INGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF CANVASSERS
MEETING OF MAY 8, 2019
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ROOM
MASON HISTORICAL COURTHOUSE, THIRD FLOOR
MASON, MICHIGAN

CANVASSERS PRESENT: Mary Kay Scullion
Joe Groff
Rebecca Bahar-Cook
Brett Dickey, Alternate Canvasser

CANVASSERS ABSENT: Kathy Prout

OTHERS PRESENT: Liz Noel, Elections/Clerk Coordinator
Beth Foster, Recording Secretary

Meeting Called to Order
Chairperson Scullion called the May 8, 2019 meeting of the Board of Canvassers to order at 1:00 p.m.

Approval of Agenda
Canvasser Groff asked to add approval of November 7, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15, 2018 minutes, compensation policy (discussion) and open meetings (discussion) to the agenda.

It was considered a friendly amendment.

Moved by Canvasser Bahar-Cook, supported by Canvasser Groff, to approve the agenda, as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Draft Minutes
Moved by Canvasser Bahar-Cook, supported by Canvasser Groff to approve the November 7, 8, 9, 2018 minutes.

The November 7, 2018 minutes were amended as follows:

Clerk Byrum stated there were a lot of provisional ballots, especially in the City of East Lansing. She further stated that there were issues with provisional ballots in Meridian Township, specifically, where the Meridian Township Clerk denied an individual's the right to vote.

Motion to approve the minutes, as amended, carried unanimously.

Moved by Canvasser Bahar-Cook, supported by Canvasser Groff to approve the November 13, 14, 15, 2018 minutes.
The November 15, 2018 minutes were amended as follows:

It was determined, after re-tabulating the five East Lansing precincts’ AV ballots, there was only one discrepancy, and all other results were accurate. Upon further review of the initial results, the discrepancies initially found were otherwise explained without continuing the re-tabulation.

Motion to approve the minutes, as amended, carried unanimously.

Moved by Canvasser Groff, supported by Canvasser Bahar-Cook to approve the December 5, 2019 minutes.

Motion carried unanimously.

Remarks from Clerk Byrum

Clerk Byrum stated that the compensation for the Board of Canvassers had changed to hourly pay. She further stated that under statute, compensation was determined by the Board of Commissioners upon consultation with the County Clerk.

Clerk Byrum stated that if the Canvassers did not work a full hour they would go by 15 minute increments, which is exactly what is done with County employees. She further stated it would be .25, .5, .75, or a full hour.

Clerk Byrum stated that the Canvassers could break for lunch if they were hungry and eat on their own dime. She further stated that all of that was passed by the Board of Commissioners as a resolution.

Canvasser Groff asked who presented the resolution to the Board of Commissioners.

Clerk Byrum stated that Becky Benedict, Board of Commissioners Director, presented the resolution. She further stated that it was a resolution prompted by the Board of Commissioners, under statute.

Canvasser Groff stated that the Michigan State Board of Canvassers recommended that County Canvassers have input which should have happened in January.

Clerk Byrum stated that the resolution was passed.

Canvasser Groff asked if any one of the Board of Canvassers had input.

Clerk Byrum stated that the Chair of the Board of Canvassers provided some input.

Canvasser Groff stated that he felt the Canvassers should have had input.

Chairperson Scullion stated that it could not have been done sooner because it was done in response to a lame duck statute that was not in effect in January.

Canvasser Groff stated that he had a problem with becoming hourly. He further stated that it was disheartening because he felt that Canvassers did a very important job.

Clerk Byrum stated that she did not disagree that the Canvassers did a very important job and that’s why she wanted to see them paid hourly, because it would result in them making more money. She further
stated that she supported the resolution wholeheartedly, as did the Board of Commissioners and recommended Canvasser Groff go to the Board of Commissioners to express his disagreement.

Clerk Byrum stated that in Meridian Township, Precinct 6, the Voter Assist Terminal (VAT) was turned around, making those voters’ choices visible to others. She further stated that when confronted by Liz Noel, Elections/Clerk Coordinator, they stated that was how they left them after training.

Clerk Byrum stated that it led the Clerk’s Office to wonder where all the programming material was and how it was secured if it was left out in the community room. She further stated that it brings into question security of the program material and various other things.

Clerk Byrum stated that there were issues at three precincts in Lansing.

Clerk Byrum stated that her office received information from one individual who said they did not see a VAT, when they had gone to the precinct in the morning.

Clerk Byrum stated that at another precinct, a visually impaired voter indicated that it took poll workers over half hour to figure out how to issue him a ballot so that he could vote the VAT and he had several complaints about the VAT. She further stated that she felt her office had mitigated everything they possibly could, but the voter alluded to someone from a group suing either herself, the County or the State in regards to the elections equipment.

Clerk Byrum stated that the election equipment the County used got the best rating for voter assist election equipment and it was certified by the EAC and the State of Michigan.

Clerk Byrum stated that a voter visited yet another Lansing precinct to vote on the VAT and they were told that it was not available because there was only one question on the ballot. She further stated that there was definitely some opportunities for more VAT training of their workers by both municipalities.

Chairperson Scullion stated that she believed they had similar issues with the VAT in Meridian Township last November.

Clerk Byrum stated that Meridian Township was notorious for that.

Clerk Byrum stated that Lansing AV ballot results took a long time to transmit. She further stated that her Office believed that it was because images were attached, so they would work with the vendor to fix that.

Clerk Byrum stated that while Meridian Township was not the last to report, they were the last to physically drop off these materials at the Clerk’s Office.

Clerk Byrum stated that she expected a reasonably smooth and quick canvass.

Clerk Byrum stated that Windsor Township, the one Lansing School District precinct in Eaton County that they might have had to wait for results from, did not have any voters.

Clerk Byrum stated that for same day voter registration, the County saw 29 newly registered voters on Election Day.
Canvasser Groff referenced a prior email with Clerk Byrum and asked for clarification on how many Canvassers meeting to discuss business before the Board constituted a violation of the Open Meetings Act.

Clerk Byrum stated that a quorum would be a majority, which would be three.

**Canvass of the May 7, 2019 Special Election**

The Board of Canvassers commenced canvassing the May 7, 2019 Election.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that the City of Lansing Ward 1, Precinct 9 Poll Book was missing the signatures of the Elections Inspectors who sealed and verified. This was later corrected by the Election Inspectors who had not signed the Poll Book.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that the City of Lansing Ward 2, Precinct 16 Poll Book was missing checkmarks under the Election Inspectors Preparation Certificate. This was later corrected by Chris Swope, City of Lansing Clerk, who submitted the City of Lansing copy, which included the checkmarks.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that the City of Lansing Ward 4, Precincts 38 and 40 Poll Book was missing the signature of the fourth election inspector at the close of polls or an indication she left early. This was later resolved by Clerk Swope, who indicated that the election inspector in question left early.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that the City of Lansing Ward 4, Precinct 39 Poll Book was missing the signature of Deborah S. at the close of polls or an indication she left early. This was later resolved by Clerk Swope, who indicated that the election inspector in question left early.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that the City of Lansing Ward 4, Precinct 43 Poll Book was missing checkmarks under the Election Inspectors Preparation Certificate. This was later corrected by Annette Hill, Precinct Chair.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that several of the City of Lansing’s Poll Books had been disassembled and put in the envelope instead of back into the notebook.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that Mason Precinct 2 Poll Book was missing checkmarks under the Election Inspectors Preparation Certificate. This was later corrected by the Precinct Chairperson.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that Aurilus Township had a discrepancy in the number of votes tabulated. They concluded that there was no discrepancy because the total number of ballots cast was equal to the total number of voters, but the total votes was less, because there was likely a blank or over-voted ballot.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that Alaedon Township’s Precinct 2 had no tape enclosed. They pulled tape from the Judge’s envelope.
Recess

The meeting was recessed at 4:45 p.m.
INGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF CANVASSERS
MEETING OF MAY 9, 2019
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ROOM
MASON HISTORICAL COURTHOUSE, THIRD FLOOR
MASON, MICHIGAN

CANVASSERS PRESENT: Mary Kay Scullion
Joe Groff
Rebecca Bahar-Cook
Brett Dickey, Alternate Canvasser

CANVASSERS ABSENT: Kathy Prout

OTHERS PRESENT: Liz Noel, Elections/Clerk Coordinator
Michelle Wright, Executive Assistant

Meeting Called to Order

Chairperson Scullion called the May 9, 2018 meeting of the Board of Canvassers back to order at 2:00 p.m.

Canvass of May 7, 2019 Election

The Board of Canvassers continued canvassing the May 7, 2019 Election.

The Board of Canvassers noted for the record that the City of Lansing Ward 2, Precinct 15 had the following note in the remarks: "An individual registered at the SOS in East Lansing and they gave him a receipt and directed him to this precinct to vote today. WE [sic] called downtown and suggested that he go to Washington for an Absentee ballot. He decided not to." Clerk Swope indicated that the SOS employee sent the individual to the wrong place and that the receipt from the SOS would have stated that he needed to go to the Clerk’s office to re-register. Lori Bourbonais, State of Michigan Electrom Liaison Manager, stated that she would speak with SOS Branch staff to make sure the Branch Clerks were conveying accurate information. She also stated that she and her staff were willing to work with Clerk Swope to review and discuss possible clarification of the receipt language.

Certification of the May 7, 2019 Special Election

The Board of Canvassers certified the May 7, 2019 Election.

Time Cards

The Board of Canvassers completed time cards.

Other Business

None.
Public Comment
None.

Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

[Signature]
BARB BYBUM, INGHAM COUNTY CLERK