

Board Meeting Minutes
Worcester County Board of Elections
201 Belt Street, Suite C, Snow Hill MD 21863

Worcester County Board of Elections Special Board Meeting
Train Station, 200 Belt Street, Snow Hill, MD 21863
Friday, March 8, 2024

ATTENDEES:

BOARD

President Martina Barnes-Wharton, Democratic Board Member
Edward Rodier, Republican Board Member
Secretary Terry Smith, Democratic Board Member
Thomas Butler, Democratic Board Member
Jeff McMahon, Republican Board Member

STAFF

Patricia Jackson, Election Director
Teresa Riggan, Deputy Director
Terron Pinder, Election Program Specialist

Board Attorney

Christina Van Vonno

GUESTS

Mr. Vincent Gisriel, Jr.
Mr. Dennis Evans

Meeting called to order and Quorum determined- A quorum was declared present, President Martina Barnes-Wharton called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

Approval of Minutes – Thomas Butler offered a motion to approve the Board Meeting Minutes of January 10, 2024 and February 23, 2024. Jeff McMahon seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Purpose of Special Meeting - A proposal was made and discussed to change the location of the polling place for district 2, precinct 4 and district 3, precinct 3 (Berlin Intermediate School) to Stephen Decatur Middle School, 9815 Seahawk Road, Berlin, MD 21811. Due to the commissioners redistricting boundary lines, voters would have to cross over 2 precincts to vote, which is not allowed under Maryland Election Law. Therefore, it was necessary to consolidate the precincts and change the polling place to Stephen Decatur Middle School.

Correspondences:

- Maryland Election Board challenge article (The Baltimore Banner)
- 2024 Election Cycle and Judges Training Schedule attached.
- Letter from Mr. Gisriel and Mr. Evans to the Election Board highlighting election bills HB 0142 (Voter Privacy Act 2024), HB 0192 (in person voting proof of identity) and SBo493 (Ranked Choice Voting).

New District and Precinct Map – Terron Pinder shared the new map via projection on the wall. He discussed all districts, their boundaries, polling places and changes. He started with District 1 which is the largest district in land mass. Specific changes were explained. Jeff McMahon asked about District 4 and Terron clarified areas covered in that district.

- The commissioners made the redistricting changes.
- A drafted letter with the changes will be sent to the State Board of Elections for approval.
- After the State approval, the election board is responsible for notifying all people whom the changes may affect.
- Letters and updated cards with the new voting place highlighted will be mailed.
- Maps will be available for download.
- New maps, districts, precincts and voting places will be on the Worcester Board of Elections website, Facebook and the newspapers.

Members of the Board commended the staff for their hard work, commitment and professionalism.

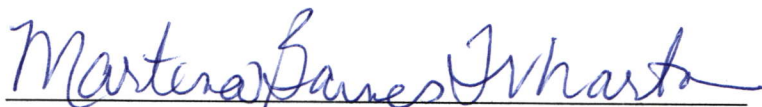
There will be a meeting with the State Board of Elections March 22, 2024.

The first Election Judge Training will be March 25, 2024, at the election office 201 Belt Street, Snow Hill, Maryland. Election Board members must attend at least one training course.

President Martina Barnes-Wharton asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ed Rodier made the motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Jeff McMahon. Motion passed unanimously.

So moved, meeting adjourned 10:49

Respectfully submitted,
Terry Smith- Secretary



Martina Barnes-Wharton, President