APPROVED 11/13/2017

INGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF CANVASSERS
MEETING OF AUGUST 9, 10 and 11, 2017
CONFERENCE ROOM A, HILLIARD BUILDING
MASON, MICHIGAN

August 9, 2017

CANVASSERS PRESENT: Alan Fox
                      Kathy Prout
                      Mary Kay Scullion
                      John Hayden

CANVASSERS ABSENT: None

OTHER PRESENT: Barb Byrum, Ingham County Clerk
               Maggie Fenger, Elections/Clerk Coordinator
               Liz Kane, Recording Secretary
               Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk
               Jen Shuster, Chief Deputy County Clerk

Meeting Called to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m. by Chairperson Scullion.

Remarks by Clerk Byrum

Clerk Barb Byrum, Ingham County Clerk, stated the Board of Canvassers would find some changes including the fact that the reports, check lists and other necessary documentation was now color-coded for ease of use and quick identification. She described the sheets and the corresponding colors provided to the Board of Canvassers.

Clerk Byrum requested that the Board of Canvassers fill out a county canvass checklist for each precinct, and then give them to the Recording Secretary for ease of minute-taking and to keep things as organized as possible.

Clerk Byrum stated the election, which was the first using the new election equipment, went reasonably well. She further stated the process needed to be refined, and a communication opportunity had arisen that could be attributed to the vendor, not the municipal clerk.

Clerk Byrum stated Ingham County had been a pilot county for a process regarding the Voter Assist Terminal. She explained the process in which a regular ballot would be given to the voter to assign the ballot number, but would later be spoiled when the voter presented the VAT printed-ballot to put in the tabulator.

Canvasser Fox asked if this was how the State solved the question of assigning a ballot number to the VAT ballots that was posed during the demonstrations of the new election equipment.
Clerk Byrum stated this was the solution she suggested to address the issue. She further stated that the State wanted the county clerks to buy special paper with ballot stubs, but Meridian Township and the City of Lansing only had a handful of ADA voters each.

Clerk Byrum stated that there was a complaint from a visually impaired voter in Lansing, which she had followed up about the issue with Lansing City Clerk Chris Swope. She further stated that the voter had complained that the new VAT machines were slower to use than the old machines.

Clerk Byrum stated that the slowness was due in part to the touch screen requiring a voter to un-select their previous choice if they wanted to change their choice, to accommodate for all types of needs using the machine. She further stated that she had communicated to the clerks that they should buy more machines, to alleviate any potential wait due to the extra time they took.

Clerk Byrum stated that there was also a complaint by a voter who had to vote at an alternate polling location for this election. She further stated the voter was not happy they had to vote in a church, which was communicated to Clerk Swope.

Clerk Byrum stated there was a concern with Meridian Township Precinct 1, which did not open at 7:00 a.m. on Election Day. She further stated that Meridian Township Clerk Brett Dreyfus told her the key to the building did not work, but the polling location was open by 7:05 a.m.

Clerk Byrum stated she had asked Clerk Dreyfus to have the election inspectors note the issue in the pollbook. She asked the Board of Canvassers to pay attention to Meridian Township Precinct 1, as they were also the last precinct to report their results on Election Day.

Clerk Byrum stated that communication between Meridian Township and the County Clerk’s Office had improved, as Clerk Dreyfus had sent emails throughout the Election Day highlighting a concern with the high-speed tabulator. She further stated the high-speed tabulator had stopped while scanning ballots, which the clerk thought might be because of the timing marks on the ballots, however Lansing had the same timing marks and they did not have issues.

Clerk Byrum stated she thought the issue with the high-speed tabulator could have to do with the equipment, but they would have the vendor look into it.

Clerk Byrum stated that the City of Lansing had one provisional ballot.

Clerk Byrum stated Canvasser Fox had communicated some concerns about Meridian Township’s absent voter counting board (AVCB) ballot results reported on Election Night. She further stated that her office was aware of the issues, and they were working with Meridian Township to have them re-send the AVCB results.

Clerk Byrum stated another refinement to the process would be to make sure the municipal clerks began transmitting results to the County as soon as they received them, and they should not try to balance the numbers or print reports before sending them.

Chairperson Scullion stated she had spoken to a precinct captain who did not think the processes had improved with the new election equipment, but she had disagreed. She further stated she did notice if the ballot stub was not removed, the tabulator jammed.
Clerk Byrum stated that the jamming was a feature requested by the clerks, to allow for the secrecy of ballots.

Chairperson Scullion stated she had also noticed that the ballot needed to be further out of the secrecy sleeve to be fed into the tabulator, otherwise the tabulator would catch the sleeve and it would create an error.

Clerk Byrum acknowledged the issue, and stated there were new secrecy sleeves available, but many municipal clerks did not want to incur the costs of purchasing new secrecy sleeves.

Chairperson Scullion stated other than those observations, she thought the voting process went very smoothly.

Clerk Byrum stated as her office prepared for the November Election with a countywide ballot question, they would be fine-tuning the process. She further stated that Detroit had reported numbers much faster than Ingham County, because Wayne County had elected to buy tabulators with modems that transmitted results as the results tapes were being printed.

Clerk Byrum stated Ingham County had made choices to keep their election results secure by not including the modem, because she thought the safety of the process outweighed the minutes saved in reporting the results.

Chairperson Scullion stated she agreed with Clerk Byrum, as she thought Ingham County’s results had come in quick enough as they were.

Clerk Byrum agreed with Chairperson Scullion and stated her office also did not wait for the clerks to send in the materials on Election Night, because it was not a state or federal election therefore the materials only needed to be submitted by 11:00 a.m. the next morning. She further stated that the City of Lansing had brought their materials in by 9:00 a.m. as she had requested, but Meridian Township brought theirs in at 9:45 a.m.

Canvasser Fox asked what the issue had been with the absentee voter ballots.

Clerk Byrum stated initially, only part of the absent voter counting board results had transmitted to the County. She further stated that the vendor was trying to be helpful and it was not the clerk’s error, but they had to troubleshoot and figure out if they needed to undo the previous transmittal safely before resending the results.

Clerk Byrum stated she was comfortable with the results being presented to the Board of Canvassers. She further stated she encouraged the canvassers to inspect Meridian Township Precinct 1 and note any issues in the pollbook.

Chairperson Scullion stated she understood that Ingham County was doing their own programming for the election.

Clerk Byrum stated that the County was programming, as it was a cost-saving measure.

Chairperson Scullion stated she thought that was a good idea.
Clerk Byrum stated if the County cut the clerk’s budget any more, they would need to contract the programming out. She further stated it was her intent to continue programming for future elections, but the clerk’s office was already at minimum staffing.

Clerk Byrum and Jennifer Shuster, Chief Deputy County Clerk, left at 1:15 p.m.

Approval of Agenda:

Moved by Canvasser Fox, seconded by Canvasser Prout, to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Clerk Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk, arrived at 1:20 p.m.

Approval of the May 3, 2017 Minutes

Chairperson Scullion asked the Canvassers to take a few minutes to look over the May 3, 2017 minutes.

Canvasser Fox stated he understood minutes were just supposed to be the summary of decisions and actions made in a meeting. He asked if this level of detail in the minutes was the policy of the Clerk.

Maggie Fenger, Elections/Clerk Coordinator, stated it was Clerk Byrum’s policy to keep a detailed record of what happened during all meetings.

A discussion ensued regarding the level of detail the Canvassers would like in the minutes.

Canvasser Fox stated he would like the minutes to be less detailed, in case of litigation.

Clerk Byrum returned at 1:22 p.m.

Chairperson Scullion relayed the canvassers’ concerns regarding the detail of the minutes.

Canvasser Fox stated that the State Board of Canvassers strictly recorded official actions and vote totals. He further stated the more detail that was included in the minutes, the more difficulty was involved, and the trend of board across the nation was to have less detailed minutes.

Canvasser Fox stated there were concerns about liability and detail not being necessary for the official record.

Clerk Byrum stated if the Board of Canvassers only wanted action items recorded in the minutes, then it would take a motion from the Board. She further stated if that was the intent of the Board, then she would not be able to recall what discussions were had during previous meetings if they asked.

Clerk Byrum stated it was the Board of Canvassers’ decision as to what they wanted in their minutes. She further stated she proposed the record of the minutes, and the Board of Canvassers approved them.

Clerk Byrum stated that people coming and going was part of the attendance record of the meeting.

Canvasser Fox stated he understood they needed to be better as a Board of Canvassers about officially making motions to have things recorded in the minutes.
Canvasser Prout stated she thought the minutes were too detailed.

Clerk Byrum stated she would argue that the Board of Canvassers could either move to just record action items in the minutes, or the Clerk could prepare the minutes as usual and they could amend them.

Canvasser Hayden stated he could not recall the discussion they had back in May, and therefore they could not approve the minutes as they were so detailed.

Clerk Byrum stated they did not record all of the discussion, they included the highlights.

Chairperson Scullion suggested they approve the May 3, 2017 minutes and then separately look over the minutes to figure out what they would like included in the future minutes.

Clerk Byrum stated the Clerk’s office did not have a consistent minute-taker for the Board of Canvassers, so the guidelines needed to be straightforward.

Chairperson Scullion stated the trend was to minimize the detail in the minutes, however she would like to look over the draft minutes currently before them to figure out what they wanted to record.

Canvasser Fox stated he would like to be given time to think about the minutes. He further stated if he was going to stay on the Board of Canvassers, then he would argue to only include action items in the minutes, and it would be up to the members of the Board of Canvassers to formalize any items they would like included in the minutes.

Clerk Byrum stated there were concerns about certain precincts and municipalities that had been ongoing, and those would not be properly recorded in the minutes if only action items were recorded. She further stated that the minutes were sometimes the only place to hold those responsible for issues accountable.

Chairperson Scullion asked if the Board of Canvassers could just request to have a comment or concern recorded in the minutes.

Clerk Byrum stated she assumed the Board of Canvassers would be requesting to have things added in the minutes a lot.

Canvasser Fox stated he would argue the Board of Canvassers could request to have conversations recorded in the minutes.

Clerk Byrum stated the minutes could not be recorded after a conversation had happened.

Canvasser Prout stated if the Board of Canvasser made a motion to include something in the minutes, then they would summarize the previous discussion.

Canvasser Fox stated he took responsibility for the informality of previous Board of Canvassers meetings, because when he was chair they had not appropriately recorded a lot of actions.

Chairperson Scullion stated the Board of Canvassers could wait to approve the May 3, 2017 minutes until their next meeting, after each Canvasser had looked over the minutes.
Clerk Byrum stated if the Board of Canvassers wanted the minutes of the current meeting to be recorded a certain way, then they needed to make a motion.

Clerk Byrum left at 1:30 p.m.

**Canvass of the August 8, 2017 Election**

The Board of Canvassers commenced canvassing the August 8, 2017 Election.

Canvasser Fox asked if the color-coded system for the different reports and the county canvass checklist provided for the canvass was set up by the County Clerk’s Office.

Ms. Fenger stated the State had provided the checklist for the canvass, but she had put the reports on different-colored sheets to avoid confusion of having many different reports on white paper.

Canvassers Fox stated for the record, the envelope from Lansing Ward 3, Precincts 22 and 26 in Eaton County arrived at the Board of Canvassers unsealed.

Moved by Canvasser Fox, supported by Canvasser Prout, to note that the Board of Canvassers received the pollbook envelope from Lansing Ward 3, Precincts 22 and 26 in Eaton County, and they could not verify it had not been tampered with before arriving, because it was unsealed. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairperson Scullion stated in the event of a recount, the envelope would not be recountable.

Chairperson Scullion stated it would take significant time to fill a county canvass checklist for each precinct they canvassed.

Moved by Chairperson Scullion, seconded by Canvasser Prout, that the Board not complete a county canvass checklist for each precinct. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairperson Scullion stated she would like to discuss the county canvass checklist. She asked if it was set up by the State.

Ms. Fenger stated the checklist was provided by the State. She further stated it was a guideline she was providing to the Board of Canvassers, as it might be helpful with the new report formats.

Ms. Fenger stated that was not true, there were just more reports needed to get the same information as they had received in the past. She further stated it was the Board of Canvassers’ decision if they wanted to use the checklist or not.

Chairperson Scullion stated the checklist would be helpful for a new canvasser to use.

Chairperson Scullion stated Ward 1, Precinct 1 had no tally tape of the votes on Election Day.

Clerk Swope left at 2:05 p.m.

Clerk Swope returned at 2:07 p.m.
Chairperson Scullion suggested the Canvassers fill out a checklist if there was an issue with a precinct, and use it as a guideline when canvassing other precincts.

Canvasser Fox stated the checklist was a good reminder as they went through the canvass.

Canvasser Fox asked if there was a spot for errors and omissions to report to the Clerk.

Canvasser Fox stated the if the checklist was recorded in the minutes, it would cover any middle ground so the Board of Canvassers had a record of errors and omissions without doing a formal motion.

Chairperson Scullion suggested the Board of Canvassers use the checklist completely for the first few precincts and after that, if any precinct was missing items, then they would attach a checklist for the record to go to the Clerk.

Moved by Canvasser Fox, supported by Canvasser Prout, to only require the Board of Canvassers to fill out the county checklist if there were errors or omissions to report for a precinct. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Fenger left at 2:10 p.m.

Canvasser Prout stated the total tape for Lansing Precincts 36 and 37 was missing from the pollbook.

Chairperson Scullion stated there was an issue with Precinct 3’s checklist in the pollbook.

Clerk Swope left at 2:15 p.m.

Clerk Swope returned at 2:20 p.m.

Chairperson Scullion stated the election inspectors in Precinct 3 did not prove they checked to make sure the ballots and voters matched. She asked if the precinct chair should come to the Board of Canvassers meeting, or if they could go to the Lansing City Clerk’s Office to verify the number of ballots and voters matched.

Canvasser Fox stated the precinct chair could verify the information at the Lansing City Clerk’s Office.

Moved by Chairperson Scullion, supported by Canvasser Fox, to request the precinct chair of Lansing Precinct 3 complete the checklist at the Lansing City Clerk’s Office before they certify the election.

Chairperson Scullion stated they needed to prove the election inspectors checked the number of ballots and number of voters matched for Precinct 3.

Motion passed unanimously.

Moved by Canvasser Fox, supported by Canvasser Prout, to request the County Clerk communicate with the Meridian Township Clerk that they had not provided the appropriate report stating votes for and against the proposal for the AVCB.

Canvasser Fox stated the enclosed report did not have the number of ballots cast, it did not conform to state law, and he was concerned the certification language was incorrect.
Motion passed unanimously.

Canvasser Fox stated he noticed that the certification language for the Lansing AVCB report was the same as Meridian Township’s, but the number of ballots cast was not present on Meridian Townships.

Chairperson Scullion stated for the record, Meridian Township Precinct 1 had opened the building by 7:05 a.m., but the precinct did not open for voters until about 7:20 a.m. She further stated she would like to acknowledge that the Board of Canvassers followed up on a citizen concern regarding Meridian Precinct 1’s opening time on Election Day, no one was able to access the building until 7:05 a.m., and they were not able to process ballots until 7:20 a.m. as it was noted in the pollbook.

Ms. Fenger returned at 2:50 p.m.

Canvasser Fox asked if the Board of Canvassers were certifying the number of ballots cast, or if it was just the number of votes cast.

Ms. Fenger left at 2:58 p.m.

Chairperson Scullion stated the total number of ballots cast needed to match the number of names in the pollbook. She further stated if they did not know how many ballots were scanned and matched per precinct, then the Board of Canvassers could not canvass the AVCB.

Chairperson Scullion stated she was concerned because the AVCB report would not reflect the number of ballots that were overvoted, undervoted or blank.

Canvasser Prout noted that for Meridian Township Precinct 3, the pollbook remarks stated a voter refused to show an ID, and was allowed to use a credit card as alternate identification to vote. She further stated no affidavit was completed.

Ms. Fenger and Ms. Shuster arrived at 3:25 p.m.

Canvasser Fox stated they had resolved the AVCB issue in the Meridian Township with new reports, but they were not sure how the precincts related to the ballot types for both the City of Lansing and Meridian Township.

Clerk Swope contacted the vendor to determine the ballot type key.

Ms. Fenger left at 3:30 p.m.

Ms. Fenger returned at 3:35 p.m. with the ballot type keys.

Chairperson Scullion stated there was outstanding information needed for Lansing Ward 1, Precinct 3, but the issue of tally tapes had been resolved for Lansing Ward 1, Precinct 1 and Lansing Ward 4, Precincts 36 and 37.

Recess

Chairperson Scullion recessed the meeting at 3:47 p.m. with it set to reconvene at 9:00 a.m. on August 10, 2017.
August 10, 2017

CANVASSERS PRESENT: Alan Fox
Kathy Prout
Mary Kay Scullion
John Hayden

CANVASSERS ABSENT: None

OTHER PRESENT: Barb Byrum, Ingham County Clerk
Maggie Fenger, Elections/Clerk Coordinator
Liz Kane, Recording Secretary
Dakota Larson, Intern

Meeting Reconvened:

The meeting was reconvened at 9:00 a.m. by Chairperson Scullion.

Chairperson Scullion stated that the Board of Canvassers needed to continue to canvass the election and approve the minutes from the May 3, 2017 meeting.

Canvasser Fox stated he had a conversation with Ms. Fenger that morning about the reports provided to the Board of Canvassers not having the information they needed. He further stated the information provided by the interactive map online would be a better format to compare the totals tapes against.

Canvasser Fox stated the County Clerk’s office knew that there was a problem with the new reports, specifically that the number of votes cast were not made available on the printout. He further stated for this canvass, the Board of Canvassers could take the total votes off of the printouts and make sure it was reflected on the cover.

Canvasser Fox stated the current issue was that the canvasser reading the numbers would be juggling two printouts. He asked if the County Clerk’s Office staff could interact with the vendor to see if a more concise report could be produced in the future.

Ms. Fenger asked if the Board of Canvassers would like the layout of the interactive map results from online.

Ms. Fenger stated Lansing City Clerk Swope had sent over the back page of the pollbook in which Ward 1, Precinct 3’s chair had checked the box, confirming they had compared the number of ballots issued and number of ballots cast.

Canvasser Fox stated the Board of Canvassers would prefer to the results printed precinct by precinct.

Ms. Fenger left at 9:04 a.m.
Chairperson Scullion requested that the minutes reflect the fact that the Lansing City Clerk had submitted a copy of the completed pollbook page that had been requested from the Ward 1, Precinct 3 Precinct Chair.

Moved by Canvasser Fox, supported by Canvasser Hayden, to instruct staff to reflect the accepted provisional ballot from the City of Lansing in the official election results, however the new technology accommodated such changes.

Canvasser Prout asked if they would have to change the totals tape printed out on Election Night to reflect the change.

Canvasser Fox stated they would compare the tape to whatever was on the system, and then they would do whatever was needed to add those numbers in.

Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of the May 3, 2017 Minutes

The Board of Canvassers continued their discussion regarding the level of detail in the minutes.

Moved by Canvasser Fox, supported by Canvasser Prout, to amend the draft minutes as follows:

Clerk Byrum stated that this issue was not due to Ingham County or East Lansing doing anything incorrectly.

Canvasser Fox stated he had noticed that morning that Clinton County had communicated results of the Haslett School District portion of Bath Township, but East Lansing School District was not reported by Clinton County.

Clerk Byrum stated that Haslett was canvassed by Clinton County, but East Lansing was not.

Canvasser Fox asked if the Ingham County Board of Canvassers could certify the election results without those vote totals.

Clerk Byrum stated the Board of Canvassers would receive the results of the Clinton County partial canvass for the Haslett School District in Bath Township by 3:00 p.m. at the latest.

Canvasser Fox stated he understood that proposals in Perry and other places were being taken care of by Shiawassee County, so Ingham County did not have to do anything with them.

Chairperson Scullion asked about the specifics of the school coordinating plan.

Clerk Byrum stated the school coordinating plan was executed by the County Clerk, and the current version had been implemented at the beginning of Clerk Byrum's current term. She further stated that the plans were filed with the State of Michigan to ensure accountability, and to allow the State to program the Qualified Voter Files for consolidated districts.

Canvasser Fox stated he understood that Bath Township was sent to East Lansing for special elections, but not for regular elections.
Clerk Byrum stated that something similar had happened with a special election four years ago, when they were waiting for Clinton County to send them election results. She further stated that the Clinton County Clerk said at that time they did not have to send the results until the next morning, because it was not a state election and they did not have to send the results to the State.

Canvasser Fox stated that that meant there was no public place for the returns, so they did not have a formal result.

Chairperson Scullion asked how close the East Lansing School District proposal results were.

Clerk Byrum stated the Yes votes won by 145 votes.

Chairperson Scullion asked if they had approved the minutes of the December 7, 2016 minutes at their January 4, 2017 meeting.

Canvasser Fox stated that according to the minutes, they approved both November 30, 2016 and December 7, 2016 minutes in January.

Chairperson Scullion stated they needed to separate out the minutes, and she had changes she wanted to make to the minutes, most of which were grammatical or incomplete sentences.

Ms. Fenger stated that the November and December minutes had already been approved, and therefore could not be amended again.

Chairperson Scullion stated that the revisions to the November and December minutes should not be folded into the minutes of the January meeting, but rather attached as a separate document.

Ms. Fenger stated that this was the way the minutes had always been presented.

Canvasser Fox stated he had the same confusion with the November and December minutes being included as they were in the draft January minutes. He further stated the amendments to the minutes should not include all of the substance, just the parts that had been changed.

Chairperson Scullion stated she thought they needed to take the amended November and December minutes and attach them as a separate document to alleviate any confusion.

Discussion:

Chairperson Scullion stated she would like to change some grammatical mistakes from the November and December meetings.

Ms. Fenger stated those minutes had already been approved and changes could not be made. She asked if there were any changes to the January 4 minutes they wanted to make.

Canvasser Scullion stated that she would like to edit Clerk Byrum’s statement where she said she was determined, to say that she was hopeful, as the new election equipment had not been used for the May 2017 election.
Ms. Fenger stated that Clerk Byrum had specifically made that statement, so the statement should not be changed. She further stated even though the new election equipment was not ready by May, Clerk Byrum had been determined at that time to use new election equipment in May 2017.

This was considered a friendly amendment.

Discussion:

Ms. Fenger asked for clarification as to what the Board of Canvassers was directing the Clerk to do.

Canvasser Fox stated the votes should be added as a clerk entry into the computer system.

Ms. Fenger clarified Canvasser Fox was talking about the WinEDS system.

Canvasser Fox stated yes, as the largest county in the school district certified local elections.

Canvasser Prout stated that all vote totals were in the book and they added up.

Canvasser Fox stated he was concerned with the proportion of voters as they related to the grand total in Meridian Township Precinct 20, because they did not split the number of registered voters between Haslett School District and East Lansing School District and they were essentially double-counted in the number of voters listed for each school district.

Ms. Fenger stated that was the way ElectionSource had set up the system, and she had been advised by ElectionSource that they should include all registered voters in the combined precinct.

Canvasser Fox stated that ElectionSource was full of shit and they did not know how to separate a combined precinct’s number of voters, so the Board of Canvassers had to do it. He further stated that ElectionSource had been doing this for fifteen years and he was fed-up with it.

Ms. Fenger left at 2:10 p.m.

Discussion:

Canvasser Fox apologized to the Board of Canvassers for his language when referring to ElectionSource. He stated that his language was inappropriate, but he felt strongly about ElectionSource’s misgivings.

Discussion:

Clerk Byrum stated that putting Clinton County’s numbers into WinEDS would cause problems when reporting to the State.

Canvasser Fox asked if the County reported to the State for this local election.
Clerk Byrum stated the County did not report to the State for this local election.

Canvasser Fox stated he agreed that there were issues in November when they had to report to the state. He further stated that the method Clerk Byrum described would work for reporting the vote totals.

Chairperson Scullion stated they had already recorded the vote totals from Clinton County into the minutes.

Canvasser Fox asked if the new election system would help with this reporting issue.

Clerk Byrum stated it would not, because to fix the problem they would need to change the school district boundaries. She further stated they were working with the State to ensure they were not counting voters already counted by other counties.

Clerk Byrum further stated that if the Board of Canvassers was to change the results of a precinct, they could report that, however they could not add a precinct.

Clerk Byrum stated with the new election equipment, they were being forced to change and she looked forward to that.

Canvasser Fox asked if the new system would eliminate the double- or triple-counting of votes in each precinct as they had done in the past.

Clerk Byrum stated the issue would be fixed, in that the precincts would be split up.

Canvasser Fox stated he was thinking in cases like Looke Township, it was hard to add things in from outside of Ingham County.

Clerk Byrum stated that she was of the opinion that the official result of the canvass was producing the totals sheets, not entering the data into WinEDS.

Canvasser Fox stated he was not aware of the fact that the WinEDS data was just meant for Ingham County votes.

Moved by Canvasser Fox, seconded by Canvasser Prout to have approve the canvass of votes approved by the Board of Canvassers as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

Canvasser Fox stated the discussion of communicating the open meetings act should be in the May 3, 2017 minutes, because although they did not reach conclusion or take specific action, it had a substantive element to it. He further stated there were a few other examples he could point to like that in the minutes.

Chairperson Scullion stated she thought it was important to track when people come in and out of the meeting, except for when they left and came back with no substantive material in the middle. She further stated that she reflected on Clerk Byrum’s comments about the minutes, and how it would be hard for the
Recording Secretary to know what exactly should be in the minutes, moving forward, if it was not requested.

Canvasser Fox stated the Board of Canvassers should have a discussion after amending and approving the May 3, 2017 minutes. He further stated he thought the Board of Canvassers should properly move to record actions or note things in the minutes.

Discussion.

Chairperson Scullion stated they needed to give the Recording Secretary a clear direction on what to record in the minutes, but she was not sure the County Clerk would find the detail they wanted to include in the minutes acceptable.

Canvasser Fox stated it was the Board of Canvassers’ decision, and that was what Clerk Byrum had told them.

Canvasser Prout stated she thought it was important to record people’s attendance at the meetings, however she did not think it needed to be time-stamped.

Canvasser Fox stated it was helpful to know who was in the room when certain actions were taken.

Chairperson Scullion stated it made sense to record the movement of people in and out of the room, rather than just list the names of those in attendance.

Discussion.

Motion to amend the May 3, 2017 draft minutes passed unanimously.

Moved by Canvasser Fox, supported by Canvasser Prout, to approve the May 3, 2017 minutes as amended.

The minutes, as amended, were approved unanimously.

Moved by Canvasser Fox, supported by Canvasser Prout, that future minutes of the Board of Canvassers include the following items: the report of the County Clerk; attendance, including movement in and out of the room; all action items; and items that the Chairperson or Board of Canvassers request be included.

A discussion ensued regarding action items.

Canvasser Fox stated some things received by the Board of Canvassers were action items, but some needed to be requested to be included in the minutes.

Chairperson Scullion stated the minutes should acknowledge the receipt of materials, and also include the Clerk’s comments.

The motion was amended to include the Clerk’s report and items that the Chairperson or Board of Canvassers request be included in the minutes. This was considered a friendly amendment.

Motion passed unanimously.
Canvass of the August 8, 2017 Election

The Board of Canvassers resumed canvassing the August 8, 2017 Election.

Clerk Byrum and Ms. Fenger arrived at 9:31 a.m.

Clerk Byrum stated she was not comfortable at all providing reports from the interactive map, because the program was not EAC certified or State certified. She further stated the interactive map was still in its infancy and the Clerk’s Office had requested their own changes be made to the map for the next election.

Clerk Byrum stated she respectfully refused to provide the Board of Canvassers with results from the interactive map, because it would be unethical to provide results from the uncertified map. She further stated she was working with the vendor and the Bureau of Elections contact for Dominion Voting Systems to generate new reports.

Clerk Byrum stated Ingham County was one of the first counties to use the new election equipment, and this was what they currently had. She further stated they would try to get a new report in the future, but that was what they had to work with for now.

A discussion ensued regarding the format of the reports.

Clerk Byrum stated she would continue to work to come up with something else in the future, but the reports would work for now. She further stated that she would be participating in the Bureau of Elections’ post-election feedback meeting, and the format of the reports would be at the top of her list of opportunities for improvements when they met.

A discussion ensued regarding report formats and requirements for reports in Michigan election law.

Clerk Byrum stated she had significantly more control over the information coming into the office than previously, because her office owned all of the computers that were transmitting the results, and her office was doing its own programming for the elections.

A discussion continued regarding the reporting of election results.

Clerk Byrum left at 9:44 a.m.

Canvasser Fox requested to reflect in the minutes that the Canvassers had looked at the report revisions as result of adding a provisional ballot, and had verified they were recorded correctly.

Ms. Fenger and Ms. Larson left at 9:50 a.m.

Ms. Larson returned at 9:54 a.m.

Canvasser Fox noted that the AVCH vote totals were not properly reflected in the Meridian Township Precinct 1 statement of votes.

Canvasser Fox noted that Lansing Ward 1, Precinct 4 did not have a final precinct tally tape, in either the Board of Canvassers or County Clerk envelope.
Moved by Canvasser Fox, supported by Canvasser Prout, to instruct the Lansing City Clerk to bring the flash card for Lansing Ward 1, Precinct 4 to obtain the totals tape. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Larson left at 10:21 a.m.

Ms. Larson returned at 10:24 a.m.

The Board of Canvassers noted there were more precincts with discrepancies between the AVCB vote totals and the Meridian Township statement of votes.

Canvasser Fox stated he had noticed there were discrepancies in the Meridian Township’s unofficial election results on Election Night, to which the Clerk had told him there was a transmission error with the AVCB and it would be fixed. He further stated that the County would have to accept what the Board of Canvassers certified to be the official election results.

Canvasser Fox stated that procedurally, the Clerk could backtrack and figure out how the numbers ended up differing from the official totals, which would be a programming issue; and for now, they would have to get the numbers to match.

Canvasser Fox stated the canvassers should continue to note any discrepancies in Meridian Township’s vote totals, and they would notify the Clerk of the errors.

Chairperson Scullion stated the vote totals were significantly different than what was reported on the statement of votes.

Canvasser Fox stated they would figure it out. He further stated that once there was someone that was not an election official transmitting results with the new election equipment, there were a number of places that something could go wrong.

Canvasser Fox stated he understood the cost issue associated with programming, and it would be easier to find who was responsible for the mistake.

Chairperson Scullion stated they would continue to put the precincts from Meridian Township that did not add up, aside for the time being.

Ms. Larson left at 10:50 a.m.

Ms. Larson and Ms. Fenger returned at 10:54 a.m.

The Board of Canvassers received the scanned totals tape for Lansing Ward 1 Precinct 4. They no longer needed the Lansing City Clerk to bring the flash card.

Ms. Larson and Ms. Fenger left at 10:59

Ms. Larson arrived at 11:05 a.m.

Canvasser Fox requested to note on the record that Ward 3 Precinct 31 and Ward 4 Precinct 33 made a hand correction on the totals tape, changing the total for Andy Schor from 686 to 687.
Ms. Larson and Canvasser Hayden left at 11:36 a.m.

Ms. Larson arrived at 11:40 a.m.

Recess

Chairperson Scullion recessed the meeting at 11:47 a.m.

August 11, 2017

CANVASSERS PRESENT:  Alan Fox  
                        Kathy Prout  
                        Mary Kay Scullion  
                        John Hayden  

CANVASSERS ABSENT:     None  

OTHER PRESENT:         Maggie Fenger, Elections/Clerk Coordinator  
                        Liz Kane, Recording Secretary  
                        Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk  
                        Jen Shuster, Chief Deputy County Clerk  
                        Dakota Larson, Intern  

Meeting Reconvened:

The meeting was reconvened at 8:58 a.m. by Canvasser Prout.

Moved by Canvasser Fox, supported by Canvasser Hayden, to adjourn the August 10, 2017 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

[Signature]

BARB BYRUM, CLERK OF THE BOARD