

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS REGULAR MEETING

September 3, 2025

The District of Columbia Board of Elections (“the Board” or “DCBOE”) held its Regular Monthly Meeting on Wednesday, September 3, 2025 via Zoom and in the Board’s Hearing Room, located at 1015 Half Street, SE, Washington, D.C. 20003, Suite 750. Board Chairman Gary Thompson and Board Member Karyn Greenfield were present. The Board’s Executive Director, Monica Holman Evans (“Director Evans”), General Counsel, Terri Stroud, and the Office of Campaign Finance (“OCF”) General Counsel, William SanFord were also present.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Board Chair Thompson called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

II. ASCERTAINMENT OF QUORUM

Board Chair Thompson and Board Member Greenfield constituted a quorum.

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA/APPROVAL OF MINUTES

BOARD ACTION: The Board unanimously adopted the agenda and minutes from the last meeting held on August 7.

IV. DIRECTOR’S REPORT (DIRECTOR EVANS)

A. August Engagements

From August 20 through August 22, Director Evans attended the 40th annual National Election Center Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah, and as a member of the Standards of Conduct Advisory Board, participated in the Ethics and Practice Panel. The Board’s other workshops included security and technology, communications and outreach, and studies, reports, and policy.

During the conference, Shawn Fagan, the Board’s IT Director, received his Certified Elections Registration Administrator (“CERA”) Certification. CERA is the nation's first professional certification program for election and voter registration professionals.

B. Voter Registration Rolls

In August, the Board registered 2,949 new voters and processed 3,709 registration changes. In total, 6,658 voter registration cards were prepared to be mailed. 70 registered voters moved out of D.C., 165 voters canceled their D.C. registrations and registered with other jurisdictions, and 976 voters registered in D.C. after canceling their registrations in other states.

C. Online Voter Registration Rolls

We are continuing to register voters using our website portal. To date, we have processed over 99,460 applications using the portal, including new voter registrations and updates to existing registrations.

D. Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act

Total non-citizen registration remains at 980. In August, six non-citizen residents registered to vote. Some non-citizens have been removed from the registry due to our list maintenance efforts. The Board is continuing our outreach in D.C. communities to share information.

E. 2026 Election Cycle Planning

DCBOE is working with our Voter Registration System vendor, VR Systems, to implement the requirements of the new Automatic Voter Registration (“AVR”) Expansion Act.

DCBOE is finalizing the informational mailers and mail ballot instructions that will go to individuals placed on a pending voter list as a result of visiting the Department of Motor Vehicles.

DCBOE is also monitoring pending legislation and information on the federal level. Legislation to repeal the Local Resident Voting Rights Amendment Act has passed the House and a Senate bill has been introduced.

F. List Maintenance

DCBOE is actively engaged in list maintenance to ensure the accuracy and integrity of the voter registration database. This ongoing effort is critical to keeping the voter registration database accurate, and includes identifying and updating records for voters who have moved within our out of D.C., duplicate registrations, and deceased individuals.

As part of the Board’s biennial mail canvas, DCBOE sent two rounds of mailers to ensure the accuracy of voter registration records. In the first round, 153,407 non-forwardable mailers were sent to voters who did not participate in the 2024 General Election. The Board received responses, including 2,788 voters who confirmed their addresses by mail; 2,869 voters who reported moving within D.C.; 7,622 voters who moved out of D.C.; 216 voters identified as deceased; 3,639 mailers labeled “Return to Sender”; and 11,819 mailers returned as undeliverable. For the second round, forwardable canvass mailers were sent to voters who did not respond to the initial mailing. Responses from this group included 439 address confirmations by mail; 35 voters who moved within D.C.; 124 voters who moved out of D.C.; 29 voters identified as deceased; 1,652 mailers labeled “Return to Sender”; and 4,646 mailers returned as undeliverable.

H. Cybersecurity

The Office of the Chief Technology Officer (“OCTO”) has officially launched a new mandatory cybersecurity campaign which consists of a self-paced training module designed to reinforce essential cybersecurity practices. The campaign kicked off on Tuesday, July 22 and will run through September 22. All employees are required to complete the training within this timeframe to ensure ongoing awareness and compliance with cybersecurity protocols our current threat landscape. There are no high severity threats targeting our election infrastructure at this time. Ongoing monitoring has flagged increased phishing attempts targeted at staff email accounts. This is being addressed through awareness training and improved email security which will block or quarantine suspicious messages before they reach inboxes.

DCBOE has joined the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (“MS-ISAC”) membership program, which has transitioned to a pay model due to cuts to federal funding. This membership enhances our cybersecurity efforts by providing timely threat information, access to best practices, and opportunities to collaborate with other state and local government entities.

I. Electronic Registration Information Center (“ERIC”) Voter Participation Case Activity

DCBOE is actively working with ERIC member states to review cases and identify any potential instances of voters casting multiple ballots in D.C. and another jurisdiction or on behalf of a deceased individual during the 2024 General Election. This review is part of the Board’s ongoing efforts to safeguard election integrity and ensure that all votes cast are valid. We are currently reviewing 144 cases. Of these, approximately 19 cases across 16 states have been referred to the General Counsel for further investigation.

J. Voter Education and Outreach

During July, the Voter Education and Outreach Division (“VEOD”) participated in 14 outreach events on behalf of the agency. These events included a back-to-school barbecue at the University of the District of Columbia and back-to-school orientations at Cesar Chavez Public Charter School.

K. Election Worker Division

The Election Worker Division is processing all election worker applications that have been received through our website or from outreach events. The Division is working with VR Systems on enhancements to our election worker portal.

The Division is also finishing efforts related to the Ward 8 Special Election. All election worker stipends for the special election have been delivered to election workers. Ballots for the post-election audit have been boxed, sealed, and returned to the operation center vault for security. The division also tested a new payroll process during the special

election; we are examining the results and will create a new standard operating procedure to reflect any changes. Finally, the Division is making revisions to the election worker operations manual for the upcoming 2026 primary election.

L. Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) Vacancies

There are currently 15 ANC vacancies for the 2025-26 term at various stages of being filled. After the candidate filing requirements are satisfied, an open vote by registered voters of the affected single member district (SMD) will take place during the regularly scheduled ANC meetings. There have been vacancy information pickups for SMDs 4A06, 5D01, and 7E07.

M. Ward 8 Special Election

On August 8, the Board certified the July 15 Ward 8 Special Election results with Trayon White, Sr. being certified as the winning candidate.

V. GENERAL COUNSEL’S REPORT (TERRI STROUD)

A. Issuance of Petition for Initiative Measure No. 84, the “Time Stability Act of 2025”

General Counsel Stroud asked if anyone was present on behalf of the proposer of Initiative Measure No. 84 and no response was received. As Mr. Bernier, the proposer, was not present, the Board did not proceed with this matter. It was noted that the proposer’s formal adoption of the petition during a public meeting is required. This matter will be revisited at a future meeting as the Board deems appropriate.

The Board’s language for Initiative Measure No. 84 was approved as a proper subject on June 9 and published in the D.C. Register on August 15 for a 10-day review period. No challenges were filed by the August 25 deadline. The formulations are therefore deemed approved and certified. The Board will revisit this matter as needed. The petition language has been established.

B. Litigation Status

1. Stacia Hall, et al., v. D.C. Board of Elections (U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit)

This is an appeal from the U.S. District Court’s denial of a challenge to legislation allowing non-citizens to vote in local elections on the basis of standing. On August 7, the parties filed a joint Status Report, and based on that report, the court ordered that the defendant’s renewed motion to dismiss be filed by September 26, the plaintiff’s opposition be filed by October 31, and the defendant’s reply be filed by November 21.

2. Charles Wilson v. Muriel Bowser, et al. (D.C. Superior Court)

This is a remand from the D.C. Court of Appeals of a challenge to the Board’s finding

that Initiative Measure No. 83 (“I83”) met proper subject requirements and its formulation of the measure. The Court of Appeals disagreed with the Superior Court's decision that the case was untimely filed as it was submitted before the 10-day period for judicial review. On April 8, the Board filed a motion to dismiss the complaint and several pleadings have been filed including responses to the motion to dismiss. A status hearing is scheduled for September 22.

3. Jason Christopher Long v. D.C. Board of Elections (D.C. Superior Court.)

This case was remanded back to D.C. Superior Court from the U.S. District Court for D.C. This matter is the resubmission of a case previously dismissed without prejudice. Mr. Long seeks \$10,000 in damages for an overdraft fee caused by a stop payment on a \$500 check issued for his service as an election worker. To date, the Superior Court has not docketed any activity.

4. Sobin v. D.C. Board of Elections (U.S. District Court for D.C.)

This matter concerns a complaint in which the plaintiff alleges that the Board's petition circulation process requiring candidates to get to gather signatures violates the Americans with Disabilities Act and that an ANC election to be held in his SMD is illegal. There has been no activity docketed in this case.

5. Muhammad v. D.C. Board of Elections (D.C. Court of Appeals)

Ms. Muhammad filed a petition for review of a Board enforcement order imposing a \$150 civil fine because she failed to personally witness signatures on her nominating petition. On August 8, the Petitioner filed her brief. The Board filed its brief on August 26 along with the motion to strike an extra-record affidavit filed by the petitioner.

VI. CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORT (PRESENTED BY WILLIAM SANFORD ON BEHALF OF CECILY COLLIER-MONTGOMERY)

A. Office of the Director

1. The full report of the August 2025 activities of the OCF will be posted at ocf.dc.gov.

2. Community Outreach

During the month of August, OCF participated in several community outreach events across the district. On August 7, OCF provided a virtual training session for the public and shared information about its Traditional and Fair Elections Campaign Finance Programs with attendees. Also on August 7, OCF joined other District agencies participating in the Annual Back-to-School Resources Fair held at the Bellevue/William O. Lockridge Neighborhood Library. On August 9, OCF joined other District agencies and organizations participating in the Back-to-School

Resources Fair held at the George Ferris Boys and Girls Club in the Petworth Neighborhood. On August 20, OCF held an Information Session for the public in partnership with D.C. Public Libraries at the Woodridge Neighborhood Library.

B. Fair Elections Program (“FEP”) Division

1. Candidates Certified/Disbursements Made During the Month of August for the 2026 Election

- a) Brian Footer for DC Principal Campaign Committee (“PCC”). First Half Base-amount payment in the amount of \$20,000 and a matching payment in the amount of Forty \$43,200.00 were authorized for disbursement.

2. 2025 Special Election in Ward 8 Preliminary Audit Findings Reports and Final Audit Reports Issued

- a) Friends of Salim Adofo PCC Preliminary Statement of Findings, issued on August 12, 2025.

C. Public Information and Records Management Division (“PIRM”)

1. New Candidates/Committees

- a) Office of Ward 1 Councilmember, Aparna Raj
- b) Office of Attorney General, Brian Schwalb

D. Reports Analysis and Audit Division (“RAAD”)

1. Desk Reviews and Other Activities

Completed 95 desk reviews of Reports of Receipts and Expenditures (“R & E Reports”).

E. OCF OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT (GENERAL COUNSEL WILLIAM SANFORD)

1. Monthly Intake/Output Report

During August, the OGC received 22 referrals, completed five informal hearings, and issued seven orders in which no fines were imposed.

2. Request for Interpretive Opinions

None.

3. Open Investigations

In OCF FI 2025-001, the Complainant is Sean Metcalf, Managing Director of Universal Media, LTD. The matter was docketed on August 5. Respondents are Tracy Lucas and the Tracy Lucas for Mayor of D.C. PCC. The allegation is False Campaign Finance Filing. The matter is pending.

4. Show Cause Proceedings

None.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

The discussion in the public matters portion of the meeting can be found on pages 19-25 of the transcript.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:01 a.m.