

## Minutes from City of Harrisonburg Electoral Board June 1, 2026

Attendance: Price-Stroble, Damas, Burner and Finks

1. Call to Order @ (9:06) AM
2. Welcome: Guests
3. Approval of agenda: Motion by Burner and Second by Damas
4. Approval of Minutes: Motion by Damas and second by Price-Stroble

"Gavel in for Canvass"

Approval by Damas and second Price-Stroble

5. Public Comment: None
6. Report from Director of Elections (Report Attached)
  1. Locality of Security Plan by August 28th
  2. August 4<sup>th</sup> Dual Primary

- U.S. Senate & Democratic Primary for Harrisonburg City

- Ballots Ordered (Color strip ordered for Spanish speaking voters)

3. Part Time Deputy Has Been Hired

4. Signage at City Hall has been adjusted:

No campaign signage placed in ground ... Volunteers will be able to pass out information to Voters but not place empty chairs with candidate information unattended

- Signage rules will be for City Hall during (45) day early voting

Signage rules 'Not' applicable for August 4<sup>th</sup> Election Day

5. Budget

Approved FY27 (Before end of 2026)

6. Postcard Notification being sent out for April 21<sup>st</sup>
7. April 21<sup>st</sup> Special Election
8. August 4<sup>th</sup> Dual Primary
9. Membership for Harrisonburg/Rockingham Chamber of Commerce

Burner made motion and Damas made second to motion

10. Closed Session @10:10 AM

Motion made by Damas and seconded by Burner

Move out of closed session and gavel back into open session @10:33 am

11. New Business

Next Meeting July 13<sup>th</sup> @9:00 AM

12. Unfinished business

Drop Box Regulations/Location (City Hall next to Treasurer Office Payments)

13. ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Damas and Seconded by Burner



CITY OF HARRISONBURG  
**VOTER**  
REGISTRAR

HARRISONBURG CITY HALL  
409 SOUTH MAIN STREET, HARRISONBURG, VA 22801  
OFFICE (540) 432-7707 • FAX (540) 432-7784

To: Electoral Board  
Re: General Registrar Report  
Date: 06/01/26

1. 2026 Locality Security Plan

The 2026 Locality Security Plan must be submitted by August 28th. At this time, I do not anticipate making any substantive changes from last year's plan; however, I would like the Board to review the document and provide feedback on any revisions or additions you may wish to consider. I plan to review the plan with the Board during a closed session at the July meeting.

2. August 4<sup>th</sup> Dual Primary

We will conduct a Dual Primary on August 4th consisting of:

- A Republican Primary for U.S. Senate
- A Democratic Primary for City Council

All standard Election Day polling locations have been reserved for August 3rd and 4th. Since summer school will have concluded by that time, we do not anticipate any facility conflicts.

I plan to order ballots equal to 35% of registered voters for each party-primary individually, resulting in a total ballot order equal to 70% of registered voters. For comparison, turnout during the 2024 Dual Primary was approximately 5% for the Democratic Primary and 2% for the Republican Primary. I will also request that PrintElect include a colored strip on each party's ballot to assist with sorting and counting.

Due to new state population percentage requirements for translated election materials, I believe we will likely be required to provide Spanish-language ballots moving forward. Because the Census data needed for formal determination is not yet available, we may not receive official guidance from the state until after early voting has already begun for the August Primary. To prepare proactively, I intend to have PrintElect produce Spanish-language ballots and corresponding audio files for ADA equipment. This will increase programming and production costs going forward.

This will also be the first election cycle requiring Sunday voting on July 19th and July 26th. Early voting hours on those dates will be from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. We also anticipate updates to certain Election Day documents as well as the Voter Registration Application.

3. Part-Time Deputy

Our new Part-Time Deputy, Myra Crawford, began working in the office on April 27th.



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#### 4. Signage at City Hall

During the April 21st Special Election, our office received multiple verbal complaints regarding campaign signs and materials being moved, placed improperly, or defaced. We also received concerns regarding the volume of signs placed at City Hall by each party. Additionally, on two separate occasions, strong winds overturned unattended chairs holding boxes of sample ballots, scattering campaign materials throughout the parking lot.

These issues became an ongoing challenge during the voting period and required significant staff attention, diverting focus from other critical election administration duties. As a result, I am recommending to the City Manager's Office that campaign signs and unattended campaign materials no longer be permitted outside City Hall during early voting periods.

Under this proposal, campaigns and parties would still be permitted to station volunteers outside to distribute sample ballots and campaign literature, but materials could not be left unattended. While I understand this may create concerns for parties and campaigns moving forward, our office must prioritize the effective administration of elections and service to voters. This proposed policy would not impact polling locations on Election Day.

#### 5. Budget

Harrisonburg City Council has approved the FY27 budget.

The following new budget requests were approved:

- 13 DS300 tabulators from ES&S
- 16 KNOWiNK Poll Pad systems
- 1 exterior standalone ballot drop box

The following budget requests were not approved:

- A seasonal Clerk position to assist with Same Day Registration data entry
- The two requests submitted by Ms. Sanders on behalf of the Electoral Board

#### 6. April 21<sup>st</sup> Special Election

We are mailing out postcards to affected Harrisonburg Voters letting them know that their polling location has returned to its original location.



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Key takeaways from the April Special Election include:

- Turnout exceeded initial expectations, requiring additional ballot orders and staffing adjustments.
- The café at Heritage Oaks was not large enough to accommodate turnout at this level.
- The Price Rotary Senior Center appeared to provide adequate space and parking, though the location was somewhat difficult for voters to locate.
- Continued use of Same Day Registration entry through the KNOWiNK Poll Pad system has streamlined the process and reduced office data entry workload. The planned purchase of 16 additional KNOWiNK Poll Pads in the next budget cycle should further improve processing speed within the precincts.

| DATE             | EVENT                                | NOTES                          |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 6/15/26          | Early Voting L&A                     | 1pm                            |
| 6/16/26          | Early Voting training                |                                |
| 6/18/26          | Start of Early Voting                | 8:30am – 4:30pm                |
| 7/13/26          | Recommended next EB meeting          | 9am                            |
| 7/21/26          | Election Day L&A                     | 1pm                            |
| 7/24/26          | Voter Registration Deadline          | In person 5pm / online 11:59pm |
| 7/24/26          | Last Day to request a ballot by mail | 5pm                            |
| 7/19/26, 7/26/26 | Sunday Voting                        | 12pm-5pm                       |
| 7/25/26, 8/1/26  | Saturday Voting                      | 9am-5pm                        |
| 8/1/26           | GR Evaluation Due to ELECT           |                                |
| 8/2/26           | Pollbook L&A                         | Time TBD                       |
| 8/3/26           | Setup polling locations              | Time TBD                       |
| 8/4/26           | Election Day                         | Polls open 6am-7pm             |
| 8/7/26           | Last day to receive an AB ballot     |                                |
| 8/28/26          | Locality Security Plan due to ELECT  |                                |
| 9/1/26           | ADA Compliance survey due to ELECT   |                                |
| 9/18/26          | Start of Early Voting                |                                |
| 11/3/26          | November Election                    |                                |