

City of Auburndale Canvassing Board Minutes November 7, 2023

Minutes of the Auburndale Canvassing Board for the 2023 Municipal Election of November 7, 2023 held at 6:00 p.m. at the Supervisor of Elections' Elections Operations Center, 70 Florida Citrus Blvd., Winter Haven, FL, after having been properly advertised, with the following members present: Mayor Dorothea Taylor Bogert, Commissioners: Keith Cowie, Richard Hamann, Jack Myers, and Bill Sterling. Also, present were: City Manager Jeffrey Tillman, Assistant City Attorney Seth Claytor, and City Clerk Brandon Henry.

Rachel Harris, Community Services Director for the Supervisor of Elections Office, assisted with the Canvassing Board Process.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND APPOINT CHAIR

The meeting was called to order and the first order of business was to appoint a Chair for the Canvassing Board.

Motion by Commissioner Cowie, seconded by Commissioner Hamann, to appoint Mayor Taylor Bogert to serve as Chair of the Canvassing Board. Upon vote, all ayes.

2. MAIL BALLOT REPORT

Rachel Harris presented the report of Vote-by-Mail ballots. Total requested Vote-by-Mail ballots are 1,389 ballots, with a total returned to date being 727. 727 ballots were accepted by the City Clerk.

3. ACCEPT MAIL BALLOTS AS RECOMMENDED BY CITY CLERK

Motion by Commissioner Hamann, seconded by Commissioner Cowie, to open and process accepted Vote-by-Mail ballots. Upon vote, all ayes.

4. REVIEW MAIL BALLOT CRITERIA SHEET

Rachel Harris went over the Vote-by-Mail scenarios to be resolved by the Canvassing Board.

5. REVIEW MAIL BALLOTS AS RECOMMENDED BY CITY CLERK

The Canvassing Board reviewed three ballots, Voter IDs # 117116512, 124811507, and 113816249 – no voter signatures.

Motion by Commissioner Cowie, seconded by Commissioner Hamann, to reject the ballots. Upon vote, all ayes.

The Canvassing Board reviewed one ballot, Voter ID # 113654898 - voter moved out of City limits.

Motion by Commissioner Cowie, seconded by Commissioner Hamann, to reject the ballot. Upon vote, all ayes.

The Canvassing Board reviewed one ballot, Voter ID # 131563453, signature does not match.

Motion by Commissioner Myers, seconded by Commissioner Hamann, to accept the ballot. Upon vote, all nays – the ballot was rejected.

The Canvassing Board reviewed one ballot, Voter ID # 113519162, signature does not match.

Motion by Commissioner Cowie, seconded by Commissioner Myers, to accept the ballot. Upon vote, three ayes with Mayor Taylor Bogert and Commissioner Sterling voting nay.

The Canvassing Board reviewed one ballot, Voter ID # 115819246, signature does not match.

Motion by Commissioner Cowie, seconded by Commissioner Hamann, to accept the ballot. Upon vote, all nays – the ballot was rejected.

The Canvassing Board reviewed one ballot, Voter ID # 113559031, signature does not match.

Motion by Commissioner Cowie, seconded by Commissioner Hamann, to accept the ballot. Upon vote, three ayes with Mayor Taylor Bogert and Commissioner Sterling voting nay.

The Canvassing Board reviewed one ballot, Voter ID # 113439006, signature does not match.

Motion by Commissioner Cowie, seconded by Commissioner Hamann, to accept the ballot. Upon vote, four nays and Mayor Taylor Bogert voting yay – the ballot was rejected.

The Canvassing Board reviewed one ballot, Voter ID # 122306639, signature does not match.

Motion by Commissioner Cowie, seconded by Commissioner Hamann, to accept the ballot. Upon vote, all nays – the ballot was rejected.

The Canvassing Board reviewed one ballot, Voter ID # 113519450, signature does not match.

Motion by Commissioner Cowie, seconded by Commissioner Hamann, to accept the ballot. Upon vote, three nays with Mayor Taylor Bogert and Commissioner Myers voting yay – the ballot was rejected.

The Canvassing Board reviewed one ballot, Voter ID # 131712971, signature does not match.

Motion by Commissioner Cowie, seconded by Commissioner Hamann, to accept the ballot. Upon vote, four nays and Commissioner Myers voting yay – the ballot was rejected.

The Canvassing Board reviewed two ballots, Voter ID # 113718486 and 113456551, voters signed wrong envelopes with other ballot envelope found, same address, and both signatures match.

Motion by Commissioner Cowie, seconded by Commissioner Hamann, to accept the ballots. Upon vote, all ayes.

The Canvassing Board reviewed two ballots, Voter ID # 113721121 and 124489052, voters signed wrong envelopes with other ballot envelope found, same address, and both signatures match.

Motion by Commissioner Cowie, seconded by Commissioner Hamann, to accept the ballots. Upon vote, all ayes.

The Canvassing Board reviewed one ballot, Voter ID # 128159626, voter signed wrong envelope with other ballot envelope not found.

Motion by Commissioner Cowie, seconded by Commissioner Hamann, to accept the ballot. Upon vote, all nays – the ballot was rejected.

The Canvassing Board reviewed one ballot, Voter ID # 113830022, voter signed wrong envelope with other ballot envelope not found.

Motion by Commissioner Cowie, seconded by Commissioner Hamann, to accept the ballot. Upon vote, all nays – the ballot was rejected.

RECESS

RECONVENED – 7:43 p.m.

6. RECEIVE PRECINCT RESULTS

Rachel Harris presented the unofficial initial results from the precinct. The totals printout showed 728 votes with the results:

- Seat #4
 - Jordan Helms – 467 Votes
 - Donishia Yarde – 259 Votes

- Seat #5
 - Maulissa Braverman – 252 Votes
 - Alex Cam – 461 Votes

The results of the precinct votes were shared with candidates and the public in the audience area.

RECESS – 7:46 p.m.

RECONVENED – 8:06 p.m.

7. REVIEW REPLICATED BALLOTS, IF ANY

Rachel Harris explained that we have nine replicated ballots. She explained the first replication scenario regarding voter intent.

Motion by Commissioner Myers, seconded by Commissioner Hamann, to accept the first ballot for Donishia Yarde. Upon vote, all ayes.

Motion by Commissioner Myers, seconded by Commissioner Cowie, to accept the second ballot for Maulissa Braverman. Upon vote, all ayes.

Motion by Commissioner Myers, seconded by Commissioner Cowie, to accept the third ballot for Alex Cam. Upon vote, all ayes.

Motion by Commissioner Myers, seconded by Commissioner Cowie, to reject the fourth ballot for no vote for both seats. Upon vote, all ayes.

Rachel Harris explained the second replication scenario regarding minimal or hesitation marking.

Motion by Commissioner Myers, seconded by Commissioner Cowie, to accept the fifth ballot for Jordan Helms. Upon vote, all ayes.

Rachel Harris explained the third replication scenario regarding American Disability Act ballots.

Motion by Commissioner Myers, seconded by Commissioner Cowie, that the sixth ballot was replicated correctly. Upon vote, all ayes.

Motion by Commissioner Myers, seconded by Commissioner Cowie, that the seventh ballot was replicated correctly. Upon vote, all ayes.

Motion by Commissioner Myers, seconded by Commissioner Cowie, that the eighth ballot was replicated correctly. Upon vote, all ayes.

Motion by Commissioner Myers, seconded by Commissioner Cowie, that the ninth ballot was replicated correctly. Upon vote, all ayes.

RECESS – 8:18 p.m.

RECONVENED – 8:32 p.m.

8. REVIEW ADDITIONAL MAIL BALLOTS RECEIVED PRIOR TO 7:00 P.M.

Rachel Harris explained that three more Vote-by-Mail ballots have been received prior to 7:00 p.m. All signatures were a match.

Motion by Commissioner Cowie, seconded by Commissioner Hamann, to open and process the additional three ballots. Upon vote, all ayes.

RECESS – 8:33 p.m.

RECONVENED – 8:55 p.m.

9. TABULATE ALL BALLOTS FOR UNOFFICIAL RESULTS

Rachel Harris passed out the final unofficial results report. The unofficial results were shared with candidates and the public in the audience area.

Motion by Commissioner Cowie, seconded by Commissioner Hamann, to accept the unofficial results of the City of Auburndale Municipal Election. Upon vote, all ayes.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Minutes are true and correct.



Brandon Henry, City Clerk