

Norfolk Electoral Board

Minutes of the Primary Election Canvass, June 24 & 26, 2020

Present:

H. Michael Ziegenfuss (Chair), Atoy Carrington (Vice Chairwoman), Michael Khandelwal (Secretary), Stephanie Iles (Director of Elections & General Registrar)

Observers Present, Wednesday, June 24, 2020: Bob Brown (Chairman of the Norfolk Republican Party)

Others Present, Wednesday, June 24, 2020: Hon. George E. Schaefer (Norfolk Circuit Court Clerk)

The Norfolk Electoral Board was called to order on Wednesday, June 24, 2020 at 10:04 a.m. by Mr. Ziegenfuss in the Circuit Court Clerk's conference room to canvass the June 23, 2020 Republican Primary Election and to consider the Provisional Ballots cast.

Research of Provisional Ballots:

Thirty-five (35) Provisional Ballots were issued on June 23, 2020. Mr. Khandelwal's motion to direct the staff of the Office of Elections to research the qualification for each voter was seconded by Ms. Carrington. The Board unanimously approved the motion, and the Provisional Ballots were placed in the custody of Yetta Wilkins, Elections Assistant IV.

Approval of Minutes from the June 19, 2020 Electoral Board Meeting:

Ms. Carrington moved to approve the minutes from the June 19, 2020 meeting. Mr. Khandelwal seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the minutes from the meeting.

Election Canvass, Day One:

The Board began the canvass of the election.

After a lunch break, the Board continued its review of the election results.

Mr. Khandelwal moved to recess the meeting until Friday, June 26, 2020 at 11:30 a.m. in the 6th Floor Conference Room at City Hall, at which time the Board would continue the canvass of the election and complete the canvass of the Provisional Ballots cast on Election Day. The motion was seconded by Ms. Carrington and carried unanimously. The Board recessed at 4:56 p.m.

Election Canvass, Day Two:

The Board re-convened at 12:05 p.m. on June 26, 2020 in the 6th Floor Conference Room at City Hall to continue to canvass the June 23, 2020 Republican Primary.

The canvass of the forty-nine (49) precincts (including the Absentee Precinct) was completed.

The Board completed the canvass of the thirty-five (35) Provisional Ballots issued on Election Day. The Registrar presented the results of the research on each voter's qualification.

One (1) Provisional Ballot was found to be from a voter who was not registered to vote; two (2) were from voters who were registered in a jurisdiction other than Norfolk; and four (4) were from voters who were sent Absentee Ballots and the Norfolk Office of Elections received back a marked ballot by Election Day, so their Absentee Ballot did count.

Ms. Carrington made a motion to not count the one (1) Provisional Ballot from the voter not registered to vote, which Mr. Khandelwal seconded. The vote of the Board was unanimous. In addition, Ms. Carrington moved to not count the two (2) Provisional Ballots of the voters that were registered in another jurisdiction; the motion was seconded by Mr. Khandelwal and passed by a unanimous vote of the Board. Further, a motion was made by Ms. Carrington to not count the four (4) Provisional Ballots from Absentee Voters whose Absentee Ballot was received by Election Day by Norfolk Office of Elections. Mr. Khandelwal seconded the motion which was then carried unanimously by the Board.

Of the remaining twenty-eight (28) Provisional Ballots, one (1) Provisional Ballot was from a voter who was not in the pollbook but was found to be qualified; and twenty-seven (27) Provisional Ballots were from Absentee voters who either did not receive an Absentee ballot or did not have one to surrender at the Precinct, and research showed that the Norfolk Office of Elections did not receive their marked ballot in the mail.

Ms. Carrington moved to accept the one (1) Provisional Ballot from the voter who was not in the pollbook but was found to be qualified. Mr. Khandelwal seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously. Ms. Carrington then moved to accept the twenty-seven (27) Provisional Ballots from voters who did not receive their Absentee Ballot. The motion was seconded by Mr. Khandelwal and was passed by a unanimous vote of the Board.

The Board counted the twenty-eight (28) approved Provisional Ballots and completed the Provisional Ballot Certification Form.

After a short lunch break, the Board continued its certification of the election results in the 6th Floor Conference Room at City Hall.

The Abstracts were printed and signed by each Board member before the Board Secretary signed and sealed five (5) copies. The Results Certification Checklist was also prepared and signed by Ms. Iles and Mr. Khandelwal, then sent, along with an attested copy of the Abstracts, to the Virginia State Board of Elections electronically.

The Board reviewed the Precincts visited on their routes during the Election. Suggestions were given to Ms. Iles by the Board for Precinct operations and Officer of Election training. Overall, high praise was given to Ms. Iles, her staff, and the Chiefs and Officers for their great work during the Election.

Such other business as may come before the Electoral Board:

The next meeting of the Norfolk Electoral Board was set for Thursday, July 30, 2020 at 10 a.m. at the General Registrar's office.

Board members and Ms. Iles will be present for the swearing in of the Mayor and two Superward Councilmembers at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, July 1, 2020 in the Norfolk City Council Chambers.

Mr. Khandelwal moved to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Ms. Carrington. The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m. by unanimous vote of the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Khandelwal".

Michael Khandelwal, Secretary
June 26, 2020