



Maryland Association of Election Officials

Representing the Local Election Boards of the State of Maryland

MINUTES

2023 Annual Meeting of the Membership

The Annual 2023 Meeting was called to order by President David Garreis at 5:20 pm on May 15, 2023.

On behalf of the Board, Mr. David Garreis welcomed everyone and introduced the Board. Ms. Abigail Goldman, Board Secretary, conducted roll call.

Board Members Present:

President David Garreis, Anne Arundel County
Vice President Ruie Marie Lavoie, Baltimore County
Secretary, Abigail Goldman, Baltimore City
Board Member Chrissy Jones, Queen Anne's County
Board Member Kimberly Phillips, Baltimore County
Board Member, Anthony Gutierrez, Frederick County
Board Member, Barry Jackson, Washington County
Board Member, Tae Frere, St. Mary's County

Absent:

Treasurer Danna Williams, Baltimore County (family emergency)

Twenty-three (23) Maryland jurisdictions and the State Board of Elections were represented in person or virtually and responded as present which established quorum.

Commissioner Thomas Hicks from the EAC addressed the assembly with uplifting words and comments.

Ms. Gail Hatfield introduced the vendors and gave each vendor 5 minutes to address the group.

May 16, 2023

Meeting was called to order by President David Garreis at 9:08 am on May 16, 2023.

On behalf of the Board, Mr. David Garreis welcomed everyone and introduced the Board. Ms. Abigail Goldman, Board Secretary, conducted roll call.

Board Members Present:

President David Garreis, Anne Arundel County
Vice President Ruie Marie Lavoie, Baltimore County
Secretary, Abigail Goldman, Baltimore City
Board Member Chrissy Jones, Queen Anne's County
Board Member Kimberly Phillips, Baltimore County
Board Member, Anthony Gutierrez, Frederick County
Board Member, Barry Jackson, Washington County
Board Member, Tae Frere, St. Mary's County

Excused:

Treasurer Danna Williams, Baltimore County

Twenty-four (24) Maryland jurisdictions and the State Board of Elections were represented in person or virtually and responded as present which established quorum.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

President Garreis recognized the efforts and hard work of Ruie Lavoie and Abigail Goldman and thanked them for their hard work in organizing this conference. He also thanked the old LBE board members who are leaving and the new board members of the LBE that are coming on.

Making MAEO Count (the theme this year) is working together and making things work. It is us working closely together.

Ms. Ruie Lavoie introduced the theme winner which was Ms. Katherine Berry from Carroll County.

He also thanked the Conference Host Anne Arundel County Board of Elections and the Baltimore County Board of Elections for this year.

Chief Richard Books conducted the Presentation of Colors. He asked all Veterans and Active-duty personnel to stand. Presentation of Colors by the Ocean City Police Honor Guard.

National Anthem was sung by Anthony Gutierrez, Deputy Director, Frederick County.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Tryphena Ellis-Johnson, Board Member, Anne Arundel County.

Moment of Silence and Memorial Slide Show for all the departed members since last conference. We shall never forget them.

Ms. Nikki Charlson, Deputy Administrator for the State Board of Elections administer the Oath of Office to the MAEO Officers and Board Members.

MINUTES

Ms. Abigail Goldman provided the Membership with a draft copy of the Minutes from the 2022 Annual Meeting of the Membership. President Garreis asked for additions or changes. There were no changes or additions requested.

MOTION: Ruie Lavoie, Baltimore County, motioned to accept the Minutes from the 2022 Annual Meeting as written.

SECOND: Tae Frere, St. Mary's County seconded the motion

ACTION: Favorable and unanimous, the Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Ms. Ruie Lavoie presented the treasurer report for Ms. Danna Williams, a copy was provided to the Membership. The Audit was conducted by the Audit Committee and a copy of the findings were provided to the Board and to the membership.

MOTION: Kimberly Phillips, Baltimore County, motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report and Audit as submitted.

SECOND: Barry Jackson, Washington County

ACTION: Favorable and unanimous, the Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee Reports were submitted by the Committee Chairs, and copies were provided to the membership. Copies of submitted reports are attached to and made part of these minutes.

MOTION: Ruie Lavoie, Baltimore County, motioned to approve the all the committee reports as submitted.

SECOND: Chrissy Jones, Queen Anne's County

ACTION: Favorable and unanimous, the Motion carried.

The Honorable Richard W. Meehan, Ocean City Mayor, addressed the membership.

Ms. Nikki Charlson, Deputy State Administrator of the Maryland State Board of Elections, gave opening remarks.

Guest Speakers – The Honorable Mary Beth Carozza, Maryland Senate, District 38. She thanked the LBE/SBE's for conducting a Fair, Free and Secure election.

Legislative Panel:

- Delegate Vanessa E. Atterbeary, Esq., Maryland House of Delegates, District 13 and Chair, Ways and Means Committee
- Jared DeMarinis, Director, Division of Candidacy and Campaign Finance, Maryland State Board of Elections
- Senator Cheryl Kagan, District 17, Maryland State Senate, Kevin Kinnally, Legislative Director, Maryland Association of Counties (MACo)
- Jennifer McLaughlin, Senior Policy Advisor, Maryland State Board of Elections
- Paige Mellerio, Associate Legislative Director, National Association of Counties (NACO)
- Facilitator Katherine Berry, Director, Carroll County and Legislative Committee Chair

They discussed legislation that passed last year and the upcoming Legislation session.

Then the membership broke out into group sessions of their choosing.

The 2023 Annual Meeting was recessed for a lunch break at 12:00 pm.

President Garreis reconvened the Annual Meeting at 1:30 pm.

General Session: Safety is NO Accident/Situational Awareness and De-Escalation Training

Guest Speaker –

- Senator Cheryl Kagan, District 17, Maryland State Senate
- Richard Brooks, Retired, Chief, Cecil County Emergency Management
- Thomas Coutler, Paramedic, Cecil County
- Jeremy Mothershed, Senior Deputy, Harford County Sheriff Department

General Session:

Self-Care, Mindfulness and Stress Reduction

Manifest Ra, Manifest Innertainment LLC

Facilitator: Cindy Remyey, Acting Deputy Director, Cecil County

The 2023 Annual Meeting of the Membership recessed at 4:00 pm.

May 17, 2023

Meeting was called to order by President David Garreis at 9:30 am on May 17, 2023

On behalf of the Board, Mr. David Garreis welcomed everyone and introduced the Board. Ms. Abigail Goldman, Board Secretary, conducted roll call.

Board Members Present:

President David Garreis, Anne Arundel County

Vice President Ruie Marie Lavoie, Baltimore County

Secretary, Abigail Goldman, Baltimore City

Board Member Chrissy Jones, Queen Anne's County
Board Member Kimberly Phillips, Baltimore County
Board Member, Anthony Gutierrez, Frederick County
Board Member, Barry Jackson, Washington County
Board Member, Tae Frere, St. Mary's County

Excused:

Treasurer Danna Williams, Baltimore County

Twenty-four (24) Maryland jurisdictions and the State Board of Elections were represented in person or virtually and responded as present which established quorum.

Mr. Garries asked the new directors and new deputy directors and new employees to stand.

Ms. Ruie Lavoie announced some changes for the meeting spaces due to hotel difficulties.

General Session: Driving Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; Optimizing Voter Participation

- Boris Brajkovic, Director, Montgomery County,
- Melissa Dorsey, Assistant Deputy, Election Policy, Maryland State Board of Elections
- Maureen Evans Arthurs, Director of Government Affairs & Strategic Partnerships, Howard County
- Sevetra Peoples Brown, Chief of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Office, Baltimore County.

Facilitator: Delegate Carl Jackson, Maryland House of Delegates, District 8

Then the membership had Educational Breakout Sessions of their choosing from 11:15 am to lunch break at 12:15 pm and then pick up with the afternoon sessions from 1:30 pm to 4:00 pm where the membership all came together again for recess for the day at 4:00 pm.

May 18, 2023

Meeting was called to order by President David Garreis at 9:31 am on May 18, 2023

On behalf of the Board, Mr. David Garreis welcomed everyone and introduced the Board. Ms. Abigail Goldman, Board Secretary, conducted roll call.

Board Members Present:

President David Garreis, Anne Arundel County
Vice President Ruie Marie Lavoie, Baltimore County
Secretary, Abigail Goldman, Baltimore City
Board Member Chrissy Jones, Queen Anne's County
Board Member Kimberly Phillips, Baltimore County
Board Member, Anthony Gutierrez, Frederick County
Board Member, Barry Jackson, Washington County
Board Member, Tae Frere, St. Mary's County

Excused:

Treasurer Danna Williams, Baltimore County

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Keynote: 3 Big Influences...Leadership, Technology and Public Policy

Sean D. Jasso, Ph.D., Pepperdine University Graziadio School of Business, LA, CA

Facilitator: Erin Perrone, Deputy Director, Carroll County

Then the membership had Innovative Breakout Special Sessions of their choosing from 11:05 am to lunch break at 12:00 pm and then picked up with the afternoon sessions from 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm where the membership all came together again for the following sessions.

Change is Mandatory, Stress is Optional

- Sevetra Peoples-Brown, MBA, MPH, Executive Director, Human Relations Commission for Baltimore County
- Ra'Mona Brown Carter, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Office, Baltimore County.

Facilitator: Dionne Church, Director, Wicomico County

EAC Highlights: Christy McCormick, Chair, US Election Assistance Commission

US Postal Service Election Mail Information

- Adrienne Marshall, Executive Director Election & Government Mail Services, USPS
- Lisa Del Rio, Election & Government Mail Services, Atlantic Area, USPS

Ms. Ruie Lavoie acknowledge Mr. Michael Thompson for all he did for this conference and thanked Baltimore City for doing all the printing.

MOTION: Kimberly Phillips, Baltimore County, motioned to adjourn the conference at 3:30 pm.

SECOND: Ruie Lavoie, Baltimore County

ACTION: Favorable and unanimous, the Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Abigail Goldman
Secretary

Minutes approved at the Annual meeting