

**State of Maryland** 

**State Board of Elections – June 20, 2023 Meeting**

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Attendees (via conference call):

William G. Voelp, Chair  
Severn Miller, Member  
Michael Summers, Member  
T. Sky Woodward, Member  
Yaakov “Jake” Weissmann, Member  
Linda Lamone, Administrator  
Dan Kobrin, Assistant Attorney General  
Donna Duncan, Assistant Deputy, Constituent Relations  
Keith Ross, Assistant Deputy, Project Management  
Melissia Dorsey, Assistant Deputy, Election Policy  
Jared DeMarinis, Director, Candidacy and Campaign Finance  
Fred Brechbiel, Chief Information Officer  
Brett Paradise, Director of Voter Registration  
Tracey Hartman, Director of Special Projects

**DECLARATION OF QUORUM PRESENT**

Mr. Voelp called the meeting to order at 1:01 pm and noted that Mr. Miller was not yet in attendance but declared that a quorum was present.

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

There were no additions to the agenda.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: OPEN MEETING ON MAY 4, 2023**

Mr. Summers made a motion to approve the open meeting minutes from the May 04, 2023 meeting. Ms. Woodward seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: CLOSED MEETING ON MAY 4, 2023**

Ms. Woodward made a motion to approve the closed meeting minutes from the May 04, 2023 meeting. Mr. Summers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT**

**Announcements & Important Meetings**

Welcome & Farewell

Ms. Lamone welcomed Morgan Rhoden (“Lexy”) as the new Deputy Director of Election Reform and Management. Morgan has a Law Degree and Bachelor’s in English. She is currently completing her work towards a Master’s in Business Administration. Most recently, she served as the Director of Development for the non-profit agency, City of Refuge Baltimore, where she managed a pro bono legal clinic. She has experience with branding, marketing, public relations, coordinating large events and grant management.

Ms. Lamone also welcomed Finn Dowdall, our summer intern. Finn completed his sophomore year at Princeton University and is interested in the electoral process.

She also thanked and gave best wishes to Shelly Holland, our former Director of Budget and Administration, and Tracey Hartman, Director of Special Projects. Shelly was an integral part of keeping the “behind the scenes” operations running smoothly, and Tracey coordinated the

important post-election audits, expanding voting by eligible individuals in correctional facilities, and other projects. She wished them both well in their next endeavors.

### Maryland Association of Election Officials (MAEO) Annual Conference

MAEO's annual conference was held in Ocean City, Maryland during the week of May 15, 2023. Several SBE staff members participated on substantive panels, and the agenda was packed with substantive and helpful information. We congratulate MAEO on another successful conference.

### Election Directors' Meeting

The Washington County Board of Elections held an in-person meeting on June 15, 2023 at their facility in Hagerstown. They hosted so we could recognize the retirement and many years of service of Washington County's former Election Director, Kaye Robucci. This also allowed all other election officials to view the long-awaited facility that combines new office space, warehouse and an early voting center. We updated the local boards on various projects, including the new electronic pollbook project, and tasks. A summary of this meeting will be provided with an upcoming *County Bulletin*.

## **Election Reform & Management**

### Election Judge Recruitment and Training

Ms. Dorsey reported that we sent out a mass email to all applicants from last year's elections to thank them and remind them to apply to serve again for 2024. In response, we received a surge of early applicants and interest emails. It was noted that a lot of the respondents indicated that they have previously served.

The Election Judge Workgroup meets weekly to review and revise training materials. Updated chapters, forms and documents are being uploaded to the library as they are finalized. All information on the Page Program has been updated and posted for 2024.

In response to a question from Mr. Weissman, Ms. Dorsey noted that the early application surge for election judges was more than normal for this early in the process. She thanked the SBE IT department for its work in sending out emails to all who had applied to be an election judge in 2022, which sparked a high response rate from the recipients.

### Online Training

Production is underway for the election judge online training program. Local boards will be able to use this training in conjunction with their hands-on training sessions to train their election judges for the 2024 elections.

### Paper Supply for 2024 Elections

We learned from the National Association of State Election Directors and vendor printing and mailing ballot packets that we should expect paper shortages in 2024. We alerted the local boards and are working with our printing partners to prepare.

## **Voter Registration**

### MDVOTERS

Mr. Paradise reported that acceptance testing is ongoing for release 9.2. The release will be in July and focuses on candidacy items, search improvements, and additional reports. The release will also include new reports to further enhance voter registration list maintenance, specifically with data received from the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) and MD Department of Health.

Incarceration and deceased data received from the respective agencies that do not match MDVOTERS records will be further reviewed against broader search criteria.

### MDVOTERS Audits

Monthly audits of voter registration data continue to verify compliance with federal and State laws governing voter registration. The monthly audits include review of the local boards of elections' processing of Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC) reports, Department of Health's death records, AOC felony records, and the processing of overall voter registration records. Follow up continues to be conducted with the local boards to ensure all corrections are completed and to address any training issues. General training sessions for LBE staff will commence this month and will continue periodically throughout the rest of the calendar year.

### Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) Transactions

During May, MVA collected the following voter registration transactions:  
New Registration - 10,454 Residential Address Changes - 17,184  
Last Name Changes - 2,353 Political Party - 3,821

### Current Total Registered Voters

As of June 6, 2023, there were 4,158,305 active voters in Maryland.

In response to a question from Mr. Weissman regarding how states that have recently departed from ERIC will affect voter registration in Maryland, Mr. Paradise reported that as of August 2023, there will be 26 states remaining in ERIC. He reported that we will no longer receive motor vehicle data from ERIC that those states who left would have submitted. Mr. Paradise reported that we have begun communication with the departing states to determine if there is anyway to maintain a data sharing relationship moving forward.

In response to a question from Mr. Voelp regarding the status of the surrendered licenses project, Mr. Paradise reported that he is working with the vendor that was selected for the project for an expected mail date near the end of this month.

### **Candidacy and Campaign Finance (CCF) Division**

#### Campaign Finance

The candidacy filings are scheduled by appointment, and as of June 6, 16 candidates have filed at SBE.

#### Public Financing

Anne Arundel County recently passed a public financing election program for the 2026 Election. It becomes the sixth local jurisdiction (Baltimore City and Baltimore, Howard, Montgomery, and Prince George's Counties are the others) to have a public financing program. The program will be reviewed for compliance with State laws and regulations.

#### Website Activity

In April 2023, the MD Campaign Reporting Information System (MD CRIS) website was visited by 416,532 individuals for an average of 13,884 per day. Additionally, it had 3,019,462 hits. Each viewer looked at an average of approximately 5.81 page views per day. The Business Contribution Disclosure System (BCDS) website had 968,701 hits, with 167,481 visitors with an average of nearly 5.25 page views per day.

## Enforcement

Mr. DeMarinis reported on the recent enforcement actions from April and May 2023. The information provided is the name of the committee, the amount of civil penalty paid, and the violation. The total amount collected was \$74,900. It includes the largest fine collected by SBE of \$48,000 for the failure to file a 48 hour report.

1. MSEA's Fund for Children and Public Education PAC; Authority line violation, \$250.
2. Naves, Anita (Dr.) The Smart People for Campaign; Cash Disbursement greater than \$25, \$200.
3. Smith, Noel Friends of; Cash Contribution and Cash Disbursement >\$25, \$300.
4. Johnson Sr., Darrin Citizens to Elect; Disbursement by Unauthorized Method and Failure to Report contributions and expenditures, \$350.
5. Frazier, (Robin) Vote 2010; Failure to Maintain Records & Failure to Record Contributions, \$550.
6. Dove, John C. Friends for Jr.; Failure to Record Contributions & Cash Disbursement greater than \$25, \$250.
7. The Old Line Project; Failure to Record Contributions & Expenditures, \$100.
8. Plumbers and Steamfitters Local 486 PAC; Failure to Record Contributions & Expenditures, \$1,200.
9. Harford County Correctional Assoc. Inc. PAC Fund; Failure to Record Contributions & Expenditures and Failure to Maintain Campaign Records, \$800.
10. Volunteer Fire PAC, Maryland; Failure to Record Contributions & Expenditures and Failure to Maintain Campaign Records, \$1,000.
11. Pappas (Alexander) 2022 Friends of; No Bank Account, \$50,
12. Luong, Minh Thanh Friends of; No bank account, \$50.
13. Waiters, Patricia M. Friends of; No Bank Account, \$50.
14. Figliozzi, Robert Friends of; No bank account, \$50.
15. Whitlock, Matthew Friends of; Authority line violation, \$50.
16. Barnwell, Tyrone The People For; Cash expenditures >\$25.00, \$500.
17. Alfeo, Gian Committee to Elect; Disbursement by Unauthorized Method, \$500.
18. DePaulo, Michael A. Friends of; Disbursement by Unauthorized method and Failure to maintain account books and records; \$1,500
19. Motorola Solutions, Inc. Political Action Committee; Failure to File 48 Hour Report, \$7,500
20. United Association Political Issues Fund; Failure to File 48 Hour Report, \$5,500
21. Sports Betting Alliance; Failure to File 48 Hour Report, \$48,000
22. WFP National Pac - Non-Contribution Account; Failure to file 48 Hour Report, \$7,000
23. Miller, Karin Friends of; Failure to Record Campaign Contributions, \$150
24. Joftus, Scott for MCPS Board of Ed; Failure to Record Campaign Contributions, \$50
25. Prince George's County Democratic Central Committee; Failure to record contributions & expenditures, \$1,200
26. Puzon, Ike Friends of; Failure to record contributions & expenditures, \$150
27. Howard County Republican Central Committee; Failure to Record contributions & Expenditures, Failure to keep campaign records, \$1,000
28. Richardson, Taneeka Friends of; No Bank Account, \$50

In response to a question from Ms. Woodward, Mr. DeMarinis explained that the 48 hour report is outside of the normal fines for political committees and candidate slates. He stated that independent expenditure entities or participating organizations, which do not have to follow the normal reporting rule, must file within 48 hours all their expenditure and contributors once they pass the \$10,000 threshold. He further explained that the entities which were fined for this

violation did eventually file the required report but failed to do so within the 48 hour window. The fine, he stated, is the larger \$1,000 a day for each day the report is late, or ten percent of the amount which was not disclosed.

In response to a question from Mr. Voelp, Mr. DeMarinis reported that the fined parties did not appeal the fines.

### **Electronic Pollbook**

Mr. Brechbiel reported that the pollbook solution vendor has been working at the Central Warehouse since April 24 and will continue work through July. This includes updating the tablets with Windows 11 approved updates/patches as well as loading and testing the three main applications that are part of the full solution.

A training plan and scope has been established and training classes are now being scheduled with subject matter experts.

The team has also engaged both the Center of Civic Design and the Department of Disabilities for ADA and non-visual accessibility requirement reviews. The vendor will be working on user interface updates to meet the requested changes.

### **Project Management Office (PMO)**

#### Central Warehouse

Mr. Ross reported that the warehouse team continued its work with the Pollbook team on the planning, testing and other requirements for the new pollbook equipment being performed by the vendor and members of the pollbook team at the Central Warehouse over the next few months.

Continued to work with the Department of General Services (DGS) on the requirements for entering into a new lease agreement with the landlord. The landlord did receive from DGS the list of updates and fixes that need to be made to the facility.

#### Equipment and Supply Inventory

SBE's FY2023 Inventory Audit is in progress with a statewide completion of 97.23%. June 30, 2023, is the last day for completing the inventory audit.

Mr. Ross will be attending the annual Property Officer training session this month conducted by DGS.

#### Records Inventory

The PMO continued work on several tasks related to the agency's Records Inventory Management to ensure that it meets the State's requirements for managing records/documents.

There was a presentation for the Local Boards concerning the Records Inventory Management expectations, the project, a summary of the recent survey they completed, and the upcoming procedures that will be implemented shortly that impacts the Local Boards.

Mr. Ross will be attending the three annual records management webinars this month conducted by State Archives and DGS.

## **ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL'S REPORT**

Mr. Kobrin reported that there have not been any updates since his last report.

## **APPROVAL OF REGULATIONS**

### **Approval of Amendments to COMAR for Final Adoption**

Ms. Lamone presented the following proposed amendments for final adoption:

1. 33.01.05.06 – Definitions; General Provisions – Administrative Complaint Procedure
2. 33.03.02.01, .03, and .04 – Records Management – Copies of Registration Lists
3. 33.10.01.18 – EVS Voting Solution – Ballots – Chain of Custody
4. 33.12.02.05 – Recounts – Initiation of Recounts – Personnel
5. 33.16.02.01 and .03 – .06 – Provisional Voting – Provisional Voting Documents and Supplies
6. 33.16.04.02 – Provisional Voting – Pre-Canvass Procedures
7. 33.16.05.04 – Provisional Voting – Canvass of Ballots – Procedures – Record of Disposition
8. 33.17.02.02 and .04 – Early Voting – Early Voting Center
9. 33.19.01.01 – Same Day Registration and Address Changes – Definitions; General Provisions
10. 33.19.02.01 – Same Day Registration and Address Changes – Public Notice
11. 33.21.01.02 – Special Elections by Mail – Definitions; General Provisions
12. 33.21.03.02 and .03 – Special Elections by Mail – Issuance and Return
13. 33.21.04.06 – Special Elections by Mail – Voting Centers

The proposed changes to the regulations were adopted at the February 23, 2023 meeting. They were published in the March 10, 2023 edition of the *Maryland Register* (Vol. 50, Issue 5), and the public comment period closed on April 10, 2023. The proposed changes were published in the April 7, 2023, edition of the *Maryland Register* (Vol. 50, Issue 7). The public comment period closed on May 8, 2023.

One public comment was received jointly from the Disability Rights Maryland, League for People with Disabilities, and the Maryland Developmental Disabilities Council. Their comments fall into the two general areas:

1. Improved accessibility of the Administrative Complaint Form. The organizations recommended offering a fillable PDF, providing the form in multiple languages, and allowing the electronic submission of a completed and notarized form. We recently updated the form and included instructions on how to submit the completed form electronically. The English version of the revised form is posted, and the form is currently being translated into Spanish and will be posted once we receive the translation.
2. Improved accessibility of the hearing process. The organizations recommended allowing virtual hearings. We agree with this change, and although it is not necessary to update the regulations to reflect this, we will propose at the June 20 meeting changes to COMAR 33.01.05.06 to specify that virtual hearings are permitted.

No other public comments were received about the other proposed regulations.

Mr. Weissman made a motion to adopt the proposed amendments to COMAR 33.01.05.06, 33.03.02.01, .03 &.04, 33.10.01.18, 33.12.02.05, 33.16.02.01 &.03-.06, 33.16.04.02, 33.16.05.04,

33.17.02.02&.04, 33.21.01.02, 33.21.03.02&.03 and 33.21.04.06 for final adoption, as presented by Ms. Lamone. Mr. Summers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of Amendments to COMAR 33.01.01.01, 33.01.05.06, 33.02.03.05, 33.07.11.01-.02, 33.15.02.01, 33.15.03.01-.02 and 33.17.05.03**

Mr. Kobrin presented a proposed amendment to COMAR 33.01.05.06. He stated that the proposed amendment allows a hearing to be conducted either in person or virtually and allows the complainant to request - for good cause - another date, time, or method for the hearing. We received comments in response to prior proposed changes stating the virtual hearings make this process more accessible to voters with disabilities.

In response to a question from Mr. Weissman, Mr. Kobrin noted that “good cause” is not defined, and instead will be determined by the Board on a case-by-case basis.

Ms. Woodward made a motion to adopt the proposed amendment to COMAR 33.01.05.06, as presented by Mr. Kobrin. Mr. Summers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Dorsey presented proposed amendments to the following regulations:

1. 33.01.01.01 – Definitions

Ms. Dorsey explained that the proposed change provides an interpretation of the definition of “historically disenfranchised communities.” The interpretation will permit local boards and the State Board to conduct the necessary analysis required by Election Law Article § 2-303.1(b)(3)(vii) & (c)(2) attendant to polling place plans.

Mr. Weissman made a motion to adopt the proposed amendments to COMAR 33.01.01.01, as presented by Ms. Dorsey. Mr. Summers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. 33.02.03.05 – Judges’ Manual and Training

The proposed language is based on the AELR review of changes to this regulation presented at the April Board meeting. To conform the regulation to HB1200 (2023), the language should be “shall pay at least \$50.”

3. 33.07.11.01 - .02 – Election Judges

The proposed text establishes the minimum compensation to be paid to election judges to reflect the requirements [HB1200](#) (2023), which increased the minimum compensation for election judges. In accordance with HB1200 (2023), the regulation provides for a bonus to be paid to returning election judges and defines a returning election judge for the purposes of such payments.

Mr. Summers made a motion to adopt the proposed amendments to COMAR 33.02.03.05 and 33.07.11.01, as presented by Ms. Dorsey. Mr. Weissman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. 33.15.02.01 – New or Changed Precincts

This proposed text clarifies the scope of the article to ensure it is consistent with HB410 (2023), by removing references to consolidation of polling locations for special elections.

5. 33.15.03.01 - .02 – Polling Places

This proposed text defines the process for local boards to develop a polling place plan. It mirrors the process established for polling place plans and the requirements of HB410 of the 2023 Legislative Session. Further, the proposed regulation provides for the creation of a form by SBE to be used by the local boards to submit the polling place plan, as well as the documentation that must accompany the form. Finally, the regulation updates existing notice requirements for changes to polling places to reflect the new requirements of HB410.

Ms. Woodward made a motion to adopt the proposed amendments to COMAR 33.15.02.01 and 33.15.03.01- .02, as presented by Ms. Dorsey. Mr. Summers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. 33.17.05.03 – Early Voting – Election Judges – Training of Election Judges

The proposed language is based on the AELR review of changes to this regulation presented at the April Board meeting. To conform the regulation to [HB1200](#) (2023), the language should be “shall pay at least \$50”.

Mr. Summers made a motion to adopt the proposed amendments to COMAR 33.17.05.03, as presented by Ms. Dorsey. Mr. Weissman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of Amendments to COMAR 33.13.21.01-.05, and 33.18.01.02**

Mr. DeMarinis presented the new regulations and proposed amendments listed below. He explained that the proposed new regulations under a new chapter, Chapter 21- Online Platforms, clarify the requirements of Election Law Article §13-405 for online platforms and the placements of qualifying paid digital communications. The regulations address the concerns of the court raised in *Washington Post v. MacManus*. 944 F.3d 506 (2019) by limiting the scope of applicability and modifying the definition of the online platform.

1. 33.13.21.01

The proposed regulation narrows the application of the statute and regulations to online platforms that are not press organizations or entities.

2. 33.13.21.02

The proposed regulations define key terms of art and narrowly tailors the definition of an online platform with a revenue component.

3. 33.13.21.03

The proposed regulations define the responsibilities of the political advertiser purchaser with respect to an online platform. It requires the purchaser to affirmatively notify the

online platform that it intends to place a qualifying paid digital communication on the platform to influence voters. The regulation requires the purchaser to provide the platform with the necessary information to be published on the database. Additionally, the regulation mandates the purchaser to notify the State Board of Election within 48 hours if the online platform does not provide a mechanism to identify the placement of qualifying paid digital communications.

4. 33.13.21.04

The proposed regulation requires the online platform to provide a mechanism to identify a political advertiser purchaser prior to the completion of the commercial transaction for the placement of qualifying paid digital communication. Additionally, the regulation clarifies the requirements for the public database of the qualifying paid digital communications on the online platform and whether the commercial transaction used any intermediary sites such as an ad network for placement.

5. 33.13.21.05

The proposed regulation sets the civil penalties for noncompliance with the statute and regulations.

Mr. Miller joined the meeting at 1:38 p.m.

In response to a question from Mr. Weissman, Mr. DeMarinis stated that these regulations allow the online platforms to ask the campaign or agent if they are political, which then allows the platform to collect the necessary information.

In response to a question from Mr. Voelp, Mr. DeMarinis stated that “press organization” is not defined, and that common law and court cases should be used to determine what constitutes a press organization moving forward. He clarified that the proposed regulations require an online platform to have at least \$10 million in annual revenue and at least 200k subscribers.

In response to a follow-up question from Mr. Voelp, Mr. DeMarinis explained that these regulations are trying to eliminate disinformation that stems from paid advertising.

Mr. Summers made a motion to adopt the proposed amendments to COMAR 33.13.21.01- .05, as presented by Mr. DeMarinis. Mr. Weissman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. 33.18.01.02

In the 2023 General Assembly Legislative session, SB 269/HB 169 prohibited the use of currencies other than United States currency in making monetary contributions, donations, expenditures or disbursements, The proposed regulation sets the civil citation penalties for failure to use United States currency in those situations.

Mr. Weissman made a motion to adopt the proposed amendments to COMAR 33.18.01.02, as presented by Mr. DeMarinis. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **APPROVAL OF CONFIDENTIALITY REQUEST**

Mr. DeMarinis presented a request from two voters (both sitting judges) to keep their addresses and phone numbers confidential and stated that the Candidacy and Campaign Finance Division verified that the requesting individual was eligible to have their residential address and telephone numbers be confidential. Mr. DeMarinis stated that the request for confidentiality met all conditions.

Ms. Woodward made a motion to approve the confidentiality requests as presented. Mr. Summers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **APPROVAL OF TITLE 13 WAIVER REQUESTS**

Mr. DeMarinis presented requests from 16 campaigns to waive or reduce late fees incurred by the committee. Eight campaigns were denied waivers of late fees and were presented to the board for informational purposes. No action is required from the Board for denied requests for waivers.

The campaigns requesting a waiver or reduction of late filing fees are:

- |                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Andrews, Michelle Citizens for     | 10. Hundal, Manpreet People for         |
| 2. Angolia, Olivia Citizens for       | 11. Long, Charles A. Committee to Elect |
| 3. Brooks, Shayla Friends of          | 12. Mckenzie, Ongisa Ichile For Charles |
| 4. Coaliton for Beter Montgomery PAC  | County                                  |
| 5. Consultng Engineers Council MD PAC | 13. Morales, Marice I. Friends of       |
| 6. Davis, Tierney (T.F.) Citizens For | 14. Mwaura, Thomas Citizen For          |
| 7. Dunmore, Shanai Friends of         | 15. Sactic, Jorge L. Friends of         |
| 8. Evelyn, Janssen E. Friends of      | 16. Sammons, Vincent Friends of         |
| 9. Hall, Tyrone Elect                 |   |

In response to a question from Mr. Weissman, Mr. DeMarinis explained that waiver requests are generally granted to first time requests, requests from those that are just trying to close out their account, or have a history of compliance, or if there is a medical emergency or extraordinary circumstances.

Mr. Weissman made a motion to approve the 16 Title 13 late fee waiver requests as presented, and Ms. Woodward seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **TITLE 14 WAIVER REQUESTS**

Mr. DeMarinis presented three requests from businesses to waive late fees incurred by the business. Five businesses were denied waivers of late fees incurred by the entity, which was presented to the board for informational purposes only. No action is required from the Board for denied waiver.

The campaigns requesting a waiver or reduction of late filing fees are:

1. CASA de Maryland, Inc
2. Incapsulate, LLC
3. Spiniello Companies

Mr. Miller made a motion to approve the four Title 14 late fee waiver requests as presented, and Mr. Summers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### *Regulations Regarding Handguns at Polling Places*

After a short discussion, Mr. Summers and Mr. Voelp requested that this issue be placed on the agenda for the July board meeting, to which Ms. Duncan agreed.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

## **DISCLOSURE OF CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS**

There were no campaign contributions.

## **SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for Thursday, July 27, 2023 at 2 p.m.

## **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT**

In response to a question from Mr. Summers, Mr. Voelp announced that this would be the final meeting for Mr. Miller and Ms. Woodward. Mr. Summers, Mr. Weissman, and Mr. Voelp thanked them for their service and dedication to the State Board and the voters of Maryland. Mr. Miller and Ms. Woodward both thanked their fellow board members and stated that serving on the State Board has been an extraordinary honor, privilege, and responsibility.

## **CLOSED SESSION – PERSONNEL**

Mr. Voelp requested a motion to close the board meeting under §3-305(b)(1) of the General Provisions Article, which permits closing a meeting to discuss a personnel matter. Mr. Summers made a motion to convene in closed session under General Provisions Article, §3-305(b)(1), and Mr. Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The motion having passed, the Board met in closed session in accordance with exemption defined in (b)(1) of Section 3-305 of the Open Meetings Act to discuss compensation of an official over whom the State Board has jurisdiction. The closed session began at 2:25 pm. Mr. Voelp, Mr. Miller, Mr. Summers, Mr. Weissman and Ms. Woodward attended the closed meeting. In addition to the board members, Ms. Lamone, Mr. Kobrin, Ms. Duncan, and Shermaine Malcom, Director of Human Resources, attended the meeting.

A motion was made and unanimously approved to accept the recommended compensation of the official over whom the State Board has jurisdiction.

Mr. Miller made a motion to adjourn the closed meeting, and Mr. Summers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The closed meeting adjourned at 2:45 pm.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Weissman made a motion to adjourn the open meeting. Ms. Woodward seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The open meeting adjourned at 2:15 pm.

Attendees (via conference call):

William G. Voelp, Chairman  
Carlos Ayala, Member  
Janet Millenson, Member  
Michael Summers, Member  
Yaakov “Jake” Weissmann, Member  
Dan Kobrin, Assistant Attorney General  
Donna Duncan, Assistant Deputy, Constituent Relations  
Keith Ross, Assistant Deputy, Project Management  
Melissia Dorsey, Assistant Deputy, Election Policy  
Jared DeMarinis, Director, Candidacy and Campaign Finance  
Fred Brechbiel, Chief Information Officer  
Jennifer McLaughlin, Senior Policy Advisor

**DECLARATION OF QUORUM PRESENT**

Mr. Voelp called the meeting to order at 2:08 pm and declared that a quorum was present. All Members were present.

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Mr. Weissmann moved to suspend §§ 3.1B – Location, 3.3A.4 – Administrator’s Report, and 3.3D – Administrator’s Report of the [Bylaws of the Maryland State Board of Elections](#) along with merging the July and August Administrator’s Report Detail for submittal and approval in August. Mr. Summer’s seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

Mr. Voelp welcomed and introduced new Members Janet Millenson and Carlos Ayala. Ms. Millenson and Mr. Ayala’s terms began on July 1, 2023. Today is their first meeting.

**ELECTION OF BOARD CHAIRMAN**

Mr. Voelp expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to serve as Chairman of the Board for the last few years. The Board thanked Mr. Voelp for his service as the Chairman of the Board.

Mr. Voelp stated that it was time for the annual election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman positions.

Mr. Weissmann nominated Mr. Summers for Chairman. Mr. Voelp seconded the nomination. Mr. Summers was elected Chair unanimously.

**ELECTION OF BOARD VICE-CHAIRMAN**

[Mr. Summers presiding.]

Mr. Summers expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to serve as Chairman of the Board.

Mr. Summers stated that it was time for the annual election of the Vice-Chairman position.

Mr. Summers nominated Mr. Voelp as Vice-Chairman. Mr. Ayala seconded the nomination. Mr. Voelp was elected Vice-Chairman unanimously.

### **APPROVAL OF CONFIDENTIALITY REQUEST**

Mr. DeMarinis stated the definition of and requirements for becoming a confidential voter and presented requests from two voters (members of the state or federal judiciary) to keep their address and phone numbers confidential and stated that the Candidacy and Campaign Finance Division verified that the requesting individuals are eligible to have their residential addresses and telephone numbers be confidential. Mr. DeMarinis stated that the request for confidentiality met all conditions.

Mr. Summers called for a vote to approve the confidentiality requests as presented. The requests were approved unanimously.

### **APPROVAL OF TITLE 13 WAIVERS**

Mr. DeMarinis provided a brief overview of the Title 13 Waiver policy and presented requests from ten campaigns to waive or reduce late fees incurred by the committee. Nine campaigns were denied waivers of late fees and were presented to the Board for informational purposes. No action is required from the Board for denied requests for waivers.

The campaigns requesting a waiver or reduction of late filing fees are:

1. ABC of Chesapeake Shores PAC
2. Buchanan, David People for
3. Conservative Club of Maryland PAC
4. Feldwick, (Christopher) Chris Americans For
5. Freeman, Harry Friends of
6. Gauthier, Rachel Friends of
7. Marylanders for Freedom and Opportunity
8. Smith, Taiwan, (T.J.) Friends of
9. Vogel Roitman, Joe Friends of
10. Lower Shore Progressive Caucus PAC

Mr. DeMarinis stated there are 34 campaigns with de minimis violations. The OSP will not seek enforcement actions for these accounts.

Mr. DeMarinis stated there are additional campaigns with violations outside of the statute of limitations. The OSP will not seek enforcement actions for these accounts.

Mr. Voelp made a motion to approve 10 Title 13 late fee waiver requests, 34 de minimis nol. pros. accounts, and the additional accounts outside of the statute of limitations as presented. Mr. Weissmann seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **APPROVAL OF TITLE 14 WAIVERS**

Mr. DeMarinis provided a brief overview of the Title 14 Waivers process and presented two requests from businesses to waive late fees incurred by the business. Two businesses were denied waivers of late fees incurred by the entity, which was presented to the Board for informational purposes only. No action is required from the Board for denied requests for waivers.

The campaigns requesting a waiver or reduction of late filing fees are:

1. Maryland Rooftop Solar Coalition

## 2. Odyssey Investment Partners, LLC

Mr. Voelp made a motion to approve the two Title 14 late fee waiver requests as presented. Ms. Millenson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Discuss By-Law review and approval.

Mr. Weissmann requested a copy of the *"Duties of the State Board and State Administrator"* as cited in the [Bylaws of the Maryland State Board of Elections](#).

Mr. Weissmann made a motion to table discussing By-Laws until the next meeting, after receipt of the requested document. Mr. Voelp seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **DISCLOSURE OF CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS**

There were no campaign contributions.

### **SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 29, 2023, at 1 p.m.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

Not convened.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Weissmann made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Voelp seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The open meeting adjourned at 2:54 pm.