



**Maryland Association of Election Officials
Representing the Local Election Boards of the State of Maryland**

March 6, 2025
MINUTES

A meeting of the Maryland Association of Election Officials (MAEO) was held virtually on the 6th day of March, 2025. Notice of the meeting and the agenda were properly provided.

OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Erin Perrone, President (Carroll County)
Stephanie Taylor, Vice President (Harford County)
Tae Frere, Treasurer (St. Mary's County)
Kimberly Phillips, Board Member (Baltimore County)
Jessica Noranbrock, Board Member (Dorchester County)
Reider White II, Board Member (Anne Arundel County)
Teresa Womble, Board Member (Howard County)

Absent: Abigail Goldman, Secretary (Baltimore City)
Barry Jackson, Board Member (Washington County)

CALL TO ORDER:

President Erin Perrone called the meeting to order at 3:01 pm. A quorum was established with 7 of the 9 board members present.

PRESIDENTS REPORT:

Ms. Perrone welcomed everyone and said that there is a small agenda to discuss the conference.

2025 CONFERENCE:

Vote on Speaker - Ms. Stephanie Taylor suggested hiring a speaker named Mr. Chuck Gallagher, who had presented at the IGO conference. Ms. Taylor said he does three different sessions, and she wouldn't mind seeing the same session again. His normal fee is \$10,000.00, but since we are a government association, his fee drops to \$7,500.00 and he covers all his travel expenses. Ms. Kimberly Phillips mentioned that in previous meetings there were discussions about not using MAEO funds for a speaker. Ms. Taylor agreed, and said that once the registration fee was raised, funds became available. Ms. Taylor gave an overview of the session and Ms. Perrone shared the link to his

website in the chat. Ms. Karen Benecewicz commented that from previous conferences, knowing what was spent on speakers, his cost is low. Ms. Perrone explained that some people informed her they were not interested in having lessons learned all day, so this is the compromise. Ms. Tae Frere motioned to approve the disbursement and sign the contract for Mr. Gallagher to be the speaker on May 7th, seconded by Mr. Reider White. Mr. Barry Jackson and Ms. Abigail Goldman informed the board prior to the meeting they would vote "yes" in lieu of their absences, the motion passed with Ms. Phillips abstaining from the vote.

Discussion on Budget for Awards - Ms. Teresa Womble met with Ms. Ruie Lavoie and Ms. Tiffany Ferrell and asked if approval was needed to spend money on awards and what the budget was for awards. They will meet again on Monday to send out retirement information to Directors and Deputies and are hoping to have award information sent out by the end of the week. Ms. Frere said the budget all depends on how many people put in for Shining Star award requests. Ms. Frere asked them to come back to the MAEO board when they have more information. Ms. Perrone said that once they figure out how many awards they need to order, if it's over \$1,000.00, bring it back to the board. Ms. Womble asked everyone to please read the instructions when the form comes out. Do not just put a name down, you must include why the person is being awarded, and the deadline to submit a request is April 4th. Ms. Womble said that Ms. Lavoie informed her that Crown Trophy needs approximately three weeks to get the awards done. Ms. Womble has no problem calling them or going to the business for more information.

OPEN FORUM:

Ms. Jessica Noranbrock asked if anyone had been able to follow up with the hotel about people with dietary restrictions, allergies or diabetics bringing in their own food. Ms. Perrone emailed them and asked them to clarify their food policy. They responded saying unfortunately they can't allow candy or outside beverages in the session area, but offered a designated candy and soda break during the meeting. Ms. Perrone asked them if she could buy a soda from their gift shop and bring it in and they said yes. It was suggested to keep any snacks on your person, don't set out a bowl of candy on the table. Ms. Perrone asked them about Stanley cups, they are permitted during the conference sessions but not during lunch or dinner. Mr. Reider White asked if MAEO is paying for the water bottles they are supplying in the ballroom. Ms. Frere said there are two coolers in the ballroom that they will stock once a day. Ms. Taylor said she did not see the water in the contract, but that she would double check. Mr. Frere believes it is part of the amenities for the ballroom.

Ms. Womble asked if she could bring a little cooler with her. Ms. Taylor said probably not because that means there's food or drinks in there. Ms. Taylor agreed this is over the top. Ms. Womble asked if we could just pay the \$500.00 and bring our own snacks and drinks in. Ms. Taylor said it is \$500.00 per incident, not a one-time fee. Ms. Taylor stated that if we are responsible about it, and don't leave trash behind, they won't

push it. Ms. Perrone agreed and said that they told her it's completely impossible for them to enforce this unless they see candy on tables. Ms. Noranbrock asked if this rule pertained to evening hours and days when dinner is on our own. Ms. Taylor said it is just during the conference. Mr. White shared that having been to events where this has happened, people have brought in food from outside the hotel and overflowed trash cans, and that's where these policies come from.

Lisa Merino asked when we can expect a final agenda. Ms. Perrone stated that there won't be a final agenda until we get to the hotel, but that the tentative agenda will be updated and sent out soon.

Ms. Perrone asked about getting a W-9 from the hotel for some counties. Ms. Frere said that she messaged the hotel asking for them to send her something.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on a motion made by Ms. Noranbrock and seconded by Ms. Frere, the meeting was adjourned at 3:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted



Jessica Noranbrock
Member

ATTENDANCE:

NAME	COUNTY
Erin Perrone	Carroll
Stephanie Taylor	Harford
Tae Frere	St. Mary's
Kimberly Phillips	Howard
Jessica Noranbrock	Dorchester
Reider White II	Anne Arundel
Teresa Womble	Howard
Allison Murphy	Caroline
Amanda Beanblossom	Harford
Amber Ringgold	Harford
Amy Montano	Harford
Amy Sullivan	Harford
Barbara Wagner	Frederick
Cheemoandia Blake	Kent
Christine Winer	Carroll
Colby Martin	Queen Anne's
Cory Green	Washington
Debra Brohawn	Caroline
Devin Jones	Anne Arundel
Diane Loibel	Allegany
Dionne Church	Wicomico
Donald Gaither	Anne Arundel
Donna Hacker	Talbot
Erin Fee	SBE
Fred Gleockler	Talbot
Gary Holmes	Cecil
Guy Mickley	Howard
Jena Anthony	Queen Anne's
Jennifer Bartholow	Carroll
Judi East	Wicomico
Justin Wall	Harford
Karen Benecewicz	Cecil

Kelly Eichelberger	Queen Anne's
Kristen Scott	Calvert
Kyle Durham	Queen Anne's
Larry Thomas	Talbot
Lisa Merino	Montgomery
Melissa Smith	Anne Arundel
Mia Faber	Carroll
Michelle Meekins	Kent
Nathan Reynolds	Harford
Nicole Hill	Anne Arundel
Paul Noranbrock	SBE
Richard Siejack	Anne Arundel
Sarah Hall	Washington
Sarah Loar	Frederick
Shari Moran	Calvert
Sherie Nigh	Washington
Stephen Feryus	Harford
Teresa Morningstar	Washington
Teresa Riggan	Worcester
Theresa Mulhearn	Calvert
Tom Coogan	Frederick
Wendy Maddox	Allegany