

MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2025

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Virtual Attendance Board Members:

David A. Naimon, President

Daniel A. Koroma, Vice President

Amoretta (Amie) M. Hoeber, Secretary

Keyna I. Anyiam, Board Member

Alexander C. Vincent, Board Member

Margie C. Delao, Substitute Member

Lawrence J. Halloran, Substitute Member

Virtual Attendance Board Attorney:

Kevin Karpinski

In-Person and Virtual Staff Attendance:

Boris Brajkovic, Election Director

Philip Jackson, Outreach, Recruitment, and Training Manager

Lisa Merino-Dean, Administrative Specialist

Sandra Prudenti, Voter Services Manager

Janet Ross, Voting Systems and Information Technology Manager

Mindy Williams, Elections Operations Manager

Gilberto Zelaya, Outreach Coordinator/Public Information Officer

A video of the meeting may be found on YouTube at the link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PCUxeI5UoPE>

Convene Board of Elections Meeting (0:06)

Mr. Naimon called the meeting of the Board of Elections to order and declared a quorum present at 4:02 P.M.

President's Remarks (0:30)

Mr. Naimon began by informing the Board that the staff had previously informed municipalities holding elections in 2025 that they are legally required to share their results with the Maryland State Board of Elections. Additionally, Mr. Naimon informed the Board that some municipalities (including the Village of Chevy Chase and the Town of Somerset) have charters that allow them to cancel their elections if a candidate is running unopposed. Mr. Naimon reminded everyone that in elections administered by the State Board of Elections via the local Boards of Elections, all contests will be on the ballot regardless of whether the race is contested or not.

Mr. Naimon said that we are required to follow a variety of federal and state laws related to elections, but there is a significant legal question as to whether states must follow Presidential Executive Orders, which he assumes will be decided by the courts. He added that today's conversation about the United States Postal Service's proposed rule change is not designed to be a debate over the value and wisdom of Mail-In Voting, which the U.S. Congress and the Maryland General Assembly already have debated and decided, but a discussion of the practical effects of USPS policies and procedures on the voting we're required to provide under current federal and state law.

Additions/Changes to the Agenda (4:35)

No additions or changes to the agenda were requested.

Disclosure of Campaign Contributions and Fundraiser Attendance (4:44)

No disclosures were made.

Public Comments (5:00)

No public comments were submitted.

Election Director's Report (5:30)

The Election Director's Report can be found [at this link](#).

Mr. Brajkovic reported that, following the death of Mr. Joseph M. Griffin, his name will no longer appear on the ballot for the 2026 Election Cycle. Additionally, for the 2026 Election, the most up-to-date list of candidates who have filed can be found on the Maryland State Board of Elections' website at <https://elections.maryland.gov/>.

Mr. Brajkovic announced that the new Montgomery County Board of Elections Training and Canvass Center has been completed. Mr. Brajkovic added that all canvassing sessions will take place at the center, located in the building a few doors down from the main entrance of the existing Board of Elections' office at 18753 N. Frederick Ave, Gaithersburg, MD 20879.

Mr. Brajkovic noted that a delegation of staffers from the U.S. Senate Rules Committee, the Executive Director of the National Association of State Election Directors, the Maryland State Election Administrator and the Deputy Administrator from the State Board of Elections, and a representative from the Maryland Department of Legislative Services visited the office on August 26, 2025. During this visit, guests were provided with a tour of the facility and a briefing on Montgomery County, election processes, transparency of operations, and warehouse capacity.

Mr. Naimon asked for clarification regarding this month's budget expenditure tracking report, which can be found [at this link](#), where the year to date total expenses for three line items and the original budget amount are the same. Mr. Brajkovic responded that for certain line items, a purchase order is prepared for the full fiscal year budgeted amount; therefore, the current month may show that the whole budgeted

amount has been spent. Purchase orders are prepared, and invoices are reconciled using the funds from the purchase order, which eases the burden on staff when processing high volumes of invoices that are recurring.

Mr. Halloran asked about the party affiliations of those from the delegation of staffers from the U.S. Senate Rules Committee who visited the Montgomery County Board of Elections' office. Mr. Naimon responded that two were from the majority (Republican) party and four were from the minority (Democratic) party.

Board Attorney's Report (26:40)

Mr. Karpinski reported that he has continued working with Mr. Brajkovic and Ms. Williams on finalizing memoranda of understanding for the early voting centers in the 2026 Election Cycle. He expects that they will be finished in the following weeks and begin to be circulated to the points of contact for the Early Voting Centers.

Website Update (27:45)

Mr. Brajkovic informed the Board that the Board of Elections' website usage continues to reflect normal usage in a non-election year following the 2024 Election Cycle. Website statistics can be found [at this link](#).

Outreach Update (28:55)

The list of outreach events for August and September 2025 can be found [at this link](#).

Dr. Zelaya informed the Board that staff has been busy planning and participating in various community events and festivals, including the upcoming National Voter Registration Day on September 16, 2025. As schools are back in session, outreach events are beginning at local high schools and colleges. At these events, staff provide interested individuals with information on becoming an election worker, registering to vote, updating voter registration information, requesting a mail-in ballot, and how to cancel a permanent mail-in ballot status. Dr. Zelaya encourages the public to contact the Board of Elections with any inquiries or requests for our participation in a community event.

Old Business (36:50)

There was no old business discussed.

New Business (36:59)

Discussion and Board Action on the United States Postal Service's August 12, 2025, Request for Comments on a proposed addition to the Mailing Standards of the United States Postal Service, Domestic Mail Manual (DMM) regarding "Postmarks and Postal Possession" (37:01)

Comments sent to the United States Postal Service can be found [at this link](#).

The full discussion on the letter that will be sent to the United States Postal Service can be found [at this link](#).

Mr. Naimon moved to approve the slate of proposed concepts for comments. Ms. Hoeber seconded the motion. Following the discussion, Mr. Naimon requested consent to amend his previous motion to support the comment concepts as revised during the meeting's discussion. The motion was carried unanimously.

Future Action Items (1:55:07)

- Dr. Zelaya will add language to the outreach calendar that the list of events contains both public and private events, and all public events can be found on the Board of Elections' website.
- The Board will finalize the comment letter to the United States Postal Service.

Approval of Minutes (2:03:40)

Board action on the meeting minutes from the August 4, 2025, Board of Elections meeting will take place at the next Board meeting on October 20, 2025.

Future Meetings (2:04:40)

All meetings begin at 3:00 P.M. unless otherwise indicated. Dates and times are subject to change.

- Monday, October 20, 2025 (Virtual)
- Monday, November 17, 2025 (In-Person)
 - The meeting will begin at 2:30 P.M. with an executive session that is expected to last until at least 3:15 P.M. The public meeting will begin shortly after the executive session has concluded.
- Monday, December 15, 2025

Adjournment (2:05:30)

Mr. Naimon adjourned the Board Meeting at 6:08 P.M.

Approved by the Board,

The Board President's signature appears on the original document.

David A. Naimon
Board President