

Attendees (via conference call):

William G. Voelp, Chair
Justin Williams, Member
T. Sky Woodward, Member
Severn Miller, Member
Linda Lamone, Administrator
Nikki Charlson, Deputy Administrator
Dan Kobrin, Assistant Attorney General
Donna Duncan, Assistant Deputy, Constituent Relations
Melissia Dorsey, Assistant Deputy, Election Policy

Also present: Armstead Jones, Election Director, Baltimore City
Anthony Gutierrez, Deputy Director, Frederick County
Ruie LaVoie, Election Director, Baltimore County

DECLARATION OF QUORUM PRESENT

Mr. Voelp called the meeting to order at 2:34 pm and stated that a quorum of four board members was present, still with one vacancy.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions to the agenda.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED BALLOT-RELATED DEADLINES

Mr. Kobrin proposed the following ballot-related changes:

Deadline to Certify Content and Arrangement of 2022 General Election Ballots and Deadline to Display 2022 General Election Ballots on SBE Website: § 9-207(a)(2) of the Election Law Article requires the general election ballot to be certified and publicly displayed on the 64th day before general election, which is today September 6, 2022. Mr. Kobrin explained that because of the late primary election and ongoing election matters in the circuit courts for Baltimore City and Montgomery County, the general election ballot is not ready yet for certification. Both election matters in the circuit courts have hearings tomorrow, September 7, 2022. Because both circuit court matters must be resolved before those general election ballots can be certified and displayed, Mr. Kobrin proposed that the deadline to certify and publicly display the ballots be pushed back to the 66th day before the general election, which is Thursday, September 8, 2022.

Deadline for Requesting Judicial Review: Mr. Kobrin explained that, as required in § 9-209(a) of the Election Law Article, the deadline for an individual to request judicial review of the certified and displayed ballots is within two days of the date the ballots are certified. Currently, that date is Thursday, September 8, 2022. By pushing the deadline to certify and display the ballots back to September 8, the deadline for requesting judicial review of the ballots would then automatically become September 10, 2022. There is no required action that the Board must take.

Deadline for Judicial Review of Ballot Errors: § 9-209(c) of the Election Law Article states that if an administrative error is discovered after the ballots have been publicly displayed and the State Administrator fails to correct the administrative error, a registered voter may seek judicial review not later than the 62nd day preceding the election, which currently is Thursday, September 8, 2022. Mr. Kobrin proposed that this deadline be pushed back two days to September 10, 2022 to align with the proposed deadline to request judicial review of the ballots.

Mr. Williams made a motion to move the deadline to certify the content and arrangement of ballots for the 2022 General Election from September 6, 2022 to September 8, 2022. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Woodward made a motion to move the deadline to publicly display the ballots for the 2022 General Election on the SBE website from September 6, 2022 to September 8, 2022. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Williams made a motion to move the deadline for judicial review of ballot errors to two within two days of certifying the ballots. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF EARLY VOTING AND ELECTION DAY VOTING LOCATIONS

Ms. Duncan proposed the following changes to election day polling places:

1. Allegany County: Ms. Duncan presented one polling place change in precinct 06-006. The local board is requesting to move the polling place used in for the primary election at the Bowling Green Volunteer Fire Department back to the Allegany County Multi-Purpose Building, 11400 Moss Avenue, SW, Cumberland, which was the original polling place for precinct 06-006. The Allegany County Multi-Purpose Building was unavailable for the primary election changed date.

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the polling place change for Allegany County as presented by Ms. Duncan. Ms. Woodward seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

2. Baltimore City: Ms. Duncan presented seven polling place changes for Baltimore City. Those changes are:
 - a. For precincts 27-028, 27-029, 27-033, and 27-035, the Baltimore City Board of Elections is requesting to change the polling place from the Chinquapin School to School 134, because the Chinquapin School is currently being used as a warehouse for school supplies.
 - b. For precinct 28-015, the Baltimore City Board of Elections is requesting to change the polling place from School 80 to School 81, at the request of the Board of Education due to PS 81 being a newer school.
 - c. For precincts 27-036 and 27-037, the Baltimore City Board of Elections is requesting to change the polling place from School 214 to School 134 because the Department of General Services can no longer secure the building safely anymore due to School 214 being a vacant school.
 - d. For precincts 16-009 and 20-004, the Baltimore City Board of Elections is requesting to change the polling place from School 145 to the Katherine Johnson Global Academy, because the Department of General Services can no longer secure the building safely anymore due to School 145 being a vacant school.
 - e. For precinct 28-014, the Baltimore City Board of Elections is requesting to change the polling place from School 246- Annex to School 246. This polling place for the primary election was in a school annex, which is no longer present. The new polling place will be in the main school building.
 - f. For precincts 27-013 and 27-068, the location of the polling place is not moving, but the name of the building has changed. The Baltimore City Board of Elections is requesting to change the name of the polling place from School 375 Baltimore

Collegiate School for Boys to the Professional Development Center, in accordance with the change in building name.

- g. For precinct 28-002, the Baltimore City Board of Elections is requesting to change the polling place from Firehouse #46 to School 406, due to objections from the community with the firehouse location.

In response to a question from Mr. Voelp, Ms. Duncan confirmed that Baltimore City Board of Elections approved these changes at its meeting on August 18, 2022.

In response to a question from Ms. Woodward, Mr. Jones explained that the building of the previous polling place for precinct 28-002 (prior to 2022) no longer belonged to the City, which necessitated the move to Firehouse #46. The community took issue with the traffic and lack of adequate parking at the firehouse. After meeting with the neighborhood association and the city council representative, the Board decided it was best to relocate the polling place for precinct 28-002.

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the polling place changes for Baltimore City as presented by Ms. Duncan. Ms. Woodward seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

3. Dorchester County: Ms. Duncan presented three polling place changes for Dorchester County. Those changes are:
 - a. For precincts 12-01 and 12-02, the Dorchester County Board of Elections is requesting to change the polling place from the Hurlock Community Center to the Hurlock Fire Hall, due to the school being under construction.
 - b. For precincts 15-01, 15-02, 15-003, and 15-04, the Dorchester County Board of Elections is requesting to change the polling place from the Hurlock Fire Hall to the Hurlock Elementary School to accommodate the need for more space.
 - c. For precinct 7-02, the Dorchester County Board of Elections is requesting to change the polling place from St. Luke's UMC Hall to Choptank Elementary School. The school was under construction for the primary election and the Board is requesting to move the polling place back to its original location.

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the polling place changes for Dorchester County as presented by Ms. Duncan. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

4. Frederick County: Ms. Duncan presented two polling place changes for Frederick County. Those changes are:
 - a. For precincts 02-008, 02-013, and 02-017, the Frederick County Board of Elections is requesting to change the polling place from the Independent Hose Company No. 1 to Waverly Elementary School, due to the school being under construction during the primary election.
 - b. For precinct 09-004, the Frederick County Board of Elections is requesting to change the polling place from the Damascus Road Community Church to Kemptown Elementary School, which is the original polling place but was unavailable during the primary election.

Mr. Voelp noted that the proposed changes have not yet been approved by the Frederick County Board of Elections and therefore any motion by the State Board approving the changes should be dependent on approval by the local board.

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the polling place changes for Frederick County, as presented by Ms. Duncan and pending approval of the changes by the Frederick County Board of Elections. Ms. Woodward seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Mr. Gutierrez stated that the Frederick County Board of Elections met earlier in the day and approved the two polling place changes. In response, Mr. Voelp noted that the motion was now fully passed by the Board.

5. Howard County: Ms. Duncan presented one polling place change for Howard County. For precinct 06-004, the Howard County Board of Elections is requesting to move the polling place from Clemmens Crossing Elementary School Gym to Atholoton Elementary School Cafeteria, which was the original polling place for the precinct.

Ms. Woodward made a motion to approve the polling place change for Howard County as presented by Ms. Duncan. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

6. Montgomery County: Ms. Duncan presented 18 polling place changes for Montgomery County. Of those 18 changes, seven removed a precinct from a consolidated polling place and kept the polling place the same for the remaining precinct(s). Those seven polling places removing a consolidation and the remaining precincts are:
 - a. Precinct 04-16: Thomas Wooton High School
 - b. Precincts 06-03 and 06-17: Ridgeview Middle School
 - c. Precinct 08-02: Longwood Recreation Center
 - d. Precincts 09-05 and 09-46: Montgomery Village Middle School
 - e. Precinct 12-05: Damascus High School
 - f. Precinct 13-58: Flora Singer Elementary School
 - g. Precinct 13-19: Schweinhaut Recreation Center

The remaining 11 proposed polling changes for Montgomery County are:

- a. For precinct 04-21, the Montgomery County Board of Elections is requesting to change the polling place from Thomas Wooton High School to Fallsmead Elementary School, due to summer HVAC work at Fallsmead. The polling place for precinct 04-21 is being unconsolidated from precinct 04-16.
- b. For precinct 05-06, the Montgomery County Board of Elections is requesting to change the polling place from Jackson Rose Elementary School to White Oak Middle School, due to summer HVAC work at White Oak Middle.
- c. For precinct 07-23, the Montgomery County Board of Elections is requesting to change the polling place from Wood Acres Elementary School to Walt Whitman High School, due to summer HVAC work at Walt Whitman.
- d. For precinct 08-16, the Montgomery County Board of Elections is requesting to change the polling place from the Longwood Recreation Center to Greenwood Elementary School, due to summer abatement work at Greenwood. The polling place for precinct 08-16 is being unconsolidated from precinct 08-02.
- e. For precinct 09-13, the Montgomery County Board of Elections is requesting to change the polling place from Ridgeview Middle School to Diamond Elementary School, due to summer HVAC work at Diamond. The polling place for precinct 09-13 is being unconsolidated from precincts 06-03 and 6-17.
- f. For precinct 09-15, the Montgomery County Board of Elections is requesting to change the polling place from Montgomery Village Middle School to Watkins Mill

- Elementary School, due to summer construction Watkins Mill. The polling place for precinct 09-15 is being unconsolidated from precincts 09-05 and 09-46.
- g. For precinct 12-01, the Montgomery County Board of Elections is requesting to change the polling place from Damascus High School to Damascus Elementary School, due to summer abatement work at Damascus Elementary. The polling place for precinct 12-01 is being unconsolidated from precinct 12-05.
 - h. For precinct 13-20, the Montgomery County Board of Elections is requesting to change the polling place from Northwood High School to Shannon Middle School, due to summer construction at Shannon Middle.
 - i. For precinct 13-31, the Montgomery County Board of Elections is requesting to change the polling place from Flora Singer Elementary School to Oakland Terrance Elementary School, due to summer HVAC work at Oakland Terrance. The polling place for precinct 13-31 is being unconsolidated from precinct 13-58.
 - j. For precinct 13-34, the Montgomery County Board of Elections is requesting to change the polling place from Newport Mill Middle School to the Kensington Town Hall, due to summer construction at the Town Hall.
 - k. For precinct 13-53, the Montgomery County Board of Elections is requesting to change the polling place from the Schweinhaut Recreation Center to Sligo Middle School, due to summer HVAC work at Sligo Middle. The polling place for precinct 13-53 is being unconsolidated from precinct 13-13.

Mr. Voelp noted that the meeting materials provided to the Board did not state if the Montgomery County Board of Elections had approved these changes yet. As was the case with Frederick County, Mr. Voelp stated that any motion for approval from the State Board would be contingent upon the local board approving the changes. In response to a question from Mr. Voelp, Ms. Duncan stated that she would follow up with the Montgomery County Board of Elections to determine how Montgomery County notifies affected voters of changed polling places. In response to a question from Mr. Miller, Ms. Duncan explained that SBE has a robust voter education campaign, in addition to official notification from the local board, to notify voters of any changes to polling places.

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the polling place changes for Montgomery County, as presented by Ms. Duncan, pending approval of the changes by the Montgomery County Board of Elections, and providing Ms. Duncan with missing information. Ms. Woodward seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

7. Saint Mary's County: Ms. Duncan presented one polling place change for Saint Mary's County. For precincts 08-03 and 08-10, the Saint Mary's County Board of Elections is requesting to move the polling place from Esperanza Middle School to its original location, Greenview Knolls Elementary School.

Ms. Woodward pointed out that the Saint Mary's County Board of Elections stated that the sample ballot is how a voter is notified of a change in polling place, which she felt was inadequate.

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the polling place change for Saint Mary's County as presented by Ms. Duncan and require additional notification to the affected voters in the form of a Voter Notification Card and signage at the old polling place. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

8. Wicomico County: Ms. Duncan presented four polling place changes for Wicomico County. Those changes are:
- a. For precinct 05-01, the Wicomico County Board of Elections is requesting to change the polling place from the Wicomico Civic Center back to the Wicomico High School Cafeteria, which is the original polling place for the precinct.
 - b. For precinct 09-06, the Wicomico County Board of Elections is requesting to change the polling place from Pemberton Elementary School back to the Cross Pointe Church of Nazarene, which is the original polling place for the precinct.
 - c. For precinct 11-01, the Wicomico County Board of Elections is requesting to change the polling place from New Dimensions Ministries to Delmar Elementary School, due to summer construction at Delmar Elementary, which is the original polling place for the precinct. 11-01 is being reconsolidated at Delmar Elementary School with precincts 11-02, 11-03, 11-04, 11-05, and 11-06.
 - d. For precincts 11-02, 11-03, 11-04, 11-05, and 11-06, the Wicomico County Board of Elections is requesting to change the polling place from Holy Redeemer Catholic Church to Delmar Elementary School, due to summer construction at Delmar Elementary, which is the original polling place for the precincts. Precincts 11-02, 11-03, 11-04, 11-05, and 11-06 are being reconsolidated at Delmar Elementary School with precinct 11-01.

In response to a question from Ms. Woodward, Mr. Voelp confirmed that these changes were approved by the Wicomico County Board of Elections at its August 17 meeting.

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the polling place changes for Wicomico County as presented by Ms. Duncan. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

9. Worcester County: Ms. Duncan presented one polling place change for Worcester County. For precinct 02-05, the Worcester County Board of Elections is requesting to move the polling place from Berlin Intermediate School to its original location, Stephen Decatur High School, due to summer construction at the high school. Mr. Voelp stated that this change was approved by the Worcester County Board of Elections at its August 19 meeting.

Ms. Woodward made a motion to approve the polling place change for Worcester County as presented by Ms. Duncan. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

10. Baltimore County: Ms. Duncan presented seven polling place changes for Baltimore County. Those changes are:
- a. For precinct 09-29, the Baltimore County Board of Elections is requesting to change the polling place from the Carver Center for Arts and Tech High School back to the South Pavilion at Towson University, which is the original polling place for the precinct.
 - b. For precinct 11-08, the Baltimore County Board of Elections is requesting to change the polling place from the Seven Oaks Elementary School Cafeteria back to the Cub Hill Bible Presbyterian Church, which is the original polling place for the precinct.
 - c. For precinct 11-16, the Baltimore County Board of Elections is requesting to change the polling place from the Parkville High School- Building B Cafeteria back to the Parkville High School Gymnasium, which is the original polling place for the precinct.

- d. For precinct 15-25, the Baltimore County Board of Elections is requesting to change the polling place from the Vincent Farm Elementary School Cafeteria back to the Gunpowder VFW Post 10067, which is the original polling place for the precinct.
- e. For precinct 10-06, the Baltimore County Board of Elections is requesting to change the polling place to Herford Middle School Cafeteria, which is the original polling place for the precinct.
- f. For precinct 11-20, the Baltimore County Board of Elections is requesting to change the polling place to the Seven Oaks Elementary School Gymnasium, which is the original polling place for the precinct.
- g. For precinct 15-27, the Baltimore County Board of Elections is requesting to change the polling place to the Martin Boulevard Elementary School Gymnasium, which is the original polling place for the precinct.

Mr. Voelp stated that these changes were approved by the Baltimore County Board of Elections at its August 24 meeting, and that all affected voters will receive a voter notification card.

Mr. Miller made a motion to approve the polling place changes for Baltimore County as presented by Ms. Duncan, as well as requiring additional notification to the affected voters, in the form of signage at the old polling places. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Ms. Dorsey presented the following changes to early voting centers:

1. Carroll County: Ms. Dorsey presented a request for approval from the Carroll County Board of Elections to replace one of its three early voting centers – the North Carroll Senior Center with the North Carroll High School Library Complex. The senior center is no longer available for early voting. SBE recommended approving the request.

Mr. Miller made a motion to approve the request for the replacement early voting center, as presented by Ms. Dorsey, for Carroll County. Ms. Woodward seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Frederick County: Ms. Dorsey presented a request for approval from the Frederick County Board of Elections to replace one of its four early voting centers – the Middletown VFW with the Myersville Town Hall Community Center. The VFW is not available for early voting. SBE recommended approving the request.

In response to a question from Ms. Dorsey, Mr. Gutierrez confirmed that the Frederick County Board of Elections approved this change earlier in the day.

Ms. Woodward made a motion to approve the request for a replacement early voting center, as presented by Ms. Dorsey, for Frederick County. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Voelp stated that the Board did not need to meet for closed session, and the next meeting is already set for September 28. Mr. Miller made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Woodward seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 3:17 pm.