downin, President  
Kandace Carpenter, Vice President  
Donna Brightman, Board Secretary  
Nancy Armstrong, Assistant Secretary  
Claudia Martin, Member  
Brian Kane, Board Counsel

#### **Staff:**

Barry Jackson, Election Deputy Director II  
Teresa Morningstar, Deputy Director II (Virtual)  
Cory Green, Election Program Supervisor I

#### **Absent:**

#### **Guest:**

See Attached List

President Tammy Downin called the meeting to order at 3:08pm at the Washington County Election Center, 17718 Virginia Avenue, Hagerstown, MD 21740.

#### **Declaration of Quorum Present:**

President Tammy Downin declared that a quorum was present.

#### **Approval of Draft Agenda:**

Donna Brightman moved to approve the Draft Agenda with two changes: the first change was to move the executive session to the end of the agenda and suspend the approval of the executive minutes from March 11, 2025 to the May 13, 2025 board meeting; the second change was to add #1 to the executive session to discuss (i) the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of an appointee, employee, or official over whom it has jurisdiction to the executive session. Kandace Carpenter seconded, and the agenda was unanimously accepted as amended at 3:10pm.

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**Approval of Draft Meeting Minutes:**

Donna Brightman made a motion to approve the March 11, 2025 Regular Minutes. Kandace Carpenter seconded, and the motion passed unanimously at 3:11pm.

**Correspondence:**

N/A

**Reports:**

- I. Election Director
  - A. Personnel:
    1. County CFO Kelcee Mace presented the revised budget at the Commissioner's Meeting this morning, which included our original request for 3 new full-time employees and a 4<sup>th</sup> Early Voting site.
    2. Optimum Healthcare is making us a referral agency for fingerprinting our personnel, which will streamline the process.
  - B. Meetings:
    1. Barry attending the EAC LLC Annual Conference in Charlotte April 21-23, then the Election Center Workshop in Pittsburgh April 23-27.
    2. Director's Meetings:
      - a) Highlights from March 20, 2025 meeting:
        - (1) LBEs should be able to dispose of their 2020 and 2022 records by May.
        - (2) SBE Cybersecurity Director will be scheduling site visits with each LBE to do a security assessment.
        - (3) Five LBEs are 100% complete with their inventory, including Washington County.
        - (4) The new MDCRIS is being rolled out any day now.
        - (5) Proposals for new pollbook solution are due April 16.
        - (6) Drop Box lock reconfiguration demonstration at SBE warehouse on April 8.
      - b) Next Meeting: TBD, because of Biennial in May.
    3. Trainings: N/A
  - C. Legislative Update: Sine Die was Monday, April 7 at Midnight. See the attached list of bills that have been sent to the Governor.
  - D. Voter Registration Activities and Statistics:
    1. Registration Statistics for March 2025 were distributed to the Board.
  - E. Candidate Filings: Candidate Filing for 2026 Gubernatorial Election began February 25, 2025. There have been 10 filings so far:
    1. 2 for County Commissioner
    2. 1 for Clerk of the Circuit Court
    3. 1 for Register of Wills

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4. 3 for Democratic Central Committee
5. 1 for Sheriff
6. 2 for States Attorney

### F. Voting System Activities:

1. Quarterly recharging of equipment batteries completed.

### G. Projects:

1. New Website
2. Combined Citizens Guide/First Time Voters Guide
3. "I Voted" Sticker Contest
4. Election Board Night at Flying Boxcars – June 6, 2025

## II. Attorney

Brian Kane reported that there was a Presidential Executive order titled "Restoring Trust in American Elections" which has been challenged in the Federal District Court in the District of Columbia and another suit was filed in the U.S. District Court of Massachusetts. The Maryland Attorney General joined the Massachusetts suit. Donna Brightman had a question regarding mail in ballots under the executive order? The executive order states that ballots must be received in the election office by 8pm election night and ballots received thereafter will not be counted regardless of postmark date. Brian Kane stated that if this executive order passes, then it could affect the practice of accepting mail in ballots pursuant to Maryland law. Brian Kane stated that he was not going to speculate on a possible outcome as this will be litigated in court. Brian Kane said that he thought the fundamental question with this executive order is, under the elections clause of the constitution, Congress can set rules related to manner of elections for federal elections to the extent that the states don't, but it starts with the states. There's no mention of the executive office. Brian Kane stated he was not aware of any US Supreme Court jurisprudence that deals with federal executive authority over states conducting of elections. There are two separate issues: the first-the time, place, manner of how the election is conducted; and the second issue is who can register. This executive order purports to change the way voters qualify to vote in elections. Brian Kane stated the executive order must work through the court system and there is no timeframe for the judicial process.

### **Unfinished Business:**

#### I. Financial Disclosures

Tammy Downin has not completed her financial disclosure. They are due by April 30, 2025

#### II. FY26 Budget

The 3 additional staff have been reintroduced into the counties budget by the budget and finance department, as well as the fourth optional Early Voting center. The county commissioners will review the request before voting to pass the budget in June.

#### III. Report on MAEO Local Board Committee Meeting

Tammy Downin will have a report next month.

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**New Business:**

I. SBE Biennial/MAEO Conference

Washington County is a host county, and some staff will be traveling on Saturday to help prepare for the conference.

**Members Remarks:**

N/A

**Guest Remarks:**

N/A

**Scheduling of Next Meeting:**

The next regular meeting of the Washington County Board of Elections will be held on Tuesday, May 13, 2025 at 3:00pm. The location is Washington County Election Center, 17718 Virginia Avenue, Hagerstown, MD; as pursuant to the Bylaws of the Washington County Board of Elections, Article 3, Section 3.3(A) 8.

**Distributed Information:**

Board Packet

**Future Events:**

SBE Biennial and MAEO Annual Conference, May 4-8, 2025

Election Worker Night at the Flying Boxcars II, June 6, 2025

**Recess and Opening of Executive Session:**

President Tammy Downin called for a motion to recess the Regular Board Meeting and open an Executive Session. Claudia Martin made a motion at 3:55pm to go into Executive Session. Donna Brightman seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

**SUMMARY OF CLOSED SESSION HELD ON APRIL 8, 2025**

**1. Statement of the time, place, and purpose of the closed session:**

Time of closed session: 4:00pm

Place (location) of closed session: Election Center 17718 Virginia Avenue, Hagerstown, MD 21740.

Purpose of the closed session: (10) discuss public security, if the public body determines that public discussion would constitute a risk to the public or to public security, including: (ii) the development and implementation of emergency plans. (1) to discuss (i) the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of an appointee, employee, or official over whom it has jurisdiction.

**2. Record of the vote of each member as to closing the session:**

Names of members voting aye: Tammy Downin, Kandace Carpenter, Donna Brightman, Nancy Armstrong, and Claudia Martin.

Members opposed: None

Abstaining: None

**3. Statutory authority to close session:**

This meeting was closed under the following provisions of General Provisions Art. § 3-305(b):

**Topic #1:** § 3-305(b) ( 10 ) **Topic #2:** § 3-305(b) ( ) **Topic #3:** § 3-305(b) ( )

**4. Listing of each topic actually discussed, persons present, and each action taken in the session:**

<b>Topic description</b>	<b>Persons present for discussion</b>	<b>Action Taken/Each Recorded Vote</b>
#1: Washington County Treasurer COOP/DR Site	Tammy Downin, Kandace Carpenter, Donna Brightman, Nancy Armstrong, Claudia Martin, Brian Kane, Barry Jackson, Teresa Morningstar (virtual), Cory Green	No Action
#2: Election Judge Personnel	Tammy Downin, Kandace Carpenter, Donna Brightman, Nancy Armstrong, Claudia Martin, Brian Kane, Barry Jackson, Teresa Morningstar (Virtual), Cory Green	No Action

After the discussion was completed, Donna Brightman made a motion to adjourn Executive Session and return to Regular Session at 4:50pm. Kandace Carpenter seconded, and all parties voted aye.

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**Reconvene Regular Meeting:**

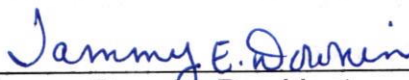
Tammy Downin reconvened the regular meeting at 4:50pm

**Adjournment:**

Tammy Downin called for a motion to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting, Claudia Martin made the motion and Nancy Armstrong seconded. The motion passed and the Regular Meeting concluded at 4:52pm.

Compiled by Cory Green  
Election Program Supervisor I

Respectfully Submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tammy Downin, President                      6/10/2025  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Donna Brightman, Secretary                      6/10/2025  
Date

**Washington County Board of Elections**

**Board Meeting**

**Date: April 8, 2025**

	<b>Name (please print)</b>	<b>Organization</b>
1.	Rodica Stoicoiu	United Dems.
2.	Lorraine O'Neill	United Dems, NAACP Indivisible & more
3.	Amy Groesbeck	United Dems NAACP
4.	PATRIKA FIKAR	United Dems W/C Indivisible
5.	Honaine Blaydes	United Dem
6.	Cathy Poropatic	United Dem 9
7.	Susan Lyle	United Dems Wash Co.
8.	Sam Cathey	Indivisible
9.	Les McIntosh Sr	NAACP
10.	Claire Connor	Indivisible
11.	Donald Doughue	poll worker
12.	Michael Affonso	FLA; Indivisible
13.	Candice Craig	United Dems Wash Co Indivisible

**Washington County Board of Elections**  
**Board Meeting**  
**Date: April 8, 2025**

	Name (please print)	Organization
14.	REBECCA LOEFFLER	INDIVISIBLE
15.	Terena Roberts	WC Dem's Indivisible!
16.	John Roberts	WC Dem's Indivisible
17.	Dale Stein	Self
18.	Don Lambson	Self
19.		
20.		
21.		
22.		
23.		
24.		
25.		
26.		

**Washington County Board of Elections**

**Board Meeting**

**Date: April 8, 2025**

	Name (please print)	Organization
27.	Elysa Mathias	
28.	Denise Cinton	
29.	Dave Williams	
30.	Joseph Camarano	
31.	Arthur LaRue	
32.	Angela Beckler	WCDECS
33.		
34.		
35.		
36.		
37.		
38.		
39.		