

**MINUTES OF MEETING
ST. JOHNS COUNTY CANVASSING BOARD
THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 2025
9:00 AM**

Proceedings of the public pre-election test of the automatic tabulating equipment and independent audit system meeting of the Canvassing Board of St. Johns County, Florida, held in the Supervisor of Elections Office, 4455 Avenue A, Suite 101, St. Augustine, Florida.

Present: Honorable Alexander R. Christine Jr., County Judge, Chair
 Honorable Vicky Oakes, Supervisor of Elections
 Honorable, Clay Murphy, County Commissioner

Also present: Wayne Fusco, Assistant SOE; Melissa Lundquist, Chief Deputy SOE; John Wolf, IT Director; Chase Ellis, IT Tech; Matt Campbell, Elections Tech; Marc Schwartz, Voting Tech; Shivakumar Orekondy, Voting Tech; Paul Stopiak, Voting Tech; and Kelly English, Bailiff.

Public Attendance: None

(03/06/25 – 9:00 AM)
CALL TO ORDER

Judge Christine called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

The clerk called the roll: Judge Christine, Supervisor Oakes, and Commissioner Murphy were present.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

None.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion by Christine, seconded by Oakes, carried unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

1. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CANVASSING BOARD MINUTES FROM THE SPECIAL PRIMARY ELECTION:
February 7, 2025

Motion by Oakes, seconded by Murphy, carried unanimously to adopt the minutes as presented.

2. CONSIDER AND DISCUSS RESCHEDULING THE PUBLIC POST-ELECTION AUDIT

The Canvassing Board discussed and agreed to reschedule the public Post-Election Audit, presently on the Canvassing Board calendar for April 17, due to a scheduling conflict. Supervisor Oakes presented two

Approved at 03.31.25 CB Meeting

plans: Reschedule the public Post-Election Audit for Friday, April 11, following the certification of the 10-day overseas vote-by-mail ballots. If unable to conduct the audit on April 11, then it would instead take place on the afternoon of Monday, April 14.

3. CONSIDER AND DISCUSS SCANNING OF EARLY VOTING BALLOTS CAST INTO THE INDEPENDENT AUDIT SYSTEM

(03/06/25 – 9:03 AM)

While verifying that the Clear Ballot machines were all set to zero, the board discussed and approved authorizing Wayne Fusco, Assistant Supervisor of Elections, and John Wolf, IT Director, to oversee the process of scanning early voting ballots cast into the Clear Ballot independent auditing system at the appropriate time as indicated on the Canvassing Board schedule.

4. CONDUCT PUBLIC PRE-ELECTION TEST OF THE AUTOMATIC TABULATING EQUIPMENT AND INDEPENDENT AUDIT SYSTEM

(03/06/25 – 9:03 AM)

Canvassing Board members verified all counters on the machines were set to zero. Wayne Fusco, Assistant Supervisor of Elections, provided a zero-proof report.

(03/06/25 – 9:04 AM)

Supervisor Oakes announced to begin test.

Eleven (11) precincts were selected for use during the Public Test of the voting equipment. Some precincts are co-located and use the same tabulating equipment, so the total number of precinct tabulators involved in the test was ten (10), plus two (2) DS200 used during early voting for a total of twelve (12) DS200 tabulators. The three DS850s (highspeed vote-by-mail ballot readers) were also tested.

Two (2) ExpressVote ballot marking devices were also used to vote, mark, and produce a paper ballot which were then placed into a DS200 for tabulation. One ExpressVote used during the test was for precinct 311 and included with the test decks for tabulation in its respective precinct. The second ExpressVote was for the Supervisor of Elections Office early voting and included with the test decks for tabulation in the respective early voting DS200s.

The test included all equipment to be used for processing vote-by-mail ballots, early voting, and Election Day ballots, including the Clear Ballot independent audit system.

The following DS200 precinct tabulators were tested:

212/304 B, 213 B, 303 B, 305 B, 306/307 B, 308 B, 309 B, SBL/310 B, 311 A, 311 B

The two early voting DS200s tested were for use at the Supervisor of Elections EV site, and Southeast Branch Library/310 A.

A test deck was run through each of the twelve (12) DS200s by staff and Canvassing Board members. The polls were closed, and results were printed and verified as counting correctly on each machine.

Test tapes were removed from the DS200s, and all test ballots were removed from the ballot boxes and provided to the audit team members for processing through Clear Ballot.

The results from each Election Day DS200 were then transmitted via wireless modem to EMS. For the early voting DS200s, the USB memory sticks were removed, and results were then transferred into EMS via the

USB memory stick. This is the process actually used to download early voting totals. A report was printed with vote totals. Verification was also made that the results transferred into EMS correctly and all counts were correct, as verified against the control results.

Simultaneously, three (3) DS850 vote-by-mail ballot tabulators were tested for accuracy. A zero report was printed, then a predetermined test deck was counted on each machine. Results were transferred into EMS from the DS850s by use of a USB memory stick for each scanner.

a. CONSIDER THE RESULTS OF THE LOGIC AND ACCURACY TEST

(03/06/25 – 9:41 AM)

Wayne Fusco, Assistant Supervisor of Elections, provided the summary report, including the group detail and DS850s vote-by-mail ballots, Election Day, and early voting totals, to Supervisor Oakes. Supervisor Oakes called off the results while Judge Christine verified. All totals were verified for accuracy and all equipment was verified as counting correctly. All results produced during the test matched exactly to the control results.

A report from the Clear Ballot independent audit system was also printed and verified for accuracy, matching exactly the control results.

(03/06/25 – 9:46 AM)

At the conclusion of the test, Supervisor Oakes requested that all DS200 and DS850 ballot counters and Clear Ballot audit scanners were reset to zero by the equipment technicians. Canvassing Board members verified that all machines and scanners were set to zero, and staff were instructed to seal all machines, verify seal numbers, and prepare for the election. All equipment was sealed and readied for transport to its precinct or early voting location.

b. COMPLETE AND SIGN CERTIFICATION OF LOGIC AND ACCURACY TEST

The Certification of Logic & Accuracy Test was completed by the Canvassing Board members. All DS200s and DS850s were counting accurately and deemed satisfactory to be used in the Special Primary Election. The four Clear Ballot scanner results were also verified, matched exactly, and noted on the certificate as 100% accurate.

ANNOUNCE NEXT MEETING DATE & ADJOURN

(03/06/25 – 10:00 AM)

Chair announced the next Canvassing Board Meeting for March 31, 2025, at 2:00 PM.

With there being no further business to come before the Board, the Chair asked all in favor of adjourning the meeting say I.

Motion carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.