



AGENDA

Washington County Board of Elections February 10, 2026

Board Meeting to be held on **Tuesday, February 10, 2026** at 3:00PM. Meeting will be held in person but may also be attended virtually. Call in information is provided below.

Pursuant to Maryland Code Ann., Election Law Article, § 2-208, all meetings of the Washington County Board of Elections are livestreamed and recorded, and those recordings will be posted online and archived as required by law. Livestream broadcasts and recordings may consist of video, audio or any combination thereof. By participating in any meeting, you consent to be recorded.

Call Meeting to Order/Pledge of Allegiance:

Declaration of Quorum Present:

Record Those Present:

Approval of Draft Agenda:

Approval of Draft Minutes of January 13, 2026 executive session:

Approval of Draft Minutes of January 13, 2026 regular session:

Correspondence:

Reports:

- I. Election Director
- II. Attorney

Unfinished Business:

- I. FY27 Proposed Budget

New Business:

- I. Discussion of Board Meeting Minutes

Members Remarks:

Guest Remarks:

Scheduling of Next Meeting:

Distributed Information:

Board Packet

Future Events:

Adjournment of Regular Session:

Public Participation: Members of the public may address the Board. Pursuant to §3.2B of the Board's bylaws, public participation at a meeting must be pre-scheduled and pre-approved by the President. To request approval to speak at a board meeting, contact Barry Jackson at 240.313.2054 or by Email at barry.jackson@maryland.gov no later than 5 pm the day before the meeting.

Call In Instructions for the Meeting:

Join with Google Meet

meet.google.com/yia-hbzy-ozk

Dial-in: (US) +1 252-330-6192

PIN: 991 534 902#

Director's Report – February 10, 2026

A. Personnel –

1. Sara Deal started on February 4, 2026 as our new outreach coordinator.
2. Election Judges
 - a) Parity Report
 - (1) Need 640 total election judges
 - (2) 464 have completed the application process
 - (a) 198 Democrats
 - (b) 218 Republicans
 - (c) 40 Unaffiliated
 - (d) 8 Others.

B. Meetings:

1. Highlights from January 15, 2026 SBE/LBE Collaboration Meeting:
 - a) 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence "I Voted" Sticker.
 - b) New VRA Design. Shipped to LBEs in early February with printing errors.
 - c) NFB settlement period is complete, but the settlement guidelines for BMD usage remain in effect.
 - d) Pollbook project is underway.
 - e) New Voting System to be awarded.
 - f) Voter Registration and Election Administration Modernization (VREAM) RFP underway.
 - g) Municipal elections need to be closed in MDVOERS within 30 days. This will be a routine audit.
 - h) USPS Postmark Issue-continue to encourage voters to mail their ballots early or use ballot drop boxes.
 - i) Permanent Absentee Removal – SBE will create a template letter that LBEs will put on their letter head and send to voters on the permanent absentee list that have not voted by mail in the past two elections. Washington County had 235 voters removed. Letters were sent out last week.
 - j) Next Meeting: January 15, 2026.
2. MAEO Meeting, virtually– January 20, 2025
3. iGO Midwinter Conference in Albuquerque week of January 18th.
4. Staff going to Howard County LBE for team building/best practices meeting on January 22, 2026

C. Legislative Update: N/A

1. Some election related bills we're tracking:
 - a) HB0488 – Redistricting bill passed the House, on first reading in the Senate.
 - b) HB0221 – Primary Elections-Change of Party Affiliation was referred to committee but has stalled.

- c) SB0132/HB0156 – Unaffiliated voters may affiliate with a political party at Early Voting and vote a party ballot provisionally.
 - d) SB0029/HB0044 – Petitions and Ballot Questions-Plain Language. SB29 passed the Senate, on first reading in the House.
 - e) SB0073 – Voting by Elderly Voters and Voters with Disabilities
 - f) SB0100/HB0263 – Early Voting Centers-Bus Stops
- D. Voter Registration Activities and Statistics:
- 1. Registration Statistics for January 2026 were distributed to the Board.
- E. Candidate Filings: Candidate Filing for 2026 Gubernatorial Election closes on February 24, 2026 at 9:00pm. There have been 35 filings so far:
- 1. 11 for County Commissioner
 - 2. 1 for Clerk of the Circuit Court
 - 3. 1 for Register of Wills
 - 4. 8 for Democratic Central Committee
 - 5. 4 for Republican Central Committee
 - 6. 2 for Sheriff
 - 7. 1 for Treasurer
 - 8. 2 for States Attorney
 - 9. 4 for Board of Education
 - 10. 1 for Judge of the Orphans Court
- F. Voting System Activities:
- 1. Received 28 more pollbooks from Harford County for training. Still waiting on the 14 more printers from SBE. 15 of the 28 pollbooks were missing CF Card covers.
 - 2. Risk Limiting Audit (RLA) Training is ongoing.
- G. Projects:
- 1. New Website
 - 2. "I Voted" Sticker Contest
 - 3. Election Management Software and Services
 - 4. Election Operations Center – EMS is creating our Elections Operations Plan (EOP)



Jared DeMarinis
State Administrator

Katherine Berry
Deputy Administrator

Michael Summers,
Chairman
Jim Shalleck, Vice
Chairman
Diane Butler
Victoria Jackson-
Stanley
Eric Bryant

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Maryland State Administrator of Elections Addresses Mis/Disinformation of the “Nationalization of Elections”

Annapolis, MD (February 6, 2026) — Recent events and high-profile press statements have suggested the possibility of nationalizing election administration in an attempt to cast doubts on election security maintained by the States. Before any misinformation or disinformation takes hold from these statements, the State Administrator of Elections, Jared DeMarinis, issued the following statement to provide corrective information:

The United States Constitution is clear: the authority to administer elections predominately resides with the States. The States administer and conduct elections each according to their laws and regulations, subject to limited Congressional authority. The President of the United States has no constitutional or statutory authority to nationalize Maryland’s elections and electoral processes.

As State Administrator of the Maryland State Board of Elections, I want to assure voters that we are dedicated to ensuring that all elections are run in a manner that is safe, secure, transparent and accessible for all eligible voters. We are guided by the principle enshrined in Maryland’s Declaration of Rights- “the right of the People to participate in the Legislature is the best security of liberty and the foundation of all free Government; . . . and every citizen having the qualifications prescribed by the Constitution, ought to have the right of suffrage.”

Additionally, statements on the presence of federal enforcement agents in and around polling locations may cause apprehension or anxiety for certain communities. This office is committed to protecting voters from undue harassment or intimidation regarding when they voted, how they voted, and who they voted for. Elections are the foundation of our democracy, and, in 2026, it is how we use our voice to determine the future of our State. All eligible voters have a Constitutional right to use their voice and their vote. Do not be deterred from voting due to a perceived threat against a community. Mail-in voting is a viable option and an alternative to in-person voting. Mail-in voting is safe, secure, convenient and legal. Don’t let the noise disenfranchise or silence your voice. This right was hard fought for over the course of our country’s history, and we do not take protecting that right lightly.

*Again, Marylanders should feel confident in our election administration. Always verify the information you hear or see, whether on social media, from a friend, or any other source, with the trusted source of electoral information, the Maryland State Board of Elections. The Maryland State Board of Elections ensures Marylanders can exercise their constitutional right in a **verified, open, transparent and empowering** manner that is safe and secure.*

For more information visit www.elections.maryland.gov .

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Lexy Rhoden, morgan.rhoden@maryland.gov 443-924-1644

FY27 Proposed Budget					
		FY26	FY27	Increase or	Explanation
Election Board Budget		Approved	Proposed	Decrease	Increase/Decrease
500005	Wages Part Time	506,790	507,025	235	Added RLA
500010	Wages-Overtime	1,550	1,500	-50	These numbers are from
500100	FICA	37,390	36,850	-540	County Estimates
500140	Workers Comp	5,000	5,000	0	
500155	Personnel Request	0	83,467	83,467	Requested Admin Assistant
Total Wages and Benefits		550,730	633,842	83,112	
505010	Advertising	4,400	5,150	750	Renewal of Website
505050	Dues & Subscriptions	1,970	1,794	-176	
505070	Food & Supplies	2,100	2,500	400	Meals for additional employees
505120	Licenses & Certifications	40	40	0	
505130	Small Office Equipment	2,120	570	-1,550	Only one new employee
505140	Office Supplies	6,370	6,017	-353	Only one new employee
505160	Personal Mileage	15,830	16,794	964	
505170	Postage	52,290	60,353	8,063	Increase in postage and mailings to more registered voters
505180	Printing	29,840	27,200	-2,640	No "I Voted" stickers in FY27
505190	Professional Fees	14,000	14,000	0	
505230	Travel Expenses	9,060	21,682	12,622	FY27 proposed closer to FY26 actuals
515000	Contracted/Purchased Services	1,861,990	2,815,238	953,248	\$997,675 for new pollbooks and voting equipment for 2028
515180	Software	1,390	23,940	22,550	
520000	Training	2,300	6,795	4,495	MEOC training for staff
520040	SeminarConventions	2,660	5,059	2,399	Two MAEO Conferences in FY27
525000	Election Supplies	4,700	5,900	1,200	Election Judge Pins for General Election
526040	Equipment Maintenance	750	750	0	
535000	Rentals	17,370	13,367	-4,003	Decrease in Election Night Rentals
535055	Lease Payments	149,840	151,823	1,983	Lease for 2nd Copier
535060	Uniforms	1,600	1,600	0	
592040	Promotional Expenses	500	1,000	500	Increased amount for events
Total Operating Expenses		2,181,120	3,181,571	999,951	
599999	Controllable Assets	0	3,500	3,500	1 state computers for new employee
Capital Outlay		2,731,850	3,818,913	1,086,563	

Monthly Statistical Report

Last Transaction Date From: 01/01/2026 To: 01/31/2026

ADDITIONS TO COUNTY REGISTRATION

METHOD	DEM	REP	GRN	WCP	UNA	OTHERS	TOTAL	EXACT	DUPES
Confirmation Notice	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	1	
In Person	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
Jury Notice	2	2	0	0	5	0	9	0	
Motor Vehicle Administration	94	83	1	1	158	5	342	0	
Online Voter Registration	4	1	0	0	6	0	11	0	
Social Security Administration	2	1	0	0	1	0	4	0	
State Designated Agencies	5	1	0	0	6	2	14	0	
USPS Sticker	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	
Voter Notification Card	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	
TOTAL	109	90	1	1	178	7	386	1	

SUBTRACTIONS FROM COUNTY ACTIVE STATUS

REASON	DEM	REP	GRN	WCP	UNA	OTHERS	TOTAL
Confirmation Mail Process-NVRA	26	33	0	0	22	2	83
Death Notice	47	55	0	0	14	0	116
Moved Out of State	2	6	0	0	1	0	9
Non-Citizen	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Not Eligible	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Returned VNC	4	0	0	0	0	0	4
Voter Request	1	4	0	0	2	0	7
Duplicate/Merged	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
County Transfer Out	26	23	0	0	25	0	74
TOTAL	107	121	0	0	66	2	296

AFFILIATION CHANGES

CHANGE	DEM	REP	GRN	WCP	UNA	OTHERS	TOTAL
From	72	53	1	0	40	23	189
To	39	46	0	3	81	20	189
TOTAL	-33	-7	-1	3	41	-3	0

Monthly Statistical Report

Last Transaction Date From: 01/01/2026 To: 01/31/2026

CURRENT ACTIVE REGISTRATION

ACTIVITY	DEM	REP	GRN	WCP	UNA	OTHERS	TOTAL
BEGINNING OF REPORT	30407	45217	147	126	25642	1646	103185
ADDITIONS (+)	109	90	1	1	178	7	386
REINSTATED (+)	5	6	0	0	11	0	22
CANCELLED (-)	-55	-65	0	0	-19	0	-139
COUNTY TRANSFER OUT (-)	-26	-23	0	0	-25	0	-74
AFFILIATION CHANGES (+ OR -)	-33	-7	-1	3	41	-3	0
* INACTIVATED (-)	-26	-33	0	0	-22	-2	-83
* REACTIVATED (+)	14	15	1	2	15	2	49
END OF REPORT TOTALS	30395	45200	148	132	25821	1650	103346

Monthly Statistical Report

Last Transaction Date From: 01/01/2026 To: 01/31/2026

INACTIVE REGISTRATION SUBTRACTIONS FROM COUNTY INACTIVE STATUS

REASON	DEM	REP	GRN	WCP	UNA	OTHERS	TOTAL
Confirmation Notice	2	2	0	0	0	0	4
Death Notice	1	2	0	0	0	0	3
Jury Notice	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Motor Vehicle Administration	13	11	0	0	12	3	39
Moved Out of State	9	3	0	0	5	0	17
Online Voter Registration	0	1	0	0	1	0	2
State Designated Agencies	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Voter Request	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Duplicate/Merged	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
County Transfer Out	5	2	0	0	2	0	9
TOTAL	32	22	0	0	21	4	79

CURRENT INACTIVE REGISTRATION

ACTIVITY	DEM	REP	GRN	WCP	UNA	OTHERS	TOTAL
BEGINNING OF REPORT	2598	2888	18	17	2527	211	8259
* INACTIVATED (+)	26	33	0	0	22	2	83
*REACTIVATED (-)	-16	-15	0	0	-14	-4	-49
COUNTY TRANSFER OUT (-)	-5	-2	0	0	-2	0	-9
AFFILIATION CHANGES (+ OR -)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CANCELLED FROM INACTIVE (-)	-14	-5	0	0	-6	0	-25
PENDING FROM INACTIVE (-)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL INACTIVE	2589	2899	18	17	2527	209	8259

TOTAL REGISTRATION RECORDS ACTIVE AND INACTIVE REGISTRATION

ACTIVITY	DEM	REP	GRN	WCP	UNA	OTHERS	TOTAL
ACTIVE REGISTRATION	30395	45200	148	132	25821	1650	103346
INACTIVE REGISTRATION	2589	2899	18	17	2527	209	8259
TOTAL RECORDS	32984	48099	166	149	28348	1859	111605

Monthly Statistical Report

Last Transaction Date From: 01/01/2026 To: 01/31/2026

Address Changes Within Jurisdiction	<u>325</u>		
Address Changes Statewide	<u>20410</u>	Confirmation Mailings Sent	<u>111</u>
Name Changes	<u>325</u>	Confirmation Responses	<u>8</u>
Number of current Statewide voter registration application on hand	<u> </u>	Number of NVRA Agency voter registration Applications on hand	<u> </u>
Signature of person who prepared the report	<u> </u>	Date report completed	<u> </u>
Other = Those individuals designating affiliation with a party that is not established under Maryland Law.	<u> </u>	Unaffiliated = those individuals declining to affiliate with a party.	<u> </u>