

GARRETT COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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BOARD MEETING MINUTES

August 4, 2025

ATTENDING: Connie Meyers, Board President

Randy Glotfelty, Board Vice President

Charles Nolan, Board Member James Moore, Board Secretary Carla Tesar, Board Member Steven D. Fratz, Election Director

ABSENT:

None

4:03 PM: Meeting was called to order and a quorum was determined with all board members being present by Connie Meyers. Connie informed everyone that the session is being recorded.

AGENDA: Accepted with no changes or additions. Motion made by Randy Glotfelty, seconded by Chuck Nolan, and made unanimous by Connie Meyers.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the April 1, 2025 meeting were approved and accepted on a motion made by Chuck Nolan, seconded by Carla Tesar, and made unanimous by Connie Meyers.

ELECTION DIRECTOR REPORT: There were 264 new voter registrations and 287 removals from April 1, 2025 thru August 1, 2025. The removals consist of death notices, confirmation mail process and 25 transfers out of Garrett County. Current registration as of August 1, 2025 is 21,121. Consisting of: Democrats 3,428, Republicans 14,130, Green 18, Working Class 14, Unaffiliated 3,235 and Others 296.

Per state guidelines Chrissy and Jan are teleworking two days a week with someone being in the office every day.

Final authorization was given to dispose of the 2020-2022 election paperwork. On June 16, 2025 ninety boxes were shredded by Sunrise Shred of Oakland, MD.

Steve met with Kevin Null, County Administrator to discuss training and warehouse inefficiencies. He was informed that Garrett Co. Board of Elections office may be moving to the old Board of Education building. Steve, Chrissy and Jan toured the facility to see if it was adequate for us and the equipment. No final decision has been made yet.

ES&S (Election System Software) cleaned, tested for connectivity and performed upgrades to our system in June 2025.

The Voter Registration Program has been revamped and renamed in the state. It is now called Voter Registration Distributors. The training of the volunteers will need to be done yearly now. Chrissy will be organizing the training and will take lead of this.

Candidates who already filed for the Garrett County 2026 Primary Election as of August 1, 2025 are:

Senate District 1 – Mike McKay
Legislative District 1 – Edward Clemons Jr. and Tim Thomas
Commissioner District 1 – Larry Tichnell and Andrew "Harv" Harvey
Commissioner District 2 – Paul Edwards
Commissioner District 3 – Ryan Savage and Michael Smith
Clerk of Court – Bill Bittinger
Register of Wills – Rita Watson

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS AND CORRESPONDENCE: New Comar regulations states an Election Plan must be submitted to the state seven months prior to election. That plan would consist of polling places, early voting centers, drop boxes, and a contingency plan. State board recommends to continue with Bittinger Fire Hall marked as inaccessible.

Both early voting centers were contacted for use of their facilities. Grantsville Fire Hall said it shouldn't be a problem. Steve must attend a meeting and present it to the members on September 7, 2025. Oakland gave approval by email.

Steve is working on letters and forms for authorization for the other polling places and will present the Election Plan at the October 7, 2025 meeting for approval.

Carla Tesar asked to have calendar dates emailed to board members prior to the October 7, 2025 board meeting. Steve will do that.

The motion was made by Chuck Nolan to cancel the September 2, 2025 board meeting. James Moore seconded the motion and was made unanimous by Connie Meyers.

ADJOURNMENT: The next board meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 7, 2025 at 4:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm with a motion made by Randy Glotfelty, seconded by Chuck Nolan and made unanimous by Connie Meyers.

Connie Meyers, Board President