

State Board of Election  
Tuesday, May 30, 2023  
FINAL Meeting Minutes

1           The State Board of Elections (“the Board”) meeting was held on Tuesday, May 30, 2023, in  
2   Senate Room A of the Pocahontas Building in Richmond, Virginia. The meeting also offered public  
3   participation through electronic communication so the public could view and hear the meeting at remote  
4   locations. In attendance: John O’Bannon, Chairman; Rosalyn R. Dance, Vice Chairman; Georgia Alvis-  
5   Long, Secretary, Matthew Weinstein and Delegate Donald Merricks, members; represented the State  
6   Board of Elections (“the Board”). Susan J. Beals, Commissioner, represented the Department of Elections  
7   (“ELECT”), and Flora Hezel represented the Office of the Attorney General (“OAG”). Chairman  
8   O’Bannon called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.

9           The first item of business was the approval of the minutes from the April 11, 2023 and April 14,  
10   2023 Board Meetings, presented by Secretary Alvis-Long. Vice Chair Dance moved *that the Board*  
11   *approve the minutes from the April 11, 2023 and April 14, 2023 Board Meetings*. Mr. Weinstein seconded  
12   the motion and the motion passed unanimously. A roll call vote was taken:

13           Chairman O’Bannon – Aye

14           Vice Chair Dance – Aye

15           Secretary Alvis-Long – Aye

16           Mr. Weinstein – Aye

17           Delegate Merricks – Aye

18           The second item of business was the Commissioner Reports, presented by Commissioner  
19   Beals. Commissioner Beals expressed her appreciation to the General Registrars “GR” in the 66  
20   localities that are having a primary election on June 20th. The Commissioner stated that early  
21   voting is in progress. Commissioner Beals informed the Board that she has visited many  
22   localities to review their early voting operations.

23           The Commissioner informed the Board that she visited the University of Virginia for the  
24 kickoff of the 2023 Cyber Navigator Internship Program Boot Camp. Commissioner Beals stated  
25 that ELECT received an NSA grant for several years, allowing interns from five Virginia  
26 universities to partner with the GRs on their cyber security issues. The Commissioner advised  
27 the Board that there are 39 interns spread across 19 localities for the summer.

28           Commissioner Beals stated that the preparation for the Presidential Primary is on the  
29 agenda. The Commissioner advised the Board that the presidential filing opens on July 3rd.  
30 Commissioner Beals stated that the date for the Presidential Primary will be March 5, 2024. The  
31 Commissioner stated this will be the first year the Presidential Primary will include 45 days of  
32 early voting, beginning on January 19th. Commissioner Beals stated that the candidate filing  
33 deadline is December 14th.

34           The third item of business was the 2024 Presidential Primary Candidate Form and  
35 Candidate Bulletin presented by Paul Saunders, Elections and Registration Services Supervisor.  
36 *These memos are in the Working Papers for the May 30, 2023 Meeting.* Chairman O'Bannon  
37 opened the floor for public comment. Shyam Raman, Democratic Party of Virginia addressed the  
38 Board. Vice Chair Dance moved *to adopt both the proposed short and long forms of the Petition*  
39 *of Qualified Voters for the Presidential Primary and the proposed Declaration of Candidacy for*  
40 *President of the United States.* Mr. Weinstein seconded the motion and the motion passed  
41 unanimously. A roll call vote was taken:

42           Chairman O'Bannon – Aye

43           Vice Chair Dance – Aye

44           Secretary Alvis-Long – Aye

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45 Mr. Weinstein – Aye

46 Delegate Merricks – Aye

47 Vice Chair Dance moved *to adopt the 2024 Presidential Primary candidate and party*  
48 *bulletin titled How to Run for Office for Candidates and Party Representatives.* Delegate  
49 Merricks seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. A roll call vote was taken:

50 Chairman O’Bannon – Aye

51 Vice Chair Dance – Aye

52 Secretary Alvis-Long – Aye

53 Mr. Weinstein – Aye

54 Delegate Merricks – Aye

55 The fourth item of business was the Split Precinct Waiver Request for the City of  
56 Chesapeake presented by Claire Scott, ELECT Policy Analyst. *This memo is in the Working*  
57 *Papers for the May 30, 2023 Meeting.* Vice Chair Dance moved *that the State Board of Elections*  
58 *approve the split precinct waiver for the City of Chesapeake.* Mr. Weinstein seconded the motion  
59 and the motion passed unanimously. A roll call vote was taken:

60 Chairman O’Bannon – Aye

61 Vice Chair Dance – Aye

62 Secretary Alvis-Long – Aye

63 Mr. Weinstein – Aye

64 Delegate Merricks – Aye

65           The fifth item of business was the Legislative Updates Pursuant to Absentee Ballots  
66 presented by Ashley Coles, ELECT Policy Analyst. *This memo is in the Working Papers for the*  
67 *May 30, 2023 Meeting.* Vice Chair Dance moved *that the Board approve the proposed*  
68 *amendments to regulatory actions 1VAC20-45-40, 1VAC20-70-20, and approve the repeal of*  
69 *regulatory action 1VAC20-70-80.* Delegate Merricks seconded the motion and the motion passed  
70 unanimously. A roll call vote was taken:

71           Chairman O'Bannon – Aye

72           Vice Chair Dance – Aye

73           Secretary Alvis-Long – Aye

74           Mr. Weinstein – Aye

75           Delegate Merricks – Aye

76           The sixth item of business was the Ranked Choice Voting Update presented by Rachel  
77 Lawless, Confidential Policy Advisor; John Cronin, EMPO Project Manager; and Johnathan  
78 Barbett, Chief Information Officer. *This report and PowerPoint are in the Working Papers for*  
79 *the May 30, 2023 Meeting.* Chairman O'Bannon opened the floor to public comment. Ann  
80 Grigorian, Chris Hanzel, Elizabeth Block, and Chris Rohland addressed the Board. Vice Chair  
81 Dance moved *that the Board approve the proposed amendments to regulatory action 1VAC20-*  
82 *100-10, 1VAC20-100-40, 1VAC20-100-50, and 1VAC20-100-70.* Mr. Weinstein seconded the  
83 motion and the motion passed unanimously. A roll call vote was taken:

84           Chairman O'Bannon – Aye

85           Vice Chair Dance – Aye

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86 Secretary Alvis-Long – Aye

87 Mr. Weinstein – Aye

88 Delegate Merricks – Aye

89 The seventh item of business was the Proposed Revisions to Virginia’s Guide to Hand-  
90 Counting Ballots presented by Rachel Lawless, Confidential Policy Advisor. *This memo is in the*  
91 *Working Papers for the May 30, 2023 Meeting.* Vice Chair Dance moved *that the Board adopt,*  
92 *and make effective immediately, revisions to Virginia’s Guide to Hand-Counting Ballots.* Mr.  
93 Weinstein seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. A roll call vote was taken:

94 Chairman O’Bannon – Aye

95 Vice Chair Dance – Aye

96 Secretary Alvis-Long – Aye

97 Mr. Weinstein – Aye

98 Delegate Merricks – Aye

99 The eighth item of business was the Officer Removal Petitions and Petitions Signature  
100 Qualifications presented by Ashley Coles, ELECT Policy Analyst. *This memo is in the Working*  
101 *Papers for the May 30, 2023 Meeting.* Delegate Merricks moved *that the Board adopt the*  
102 *proposed regulation, 1VAC20-60-90 Material omissions from officer removal petitions and*  
103 *petition signature qualifications.* Vice Chair Dance seconded the motion and the motion passed  
104 unanimously. A roll call vote was taken:

105 Chairman O’Bannon – Aye

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106 Vice Chair Dance – Aye

107 Secretary Alvis-Long – Aye

108 Mr. Weinstein – Aye

109 Delegate Merricks – Aye

110 The ninth item of business was the Risk Limiting Audit Manual presented by Rachel  
111 Lawless, Confidential Policy Advisor. *This report is in the Working Papers for the May 30, 2023*  
112 *Meeting.* Chairman O’Bannon opened the floor to public comment. C. Jay Coles addressed the  
113 Board. Vice Chair Dance moved *that the Board approve the proposed amendments to the Risk-*  
114 *Limiting Audit Manual pursuant to §24.2-671.2 of the Code of Virginia.* Mr. Weinstein seconded  
115 the motion and the motion passed unanimously. A roll call vote was taken:

116 Chairman O’Bannon – Aye

117 Vice Chair Dance – Aye

118 Secretary Alvis-Long – Aye

119 Mr. Weinstein – Aye

120 Delegate Merricks – Aye

121 Vice Chair O’Bannon opened the floor for public comment. Susan Hogge, Elections  
122 Integrity; Deb Wake, League of Woman Voters of Virginia; Irene Churins, Anne Kinney, Chris  
123 Rohland, Ann Grigorian, Elizabeth Block, and Shelley Oberlander addressed the Board.

124 At 2:01 P.M., Delegate Merricks stated pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-  
125 3711(A)(7), *I move that the Board go into closed session for the purpose of discussing pending*

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126 *and threatened litigation. In accordance with Section 2.2-3712(F), Susan Beals, Commissioner*  
127 *of Elections, Flora Hezel of the Office of the Attorney General, and will attend the closed session*  
128 *because their presence will reasonably aid the Board in its consideration of the subject of the*  
129 *meeting. Mr. Weinstein seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. A roll call*  
130 *vote was taken:*

131 Chairman O'Bannon – Aye

132 Vice Chair Dance – Aye

133 Secretary Alvis-Long – Aye

134 Mr. Weinstein – Aye

135 Delegate Merricks – Aye

136 At 2:14 P.M., Delegate Merricks moved *to reconvene the meeting in open session, and*  
137 *take a roll call vote certifying that to the best of each member's knowledge (i) only such public*  
138 *business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under this chapter and (ii)*  
139 *only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting*  
140 *was convened were heard or discussed by the State Board of Elections. Vice Chair Dance*  
141 *seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. A roll call vote was taken:*

142 Chairman O'Bannon – Aye

143 Vice Chair Dance – Aye

144 Secretary Alvis-Long – Aye

145 Mr. Weinstein – Aye

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146 Delegate Merricks – Aye

147 The meeting adjourned at 2:15 P.M.

148 John M. O'Ban

149 Chairman

150 [Signature]

151 Vice Chairman

152 Georgie Davis-Lynn

153 Secretary

154 [Signature]

155 Board Member

156 \_\_\_\_\_

157 Board Member