

MINUTES
BOARD OF ELECTION JUDGES
BOARD OF CANVASSERS
ABSENTEE & PROVISIONAL BALLOT CANVASS
Thursday, November 6, 2025, 10:00 am

The Board of Election Judges met on Thursday, November 6, 2025, at the Bel Air Town Hall.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Elaine Millard
Ruth Oswald, Alternate Judge
Wendy Ribbans
Alissa Wallace

IN ATTENDANCE: Stephen Feryus, Voter Registration, Harford County Board of Elections
Michael Krantz, Director of HR & Administration/Town Clerk
Amber Ringgold, Election Program Specialist, Harford County Board of Elections
Jane Sudbrink, Recording Secretary

I. DECLARATION OF QUORUM PRESENT

Mr. Krantz called the meeting to order at 10:05 am. He stated that members of the board were present for a quorum, including Ms. Oswald who was the alternate judge.

Ms. Ribbans motioned to approve the Board of Election Judges agenda for November 6, 2025. Ms. Millard seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

II. CONFIRMATION OF OATH

Mr. Krantz read the Board of Canvassers Oath aloud. The board then signed and dated their oaths. The board then raised their hands, and they were officially sworn in, and the oath was concluded.

III. ANNOUNCEMENT OF OFFICERS

Mr. Krantz asked for a motion to select the chairperson for the Board of Canvassers. Ms. Millard motioned to select Alissa Wallace as chair. Ms. Ribbans seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried. Mr. Krantz asked for a motion to select the secretary for the Board of Canvassers. Ms. Ribbans motioned to select Elaine Millard as secretary. Ms. Wallace seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

IV. PUBLIC NOTICE OF CANVASS

Ms. Wallace stated that notice was given for these canvasses via The Aegis newspaper, the Town of Bel Air's website, and the night of the election.

V. CANVASSING OF PROVISIONAL AND ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Ms. Wallace read into the record the overview of the canvass process as follows. The rules of conduct for canvass observers are posted around the room. The Board of Canvassers will verify that the provisional and absentee ballots were received timely and that the oath on each envelope was signed. The provisional and absentee ballots will either be accepted in full - recommend counting the ballot, or rejected - recommend not counting the ballot.

Ms. Wallace read into the record further. Provisional and absentee ballots that are accepted in full will be opened and the ballots reviewed for compliance and tabulating acceptability. Mismarked ballots will be referred to the Board of Canvassers for review. If the Board of Canvassers can determine the intent of the voter, the ballot will be duplicated by the board based on the voter's intent. If the Board of Canvassers cannot determine intent on a mismarked ballot, it will be accepted as-is. Any ballot that is rejected must be rejected by a unanimous vote of the Board of Canvassers. Otherwise, it must be accepted.

Ms. Wallace then listed the provisional and absentee ballot rejection reasons: 1) board action, 2) voter cancelled, 3) identifying mark on the ballot, 4) late for election, 5) voted more than one ballot, 6) no signature on provisional application, 7) no signature on the absentee oath, 8) not a registered voter, 9) applicant is not eligible to receive a provisional ballot (not a Bel Air municipality resident), 10) incomplete information was provided on the application, 11) no ballot in envelope, and 12) identity challenge upheld.

Ms. Wallace stated that if a member of the public has information that they believe should be considered by the board or if you wish to challenge a decision, the individual should notify the canvass coordinator.

A. Absentee Ballots

Ms. Wallace then stated that the board will be presenting 34 absentee ballots for today's canvass of which 5 ballots will be held back for the canvass on November 14, 2025, to protect the anonymity of any timely ballots received in the mail. She asked for a motion to begin the review of the absentee ballots. Ms. Ribbans motioned to begin the review of the absentee ballots. Ms. Millard seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Ms. Wallace said there are 29 ballots for acceptance in full. The board then proceeded to count the ballots and confirmed there are 29 in total. The board then validated that all ballots had a signature and date. Ms. Millard motioned to accept the 29 absentee ballots in full. Ms. Ribbans seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Feryus offered guidance regarding opening the ballot envelopes and viewing the votes. The ballots were opened, one at a time, reviewed, and the vote counts were read aloud by Ms. Ribbans.

At Mr. Feryus's request, the board counted the ballots again still totaling 29. Mr. Krantz confirmed the vote count as 28 Etting, 3 Gullion, 25 Hanley, and two write-ins. The board agreed with these calculations.

Ms. Wallace asked for a motion to approve the tabulation of absentee ballots. Ms. Ribbans motioned to approve the tabulation of absentee ballots. Ms. Millard seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

B. Provisional Ballots

Ms. Wallace stated that there are 4 provisional ballots. Ms. Ribbans motioned to begin the review of the provisional ballots. Ms. Millard seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed. Ms. Wallace read into the record that there are 3 provisional ballots recommended for rejection. These 3 applicants were not eligible to receive a provisional ballot because they were not registered to vote in Bel Air by the close of registration. Mr. Feryus explained how these three applicants were ineligible. He said that his office researched where these voters were registered and determined that they were not municipal residents at the close of registration as per the Town Code. The board reviewed these ballots and came to the same conclusion. Ms. Millard motioned to reject these 3 provisional ballots. Ms. Ribbans seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

Ms. Wallace stated that there is 1 provisional ballot recommended for acceptance. This voter is a registered voter within the municipality and was otherwise eligible to vote a ballot. The board reviewed this ballot and determined that the voter's address was located in the town limits. Ms. Millard motioned to accept this 1 provisional ballot. Ms. Ribbans seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

Mr. Feryus demonstrated how to open a provisional ballot envelope. Ms. Ribbans announced that there was 1 vote for Gullion on this ballot. Ms. Millard motioned to approve the tabulation of provisional ballots. Ms. Ribbans seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

VI. RELEASE OF UNOFFICIAL RESULTS

Ms. Wallace asked the board to confirm the revised tally for the Unofficial Results form. Mr. Feryus noted that the adjustments of numbers will only reflect the canvassing for today. He confirmed for Ms. Millard that the provisional ballots are still considered cast even though three were ultimately rejected. The group determined the revised numbers as follows: Etting 623, Gullion 351, Hanley 614, and Write-ins 32. Mr. Krantz said there could potentially be additional absentee ballots if he receives more by next Friday.

Mr. Feryus explained the proper procedures for filling in the columns on the Unofficial Results form. All three board members signed and dated the form. Ms. Millard presented the form to Mr. Krantz as Town Clerk. Ms. Wallace motioned to accept the unofficial results that the board tabulated, signed, and dated on November 6, 2025. Ms. Ribbans seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Wallace motioned to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Millard seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 10:44 am.

Signature on file
Michael L. Krantz, Town Clerk

Signature on file
Wendy Ribbans, Chief Election Judge



UNOFFICIAL RESULTS
TOWN OF BEL AIR MUNICIPAL ELECTION
NOVEMBER 4, 2025

Board of Commissioners – Vote for Two	Election Day	AB & Prov Canvass	AB Canvass	Total Votes
Candidates	11-04-2025	11-06-2025	11-14-2025	
Paula S. Etting	595	28		623
Matthew F. Gullion	347	4		351
Gavin O. Hanley	589	25		614
Write-Ins	30	2		32

Eligible Registered Voters 8,159 (as of 10/14/25)

Standard Ballots Cast on Election Day 886
Absentee Ballots Received 34
Provisional Ballots Cast 4
Total Ballots Cast as of 11/06/2025 924

Elaine A. Millard
Missa Wallace
Wendy Ribbons
 Election Supervisors

11/6/25
 Date