



A scheduled meeting of the Rockingham County Electoral Board was called to order at 9 a.m. on **Tuesday, April 23, 2024**, in the Recreation Department Conference Room, 20 East Gay Street, Harrisonburg, VA, by Chair Sandra Parks. Members attending included: Sandra Parks, Chair; Rebecca Ruckman, Vice Chair; and Susan Threewitts, Secretary. Also in attendance: Lisa B. Gooden, Director of Elections; Nick Ocampo, Chief Deputy Director of Elections; Luke Thompson, Deputy Director of Elections; Casey Armstrong, Deputy County Administrator; Michael Bowen, Director of Technology; Dusty Moyer, Deputy Director of Technology; Kimberlee Shoup-Erney and Zack Weaver, Election Services Online (ESO); Daryl Borgquist, Republican Party Chair; and Nicole Faut, Representative of Rockingham County Democratic Party.

**Approval of Minutes of March 6-12, 2024 Canvass of Votes for Dual Presidential Primary and April 2, 2024 Special Called Meeting:** A motion was made by Rebecca Ruckman, seconded by Sandra Parks, and unanimously carried, to approve the minutes of March 6-12, 2024 Canvass of Votes and the minutes of the special called meeting of April 2, 2024, as presented.

**Election Officer Appointments:** A motion was made by Susan Threewitts, seconded by Sandra Parks, and unanimously carried, to appoint the following individuals as election officers effective immediately through February 28, 2025:

Christopher P. Hamilton (I)	Deborah Keenan (I)
Susan Zucconi (I)	John Zucconi (I)

**Closed Session to Discuss Annual Security Plan:** A motion was made by Rebecca Ruckman, seconded by Sandra Parks, and unanimously carried, to enter Closed Session at 9:07 a.m. according to Virginia Code Section 24.2-625.1(B) as follows:

"The State Board of Elections or a local electoral board may hold a closed meeting pursuant to the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act for the purpose of discussing protocols for maintaining the security of ballots or voting and counting equipment, or risk assessments of specific local electoral procedures, where discussion of such matters in open meeting would compromise the security of any election."

Motion to Return to Regular Session at 9:45 a.m. was made by Rebecca Ruckman, seconded by Sandra Parks, and unanimously carried:

Roll Call Vote to certify that the only matters discussed during the closed session just concluded were those both lawfully exempted from the open meeting requirements and identified in the motion by which the closed session was convened.

AYES - 3

NAYS - 0

Parks: aye

Ruckman: aye

Threewitts: aye

The Board briefly recessed the meeting to relocate to the Registrar’s Office Annex for the remainder of the meeting, with the meeting reconvening at 10:00 a.m.

**Registrant Count:** Members were provided an up-to-date list of the registrant count that reflected a total of 58,051 registered voters.

**Election Officer Trainings:** Lisa Gooden noted that election officer trainings have been scheduled for Tuesday, May 14 (9 AM) and Thursday, May 16 (4 PM) for chiefs, assistant chiefs, and newly appointed officers. These sessions will be held in the Board of Supervisors meeting room.

**Equipment Pickup:** For the upcoming June Primary, election officers will be asked to pick up equipment from the office between 11 AM and 2 PM.

**Canvass of Votes for June Republican Party Primary:** It was noted that due to the Juneteenth Holiday on June 19, the Canvass of Votes for the June 18 Republican Party Primary will begin at 9:30 AM on Wednesday, June 20, in the annex.

**Annual ADA Inspections of Polling Locations:** It was mentioned that Gayle Brunk, Executive Director of Valley Associates for Independent Living (VAIL) is available to conduct the required annual inspections of the polling locations on June 18 and that she would be willing to accompany the Board or whatever arrangements are made to accomplish this task. Board members were reminded that Mrs. Brunk’s agency originally contracted with the County in August 2023 to conduct these inspections as required by the Department of Elections (ELECT).

**Prohibited Activities at Polling Places:** Daryl Borgquist, Republican Party Chair, briefly discussed the fact that he has personally worked on drafting guidelines for his campaigners relative to activities that are prohibited at polling locations. He noted that the Virginia Department of Elections has limited guidelines (as noted):



## Prohibited Area and Activities

### **Activities are prohibited depending on location.**

Those locations include the area inside the polling place and the prohibited area outside the polling place. Any person who is found by a majority of the officers of election present to impede the orderly conduct of the election or violate any of these rules may be required to leave the polling place and the prohibited area.

### **What is the “Prohibited Area”?**

The Prohibited Area is defined as the area within 40 feet of any polling place entrance. In this area, it is unlawful for anyone to give, tender, or exhibit any ballot, ticket, or other campaign material or solicit or attempt to influence any person in casting his vote.

### **What is Unlawful in the Polling Place *and* Prohibited Area?**

- Knowingly possessing a firearm while inside or within the 40 foot area of a polling place, including one hour before and one hour after the use of a building as a polling place. Exceptions include a qualified law-enforcement officer or retired law-enforcement officer, any person occupying his own private property that falls within 40 feet of the polling place, or a licensed armed security officer whose employment or performance of his duties occurs within 40 feet of the polling place.

- Loitering or congregating in the polling place and prohibited area.
- Hindering or delaying qualified voters from entering or leaving.
- Hindering or delaying any officer of election or voter.
- Neutral observers and authorized representatives assisting voters.

### What is Unlawful in the Polling Place?

- Campaign, give, tender, or exhibit any ballot, ticket, or other campaign material to any person.
- Solicit or in any manner attempt to influence any person in casting his vote.
- Be in a position to see the marked ballot of any voter.



### What is Allowed Outside the Prohibited Area?

Campaigning in a way that does not hinder voters or officers of election. Media may conduct interviews and broadcast reporters' remarks.

### Campaign Stickers, Buttons and Apparel:

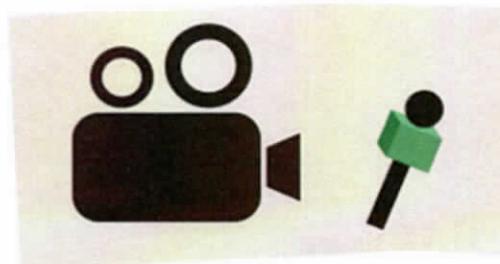
**Only voters** are allowed to display or wear campaign stickers, buttons, wristbands and apparel in the polling place. All others, like officers of election and authorized representatives, cannot wear any such apparel.

### What is Allowed in the Voting Booth:

Voters are allowed to take sample ballot guides and campaign material with them into a voting booth.

### News Media and the Polling Place:

News media may visit and film or photograph inside the polling place for a reasonable and limited period of time while the polls are open. The media must comply with all prohibitions and may not film or photograph any person who specifically asks them not to as well as the voter or ballot in such a way that divulges how any individual voter is voting.



The media may not film or photograph the voter list or any other voter record or material at the precinct in such a way that it divulges the name or other information concerning an individual voter.

Officers of election may require any person who is found by a majority of the officers present to be in violation of these provisions to leave the polling place and the prohibited area.

Members discussed the importance of campaigners being ‘outside’ of the 40 ft. Prohibited Area (Code of Virginia 24.2-604) that states: *During the times the polls are open and ballots are being counted, or within one hour of opening or after closing, it is unlawful for any person (i) to loiter or congregate within 40 feet of any entrance of any polling place; (ii) within such distance to give, tender, or exhibit any ballot, ticket, or other campaign material to any person or to solicit or in any manner attempt to influence any person in casting his vote; (iii) to hinder or delay a qualified voter in entering or leaving a polling place; or (iv) to knowingly possess any firearm as defined in Section 18.2-308.2:2 within 40 feet of any building, or part thereof, used as a polling place.”*

It was noted that campaigners must be cognizant, too, of local ordinances that require permits if/when selling items, etc. at polling sites or limit the sale of items.

**Logic & Accuracy (L & A) Testing for June 18, 2024 Republican Party**

**Primary/United States Senate:** Testing of all voting machines (Freedom Vote Tablet/FVT and Freedom Vote Scanners/FVS commenced under the leadership of Kimberlee Shoup-Erney and Zack Weaver.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan C. Threewitts". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Susan C. Threewitts, Secretary