

KALAMAZOO COUNTY BOARD OF CANVASSERS

FINAL MEETING MINUTES

May 5, 2022

Kalamazoo County Administration Building, 201 W Kalamazoo Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Canvassers Present: Francie Brown, Vince Lavieri, Tony Lorentz, Wendy Flora

Canvassers Absent: None

Staff Present: Meredith Place, County Clerk, Shardae Chambers, Elections Coordinator

Others Present: None

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1. **Call to Order**

Chairperson Flora called the May 5, 2022, Regular Meeting of the Board of Canvassers to order at 9:06 a.m. in accordance with Public Act 228 of 2020 regarding the Open Meetings Act.

2. **Roll Call**

Indicated the presence of a quorum.

3. **Acceptance of Board of Canvasser envelopes**

Honorable Judge Curtis Bell delivered the Board of Canvasser envelopes from the May 3, 2022, Special Election. The Board of Canvassers accepted the envelopes.

4. **Approval of February 8, 2022, Meeting Minutes**

Motion made by Canvasser Brown, supported by Canvasser Lavieri to approve the meeting minutes of February 8, 2022, as presented.

Motion carried.

5. **Certification of Ballot Containers**

The Board of Canvassers inspected and certified ballot containers for Alamo Township, Brady Township, Charleston Township, Climax Township, Ross Township, Schoolcraft Township, City of Kalamazoo

6. **Remarks from Clerk Place**

**Clerk Place** stated that the May 3, 2022, Special Election daytime activity was relatively uneventful. She said they heard from a couple Townships who had some issues loading their E-Pollbook. The Bureau of Elections told local clerks to contact them directly for technical help and expressed they were experiencing some issues state-wide.

She said a couple jurisdictions reached out the day after the election to share they had multiple absentee ballots arrive after Election Day, so more education needs to be done to ensure voters voting by absentee ballot understand they need to hand-deliver their ballots to the clerk or via dropbox instead of mailing the Monday or day of the Election.

The County Receiving Board noticed that several jurisdictions were missing accurate AV voter lists. A couple jurisdictions did not even present AV voter lists. However, all AV voter lists were received by the jurisdictions the day after the election. While the issue was resolved, the Clerk encouraged the local jurisdictions to hold local receiving board trainings to ensure items like this are not missed at the jurisdiction level.

In addition, the County Receiving Board noticed multiple jurisdictions were missing signatures from poll book and/or election day tabulation tapes. Signatures were retrieved the day after the election and the Thursday. While the issue was resolved, the Clerk encouraged the local jurisdictions to hold local receiving board trainings to ensure items like this are not missed at the jurisdiction level.

Clerk Place reported the City of Portage, AV Precinct 20 was off balance by 5 after the polls closed. The local Clerk called the day after the election notifying the Clerk the 5 ballots had been pre-processed by the AVCB but had not been tabulated. The ballots were securely stored with the rest of precinct 20 AV ballots in sealed ballot container. The BOE explained the Canvassers would need review the seals, hand count the ballots and if the number of ballots matches the number of voters than the precinct can be retabulated by two members (Democrat and Republican) of the AVCB.

**7. Canvass of the May 3, 2022, Special Election**

**Canvass of the May 3, 2022, Special Election began at 10:45 a.m.**

Motion made by Canvasser Lavieri, supported by Canvasser Brown to recess the canvass of the May 3, 2022, Special Election until tomorrow, May 6, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. at Portage City Hall, 7900 S Westnedge Ave, Portage, MI 49002

Motion carried unanimously.

**RECESS May 5, 2022, 4:50 p.m. - May 6, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.**

**MEETING RECONVENED on May 6, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.** at Portage City Hall, 7900 S Westnedge Ave, Portage, MI 49002

**Meeting called to order by Chairperson Flora at 9:00 a.m.**

Canvassers Present: Francie Brown, Vince Lavieri, Tony Lorentz, Wendy Flora

Canvassers Absent: None

Staff Present: Meredith Place, County Clerk, Shardae Chambers, Elections Coordinator

Others Present: Erica Eklov, City of Portage Clerk, Tammy Dorian, City of Portage Deputy Clerk, Janice Jewett, City of Portage Election Inspector, Amy Snow, City of Portage Election Inspector

**Canvass of the May 3, 2022, Special Election continued at 9:00AM**

Precinct 20 – AV only, was out of balance by 5 votes. The Portage City Clerk explained what happened on Election Night. The last batch of AV ballots for Precinct 20 was 5. The AVCB pre-processed the ballots but did not tabulate the ballots and instead put them in the ballot container with the other ballots at the end of the night.

The Canvassers reviewed the seal number on the ballot container and after matching broke the seal to take out and hand count all precinct 20 AV ballots. They counted exactly 243 ballots, which was the same number on the List of Voters.

Two Election Inspectors who serve on the Portage Absentee County Board, including one Democrat and one Republican, then ran the ballots through the tabulator. Clerk Eklov printed the results of the precinct, which were reviewed by the Canvassers and accepted.

The ballots were put back in the ballot container and sealed.

Motion made by Canvasser Lavieri, supported by Canvasser Brown to recess the canvass of the May 3, 2022, Special Election until 10:10 a.m. at Kalamazoo County Administration Building, Rm 105, 201 W Kalamazoo Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49007.

Motion carried unanimously.

**RECESS May 5, 2022, 9:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.**

**MEETING RECONVENED on May 6, 2022, at 10:15 a.m.** at Kalamazoo County Administration Building, Rm 105, 201 W Kalamazoo Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49007

**Meeting called to order by Chairperson Flora at 10:15 a.m.**

Canvassers Present: Francie Brown, Vince Lavieri, Tony Lorentz, Wendy Flora

Canvassers Absent: None

Staff Present: Meredith Place, County Clerk, Shardae Chambers, Elections Coordinator

Others Present: None

**Canvass of the May 3, 2022, Special Election continued at 10:15 a.m.**

**8. Certification of May 3, 2022, Special Election**

Motion made by Canvasser Lavieri, supported by Canvasser Lorentz to certify the canvass of the May 3, 2022, Special Election

Motion carried unanimously.

**9. Public Comment**

None

**10. Other Business**

None

**11. Adjournment**

Motion made by Canvasser Lavieri, supported by Canvasser Brown to adjourn at 12:35 p.m.

Motion carried.

*Meredith Place*

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Meredith Place, Clerk of the Board

*Wendy Flora*

Wendy Flora, Chairperson, Board of  
County Canvassers

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