



# GARRETT COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Public Service Center

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## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

July 7, 2020

**ATTENDING:** Lois A. Martin, Board President  
Charles Nolan, Board Member  
Connie Meyers, Board Secretary  
James Moore, Board Member  
Steven D. Fratz, Election Director  
Becky Heath, Visitor

**ABSENT:** Randy Glotfelty, Board Vice President

**5:15 PM-**Meeting was called to order and quorum determined by Lois Martin.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes for the June 2, 2020 meeting was approved on a motion made by Chuck Nolan, seconded by Jim Moore and made unanimous by Lois Martin.

### ELECTION DIRECTOR REPORT:

Voter registration reopened on June 15, 2020. There were 64 new registrations and 43 removals in June. Active registered voters are as follows for Garrett County: Democrat – 4,036, Republican – 13,200, Working Class Party- none, Bread and Roses – 4, Unaffiliated – 2,596, and others 243, for a total of 20,079.

For the Primary 2020 Election we received 5,758 ballots by mail and 695 put in the drop box in addition to the ballots cast in person.

Starting July 6<sup>th</sup> the office will be open by appointment only. The staff will be doing a combination of reporting to the office and teleworking.

### OLD BUSINESS:

None

### NEW BUSINESS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

Steve received an email from MAEO, (Maryland Association of Election Officials), that the annual conference that was previously canceled is now rescheduled on August 23<sup>rd</sup> - August 26<sup>th</sup>.

It is unclear at this time how the 2020 Presidential General Election will be conducted due to the Coronavirus:

- On July 26<sup>th</sup> the Directors of the Local Boards urged MAEO to respond to Governor Hogan, along with State Board of Elections, among others for success in conduction the upcoming election. The Directors are suggesting a 'hybrid' election, with all voters getting a ballot in the mail and also in person voting at vote centers beginning Thursday a week before the election through election day.
- On July 2<sup>nd</sup> the State Board of Elections submitted a 84 page response/rebuttal to Governor Hogan and the House Ways & Means committee addressing the issues of this past election. The States Board is interested in conducting a 'hybrid' election, which includes mail in ballots and in person voting.
- After several letters were sent from the House and Senate, wanting to send all voters an application for an absentee, MAEO responded stating that we do not have enough manpower to process all those absentee requests. MAEO would like to see a system in place by the middle of August so we can properly prepare for the election.

Steve has placed an order for additional gloves, wipes, plexiglass for a check-in stations and an automatic envelope opener. Steve also requested to maintain our election technician and also funding to have election day liaisons to help set up Same Day Registration at the polling places.

Polling places and Early Voting Centers must be notified if anything changes from the normal election.

Election Judges will be contacted to see if they are willing to work a hybrid election.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The August meeting is being postponed, therefore the next board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 1<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m. on a motion by Chuck Nolan, seconded by Jim Moore, and made unanimous by Lois Martin.

  
Lois Martin, Board President