INGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF CANVASSERS
MEETING OF MARCH 19, 2020
FIRST- FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
MASON HISTORICAL COURTHOUSE
MASON, MICHIGAN

CANVASSERS PRESENT: Rebecca Bahar-Cook
Ted Lawson
Jude Wells

CANVASSERS ABSENT: Joe Groff

OTHERS PRESENT: Barb Byrum, Ingham County Clerk
Liz Noel, Elections/Clerk Coordinator
Michael Tanis, Recording Secretary

Meeting Called to Order

Vice Chair Bahar-Cook called the March 19, 2020 meeting of the Board of Canvassers to order at 2:00 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Canvasser Lawson, supported by Canvasser Wells, to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion to approve the agenda carried unanimously. Absent: Canvasser Groff

Approval of March 11-13, 2020 Minutes

Moved by Canvasser Lawson, supported by Canvasser Wells, to approve the March 11-13, 2020 minutes.

The March 11-13, 2020 minutes were amended as follows:

Chairperson Groff stated that asked if there were no problems of people coming in and stating that they wanted to spoil their ballot.

Canvasser Bahar-Cook asked Clerk Byrum if she had received feedback from the local clerks on the AV ballots and any issues with how long it took to feed the ballots into the tabulators. She further stated that she was shocked surprised that the East Lansing City Clerk’s Office issued their last ballot at 10:45 p.m.

Clerk Byrum stated that Meridian Township might have a challenge challenging time in August or November for last to report. She further stated that, similar to what Judge Garcia had indicated, when papers were late to be brought in, that meant an hour and a half to two hours later before her staff could go home because her staff was updating election results on the website and to the State of Michigan.

Canvasser Wells stated her concern that Clerk Byrum had indicated that Meridian Township had absentee ballots where they were unsure of the numbers, which said to her that they were pulled from their sleeves beforehand. She further stated that Clerk Byrum later indicated reported that the City of East Lansing was right on because they went back and made sure who re-voted and who did not. She
asked Clerk Byrum if the City of East Lansing had pulled back their absentee ballots from their sleeves, during the chaos of the day.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that Delhi Charter Township, AVCB Precinct 5 had indicated that 432 ballots sent on the AV List of Voters, but 430 ballots sent on the handwritten sheet in the Poll Book, and the AV Lists for Precincts 4, 5, and 6 had 100% of ballots returned. Clerk Hope sent the full absent voter sheet and an email explaining the issue with AV Precinct 5, which is included as Attachment G.

Canvasser Bahar-Cook stated that she wanted to know if “spoiled” and “surrendered” could be distinctly defined and used properly by clerks. She further stated that many ballots were “spoiled” on Election Day and that hopefully meant “surrendered.”

Canvasser Lawson and Adrienne Monahan, Clerk’s Office Employee, clarified that upon receipt of a signed, written statement, the voter shall surrender their absent voter ballot and the city or township clerk shall spoil the voter’s absent voter ballot.

Motion to approve the minutes, as amended, carried unanimously. Absent: Canvasser Groff

Certification of the March 10, 2020 Presidential Primary Election

The Board of Canvassers certified the March 10, 2020 Presidential Primary Election.

Other Business

Moved by Canvasser Lawson, supported by Canvasser Wells, to request that the County Clerk’s staff create, at the end of each day of canvassing, a compiled list of the issues for each precinct.

Motion to approve the request carried unanimously. Absent: Canvasser Groff

Vice Chair Bahar-Cook stated that the next meeting would take place on August 5, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. after the August 4, 2020 State Primary Election.

Public Comment

None.

Time Cards

The Board of Canvassers completed time cards.

Adjournment

Moved by Canvasser Lawson, supported by Canvasser Wells, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion to adjourn the meeting carried unanimously. Absent: Canvasser Groff

The meeting was adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

[Signature]
BARB BYRUM, CLERK OF THE BOARD