



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

MEETING MINUTES MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2024

The meeting of the Union County Board of Elections was called to order by Chair Clara Harelik, Esq. at 9:08am. The following were in attendance: Chair Clara Harelik, Esq.; Secretary / Commissioner of Registration James Foerst, Esq; Commissioner Richard Fortunato, Esq.; Commissioner Dennis Kobitz; Commissioner Raymond Szpond; Commissioner Debra Varnerin; and Administrator Nicole DiRado.

The Statement of Compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act was read by Chair Harelik.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

POST-ELECTION AUDIT OF THE 2024 GENERAL ELECTION

The Union County Board of Elections (UCBOE) performed a post-election audit consistent with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:61-9 and the guidelines promulgated by the New Jersey Secretary of State's Office on Monday, November 18, 2024. The audit was available to the public via zoom and in-person observation.

The UCBOE conducted a hand-to-eye count of the voter-verifiable paper records created during the course of administering the November 5, 2024 General Election for the offices of President, United States Senate, United States House of Representatives, County Commissioner and Municipal Mayor or Council / Township Committee. Public Questions and Boards of Education elections were excluded from the audit.

Pursuant to the statute, the audit shall be conducted in at least 2% of the election districts in which each audited Election appears on the ballot. The guidelines provided for this audit require 2% of the audit units in each of the Congressional Districts to be randomly selected. The audit batches were selected on Sunday, November 17, 2024 and the process was available to the public via zoom.

Audit units included voter verified paper audit trails from each voting machine used in Early Voting and on Election Day, mail-in ballot, and provisional ballots tabulated on the ES&S DS850. In total, 852 audit units were created.

There are four congressional districts (CD) in Union County: the 7th, 8th, 10th and 12th. In the 7th CD, there are a total of 368 batches. Eight audit batches were randomly selected. In the 8th CD, there are a total of 110 batches. Three audit batches were randomly selected. In the 10th CD, there are a total of 317 batches. Seven audit batches were randomly selected. In the 12th CD, there are a total of 57 batches. Two audit batches were randomly selected.

As provided for in the statute, the following audit units were randomly selected for audit on Sunday, November 17, 2024 at 9:00am via a publicly advertised and accessible zoom meeting:

1. 7th Congressional District: Batch D0084 – Mail-in Ballots
2. 7th Congressional District: Batch 19263 – Voting Machine
3. 7th Congressional District: Batch D0097 – Mail-in Ballots
4. 7th Congressional District: Batch D0078 – Mail-in Ballots
5. 7th Congressional District: Batch 19313 – Mail-in Ballots
6. 7th Congressional District: Batch 19120 – Voting Machine
7. 7th Congressional District: Batch D0063 – Mail-in Ballots
8. 8th Congressional District: Batch 19108 – Voting Machine
9. 8th Congressional District: Batch D0014 – Mail-in Ballots



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10. 8th Congressional District: Batch 19490 – Voting Machine
11. 10th Congressional District: Batch 19393 – Voting Machine
12. 10th Congressional District: Batch D0111 – Mail-in Ballots
13. 10th Congressional District: Batch E0091 – Mail-in Ballots
14. 10th Congressional District: Batch E0088 – Mail-in Ballots
15. 10th Congressional District: Batch E0001 – Mail-in Ballots
16. 10th Congressional District: Batch D0095 – Mail-in Ballots
17. 10th Congressional District: Batch F0007 – Mail-in Ballots
18. 12th Congressional District: Batch 19220 – Voting Machine
19. 12th Congressional District: Batch 19209 – Voting Machine

In each district, the hand to eye audit was 100% consistent with the machine tally. The audit did not result in a change in the number of votes counted for any candidate. The voting machines do not allow for overvotes. Any paper ballot which contained an overvote for a particular contest recorded it as an overvote, but did not count a vote. Undervotes were recorded by the vote tabulation system and were reconciled during the course of the audit.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Foerst and seconded by Commissioner Kobitz. All Commissioners present voted in the affirmative. The meeting was adjourned at 6:37pm.