

**MINUTES OF MEETING
ST. JOHNS COUNTY CANVASSING BOARD
WEDNESDAY, JULY 29, 2026
10:00 AM**

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

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

Also present: Jennifer Reis, Election Services Specialist; Wayne Fusco, Assistant SOE; Chris Leddy, Chief Deputy; Chase Ellis, IT Coordinator; David Boyett, IT Technician; Joe Sarmiento, GIS Specialist; Matt Campbell, Election Operations Lead Technician; Marc Schwartz, Technician; Ray Greger, Technician; Alan Pouliot, Technician; Paul Stopiak, Technician; David Vanderzee, Technician; Ronald Brinson, Technician; My Sadler, Technician; Michael Pogue, Technician; Mark Ebling, Technician; Ken Sparks, Technician; Jacqueline Emslie, Technician; Tom Haywood, Technician; Martha Harden, Technician; Gerry Field, Technician; Walker Burvette, Technician; and Kelly English, Bailiff.

Public Attendance: Cynthia Halde and Michelle Spoonhour

(07/29/26 – 10:00 AM)

CALL TO ORDER

Judge Christine called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

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

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

None

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion to approve by Murphy, seconded by Oakes, carried unanimously to approve the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

Approved at 08.12.26 CB Meeting

1. CONSIDER APPROVING THE JULY 16, 2026, CANVASSING BOARD MINUTES
Motion by Murphy, seconded by Oakes, carried unanimously to approve the July 16, 2026, Canvassing Board minutes.

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

The Chair turned the floor over to the Supervisor of Elections. Supervisor Oakes explained the process of testing both the tabulation system and the audit system. The Board authorized Supervisor Oakes to oversee the process of scanning early voting ballots cast into the independent audit system. Chase Ellis, IT Coordinator, explained the Clear Ballot Clear Audit system and process.

Supervisor Oakes acknowledged receipt of Commissioner Whitehurst's resignation from the St. Johns County Canvassing Board on July 21, 2026, and appointment of Eddie Creamer, St. Johns County Property Appraiser, by the Chief Judge of the 7th Judicial Circuit of Florida, on July 23, 2026.

3. CONDUCT PUBLIC PRE-ELECTION TEST OF THE AUTOMATIC TABULATING EQUIPMENT AND INDEPENDENT AUDIT SYSTEM TO BE USED IN THE AUGUST 18, 2026, PRIMARY ELECTION

Fourteen (14) DS300s were selected for use during the Public Test of the voting equipment, including ten (10) Election Day precincts and four (4) early voting machines from two (2) locations. All three (3) DS850 (highspeed vote-by-mail ballot readers) were also tested.

Two (2) ExpressVote ballot marking devices were also used to vote, mark, and print a paper ballot which was then placed into its respective DS300 for tabulation. One Election Day ExpressVote used during the test was for precinct 508 and was included with the test decks for tabulation in its respective precinct. The second ExpressVote was for the Supervisor of Elections Office early voting location and was included with the test decks for tabulation in the respective early voting DS300.

The Logic & Accuracy Test included the following machines:

DS300s	Election Day Precincts: 103/106, 105/201/501, 206/207, 210, 212/304, 309, 402, 405/407, 506, 508 Early Voting: World Golf Hall of Fame (WGV) and Supervisor of Elections Office (SOE)
ExpressVotes	Election Day Precinct: 508 Early Voting: Supervisor of Elections Office (SOE)
DS850	All three machines
ClearBallot	All four scanners

(07/29/26 – 10:04 AM)

Canvassing Board members walked around to verify machines are set to zero.

(07/29/26 – 10:06 AM)

Supervisor Oakes announced to begin test.

A test deck was run through each of the fourteen (14) DS300s 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 DS300s, all test ballots were removed from the ballot boxes and provided to the audit team members for processing through the Clear Ballot independent audit system.

The results from each Election Day DS300 tabulator were then transmitted via modem to EMS. For the early voting DS300s, the USB memory sticks were removed, and results were then transferred into EMS via the USB memory stick. 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.

The three (3) DS850 vote-by-mail tabulators were also tested. A zero report was printed, then a 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. All vote-by-mail test ballots were removed from the DS850s and provided to the audit team members for processing through the Clear Ballot independent audit system.

A. CONSIDER THE RESULTS OF THE LOGIC & ACCURACY TEST

(07/29/26 – 11:30 AM)

A summary report was printed from the tabulation system, including the group detail of vote-by-mail ballots, Election Day, and early voting totals. All totals were verified for accuracy by the Canvassing Board, and all equipment was verified as counting correctly. All results produced during the Logic & Accuracy Test matched the control results exactly.

B. COMPLETE AND SIGN CERTIFICATION OF LOGIC & ACCURACY TEST

(07/29/26 – 11:52 AM)

IT Coordinator Chase Ellis delivered the Clear Ballot verification of results. The Logic & Accuracy test was confirmed to be completed with 100% accuracy by the Canvassing Board.

A certificate of Logic & Accuracy Test was completed by the Canvassing Board members. All voting equipment and the Clear Ballot independent audit system were counting accurately and deemed satisfactory to be used in the 2026 Primary Election.

At the conclusion of the test, all DS850s, DS300s and the tabulation system were reset to zero by the equipment technicians. IT Coordinator Chase Ellis printed zero reports from the tabulation system and Clear Ballot independent audit system for verification by the Canvassing Board. The DS300 machines were sealed and prepared for transport to their precinct or early voting location.

A total of 11,150 ballots were tabulated during the public test for the 2026 Primary Election, as noted on the Logic & Accuracy Certificate and confirmed by the Clear Ballot audit system.

Canvassing Board members verified that all machines and scanners were reset to zero. Seal numbers were also verified for each machine.

ANNOUNCE NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURN

(07/29/26 – 12:01 PM)

Judge Christine announced the next meeting for August 12, 2026, at 9:00 AM. With no further business before the Board, Supervisor Oakes made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Murphy.