

County Election Board Meeting

May 18, 2026 Primary Election Certification

Overview

The meeting began with discussing the 2026 primary election certification. Key metrics included 7,054 registered voters, 607 on Election Day, and 930 absentee votes. The total voter turnout was 1,537, equating to 18% of registered voters. The board approved the vote totals and discussed post-election audits and retention periods for election materials. The meeting concluded with the certification of the election results.

Action Items

- [] Complete and submit all 2026 primary election certification paperwork by noon today, once the internal approval is confirmed.
- [] Prepare election equipment for the June clerk's conference by boxing and labeling all election materials for district storage after 34 months, removing V-drives from scanners, and securing the scanners on site while the V-drives are delivered to the vendor for reloading before the general election.

Outline

Election Board Meeting Introduction

- Speaker Will Johnson called the election board meeting to order, leading the Pledge of Allegiance and establishing a quorum.
- Approval of prior minutes is quickly handled, with no objections.
- Discussion begins on the 2026 primary election certification, including vote totals and registration numbers.
- Karin Dutkiewicz provides detailed breakdowns of voter turnout, including absentee and in-person voting.

Vote Total and Certification Discussion

- Karin Dutkiewicz explains the process of adding up vote totals and the difference between unofficial and official results.
- Karin Dutkiewicz and Will Johnson discuss how the sheriff's race drove voter turnout.
- Nichole Scott presents the unofficial vote totals by precinct, noting the extensive documentation.
- Karin Dutkiewicz clarifies the difference between the certification log and the official results, emphasizing the stability of the numbers.

Absentee and Provisional Voting Details

- Nichole Scott provides a detailed breakdown of absentee voting, including mail-in and travel board ballots.
- Discussion on the handling of provisional ballots and their approval process.
- Karin Dutkiewicz mentions the need for a motion to approve the vote totals for certification.
- Will Johnson makes the motion, and it is seconded and passed without objection.

Post-Election Audit and Statistical Information

- Nichole Scott raises the possibility of a post-election audit, with Karin Dutkiewicz explaining the process of a post-election audit and what it means
- Karin Dutkiewicz discusses the retention period for election materials, now extended from 22 to 34 months.
- Tom Conroy inquired about the shredding service for old documents, and Karin Dutkiewicz confirms that a Shred-it service is currently used.
- Karin Dutkiewicz outlines the storage of election equipment, including scanners and V-drives and the retention of paperwork and ballots.

Final Certification and Meeting Adjournment

- Karin Dutkiewicz mentions the upcoming clerk's conference in June for turning in our V-drives to GBS.
- Acknowledgment of the highway department's assistance during the election, which significantly helped the process.
- Karin Dutkiewicz confirms the completion of paperwork and the readiness to submit certifications.
- Will Johnson makes a motion to adjourn the meeting, which is seconded and passed, concluding the meeting.