

**Berkeley County Board of Canvassers to Certify June 14, 2022 Republican and Democratic Primaries
Meeting June 16, 2022**

Call to Order

The meeting of the Berkeley County Board of Canvassers was held in the Assembly Room of the Berkeley County Administration Building on Thursday June 16, 2022. The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Frances Taylor.

Commissioners Present

Frances Taylor, Don Rose, Leon Brown, Jerry Roberts, Darel Trout, Truman Metts, Ralph Rohrssen, and Pam Lamb. Let the record show there is a quorum.

Absentee Ballots

1. 6 voters returned mailed absentee ballots not used to the office in order to vote "early in person". Voters were re-entered and voted.
2. 25 absentee ballots received on Wednesday after the election. Votes were not counted according to state law.
3. 5 ballots were mailed without witness information or signature – not counted.

Provisional Ballots

1. 1 ballot that the voter did not register until June 7, 2022 – not counted
2. 6 ballots were completed that the voters said that they had registered/updated their information at the DMV. After contacting DMV, it was determined that 5 of the voters had marked "no" to the question "update my voter information" on the DMV form. Those votes were not counted. 1 voter had marked the question "yes" and completed the additional form. DMV had failed to update the record. The vote will count and the voter record has been updated.
3. 2 votes were cast by the same voter at 2 different locations. Because of a change of address, he was concerned about which location was correct for the vote to count. It was determined to count the ballot that was cast in the correct location and to discard the other ballot.

Failsafe Ballots

1. 5 ballots were cast at the incorrect locations because the voters had moved <30 days before the election. They should have voted in the precinct where they were last registered. They were not counted.
2. 1 ballot was cast because the poll worker selected the wrong party for the voter twice which locked the voter out of the system. The vote was counted.
3. Precinct - Hanahan 1 (Fire Station #2) submitted an envelope sealed with multiple ballots (5-6) from the BMD that were cast very early soon after opening. When they would not scan, it was discovered that the scanner had the wrong "thumb drive". It was identifying the scanner precinct as Hanahan 2. The tech brought a new thumb drive and installed it at the precinct but these early ballots had not been scanned. The voters had been checked in and shown to be legal acceptable voters and the ballots had been secured the entire time. Those votes counted.
4. Poll worker error – the voter was curbside but the worker selected "Early voter" as the choice so the vote could not be cast on "Election Day" on the machine. The vote counted.
5. 2 voters with change of address voted at the correct precincts. These counted.
6. 3 Poll worker errors due to the selection of "Early Voting" instead of "Election Day". These counted.
7. 2 Poll worker errors that corrections were updated at the Voter Registration office and the voters returned to the correct precinct to vote. These counted.

8. 1 voter refused his ballot card because the random number generated on the card (not used for ID) was "666". Voter cast a paper ballot and it was counted.
9. 1 voter was listed on the rolls as an "inactive voter" meaning he had failed to respond to a previous SEC mailing and had not voted for an extended period. He had a current ID and the address matched his Voter Registration. The vote counted.
10. 3 voters did not have a photo ID. 1 of them presented their ID and the office and that vote will count. The other 2 did not produce an ID not did they mark that they had a reasonable impediment to prevent obtaining an ID. 1 of these had an expired license. These 2 did not count.
11. 1 ballot card was marked but would not scan for some unknown reason. The voter cast a legal ballot and it was counted.
12. 10 Emergency/failsafe ballots were cast on election night but not scanned – 6 at Berkeley High School and 4 at Whitesville Elementary School. They were counted.

A total of 18 provisional/failsafe ballots were accepted and counted. The meeting went into recess and Rose Brown and 3 of the Commissioners went to the office to scan the ballots. We reconvened the meeting and accepted the results as Official with the 18 additional ballots included.

The official totals then triggered a mandatory recount for the County Council District 5 race between Chris Davenport and Amy Sterns since there was less than a 1% margin. The recount will also happen in the Voter Registration Office and observers were invited to watch if they chose to do so. Since the recount could take some time, it was decided to offer time for any Public Comments before the recount.

Public Comments

Laurie Steinke, League of Women Voters, asked if there was a plan to identify the problems that were called "poll worker error" on the Electronic Poll Books. Ms. Brown explained that there were a limited number of choices to select from in the application. There were a variety of issues that were all coded in that manner although several of them involved the voter making incorrect choices and there are only 2 selections that can be made before the system locks you out. It will be addressed during training and there will be fewer choices that can be made since there is no Primary in November.

With no additional questions, several Board members accompanied Ms. Brown and staff to the office and the meeting went into recess again.

During the recount in the afternoon, Darel Trout and Truman Metts both had prior commitments and had to leave around 3:00pm. Don Saturday had returned home midday from being out of town and joined the meeting during the recess. There was a quorum present during the entire meeting.

Election Certification

The meeting was called back into session at 4:45pm by Chairman Don Saturday. The ballots counted totaled 2510 once again with Sterns picking up 2 votes and Davenport losing 2. There was a 16 vote margin in favor of Amy Sterns. Mr. Davenport questioned how the machines would read the same ballots differently and there was no explanation or known cause. Chairman Don Saturday did advise Mr. Davenport that there was a "challenge process" for the election and that Ms. Brown could advise him if he was interested.

A motion was made and seconded to certify the recount making the election official and Mrs. Sterns the winner of the County Council District 5 seat.

Adjournment

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned.

**Berkeley County Board of Canvassers to Certify June 28, 2022 Recount for Run-Off of SC House 101,
Democratic Party
Meeting June 28, 2022 – Recount July 1, 2022**

Call to Order

The meeting of the Berkeley County Board of Canvassers was held in the office of Berkeley County Elections and Voter Registration on Friday July 1, 2022. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Don Saturday.

Commissioners Present

Don Saturday, Don Rose, Leon Brown, Jerry Roberts, Frances Taylor, Darel Trout, Ralph Rohrssen and Pam Lamb. Let the record show there is a quorum.

State Mandated Recount of the run-off election.

Only 7 precincts and some early ballots were involved in the recount. The rest of SC House 101 is in Florence and Williamsburg counties. The original count and the recount showed a total of 82 votes with 22 being cast for McKnight and 60 for Kirby. The recount showed no changes so a motion was made to accept the numbers for the election. Reports and paperwork were completed.

Adjournment

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned.

**Berkeley County Board of Canvassers to Certify June 28, 2022 Run-Off Election following the Primary
Meeting June 30, 202**

Call to Order

The meeting of the Berkeley County Board of Canvassers was held in the Assembly Room of the Berkeley County Administration Building on Thursday June 30, 2022 at 10:00AM. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Don Saturday.

Commissioners Present

Don Saturday, Leon Brown, Jerry Roberts, Darel Trout, Frances Taylor, Ralph Rohrssen and Pam Lamb. Let the record show there is a quorum.

Run-Off Elections from the Primary

State Superintendent of Education (Republican) and US Senate (Democrat)

Absentee Ballots

1 ballot received with a signature of voter and no witness listed – ballot NOT counted

26 ballots received on Wednesday, June 29th following Election Day – ballots NOT counted

Provisional Ballots

2 voters were mailed ballots but they were not received so the voters went to the polls on Election Day to vote. It was confirmed that no mail-in ballots were received so these ballots were counted.

2 voters were unable to vote on the machines at the polls due to a “poll worker error” marked in the electronic pool book. These votes counted.

Failsafe Ballots

1 voter had a change of address and was at the correct precinct so that vote counted. 2 with change of addresses were at the wrong precinct location and those votes did not count.

Election Certification and Results

5 additional votes were counted – in the Superintendent for Education election, 3 were added for Ellen Weaver and 1 was added for Kathy Maness. In the Senate Race 1 vote was added for Krystle Matthews.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the results as official. The Official Reports were generated and all the paperwork was signed.

Adjournment

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned.

Berkeley County Board of Elections & Voter Registration
Minutes — June 30, 2022 Meeting

Call to Order

The meeting of the Berkeley County Board of Elections & Voter Registration was held in the Assembly Room of the Berkeley Administration Building on Thursday June 30, 2022. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Don Saturday.

Commissioners Present

Don Saturday, Don Rose, Leon Brown, Jerry Roberts, Ralph Rohrssen, Darel Trout, Frances Taylor and Pam Lamb. Let the record show there is a quorum.

Previous Meeting Minutes

May 20, 2022 Board of Elections and Voter Registration Meeting – minutes needed 2 corrections: In section 1, the SC Law cited should be number 7-5-230. In section 4 the distance that campaign material was not allowed to the polling place entrance should have been “200 feet” not “2300”. Minutes were approved with corrections.

Director’s Report

1. Update on domicile challenges made by Tara Palubicki for a number of voters in the General Election of 2020. Following the advice of the County Attorney, voters have been notified by certified mail of the challenge. This has been completed very recently so that there have been only 5 returned at this time. After more have been received or a reasonable time passes, a date will be determined to schedule a hearing.
2. The General Election in November will include Municipal Elections for St. Stephen, Goose Creek and Hanahan. Filing for these begins at noon on August 1st and goes through noon on August 15th. The Soil and Water Conservation Board will be electing 2 Commissioners and they will file by petition. They will need to submit at least 100 registered voters’ signatures in order to file.
3. There is still no official word on the new lines for the County School Board. The proposal to align the School Board District lines with the County Council District lines is expected to be approved.
4. The satellites at Hanahan and St. Stephen Libraries and the Voter Registration Office were very successful for the Early Voting for the Primaries and the Run-off. It was requested and the Board approved to recommend that we use those same locations for the General Election in November. Dates will be from Monday, October 24th – Friday, November 4th, to include Saturday October 29th. The new SC election law requires that the satellites be open at least 1 Saturday during the Early Voting period. The hours will be 8:30 AM – 6:00 PM all 11 days. There will not be any additional satellites added at this time since there would not be VREMS trained staff (required) available to cover additional locations.
5. We were notified by the State SEC that there will be a mandatory recount in the Democratic Primary for SC House 101 on Friday, July 1st. We will be notified between 3:00-3:15pm with the actual start time but it is expected to be about 3:30pm. There will be 7 precincts, plus any Early voting ballots, in Berkeley County, in addition areas of Williamsburg and Florence Counties.
6. There was a Protest Hearing held on Thursday, June 23, 2022, for Chris Davenport concerning County Council District 5 Election. Executive Director, Rose Brown was called to testify at the hearing which was conducted by the Berkeley County GOP. The final decision was that the Berkeley County GOP denied his request that the election be overturned. Mr. Davenport has requested more information by FOIA including some items that he has already received. He had also requested a copy of the recording from the Canvassers Certification on June 16th and since there was no way to make a copy of the cassette used, the County IT Department has brought in an MP3 player in order to have the capability to copy the recordings. Rose addressed the amount of staff time that had been involved to provide Mr. Davenport with information only to have him requesting more items. Ralph Rohrssen suggested that charging a fee for some of the time might be in order. Rose told us that the County does have a fee schedule for some of the costs involved in these requests. The Board agreed that we should inquire from the county attorney if it would be appropriate to request any fees in this case.
7. The mandatory Clear Ballot Audit (firm for the State SEC) from the June 14th showed a zero error report for the Primary.

Old Business

None

New Business

Election of officers for the Board was decided to take place in the Executive session.

Public Comments

Since we were going to go into Executive Session, a call was made for Public comments prior to the session. None were made.

Next Meeting

Thursday, September 8, 2022 at 10:30 AM in the Conference room of the Election Office. At this time the next scheduled election will be the General Election on November 8, 2022.

With no further new business, a motion was made for the Board to go into Executive session for personnel matters. We returned to the regular meeting. No action was taken in the executive session that would have an impact on public information.

Adjournment - A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned.