

Thursday, January 17, 2008

The Board of County Canvasses reconvened at 1 p.m.

All members were present as well as Clerk Laura Flach and Deputy Clerk Laura Brandon.

Also present were Billings Clerk Linda Frye, inspectors Richard Nephew, Dan Svetcos and Duane Wood.

Sue McRill and Sandy Prengor from the Bureau of Elections were in attendance as well as several other persons present to view the "re-tabulation process.

Clerk Laura Flach explained to those present that the purpose of the "re-tabulation" was to account for those 45 ballots which were not counted and to review AV ballots that had not been processed for counting on election night.

Sue McRill noted that she and Sandy were here to oversee the process and insure that the votes cast by Billings Township voters were handled and accounted for properly.

The "re-tabulation" then continued:

Tabulator was "zeroed" out and ballot bins were checked.

The ZERO tape was compared to the ballot to determine if all candidates were listed and all was in order.

Ballot container seal numbers were checked against the poll book. The blue ballot container also contained "test" deck ballots – which were loose. These were sorted from the regular ballots – put in numerical order and returned to the bag. *(It was noted that some of the test deck ballots still had the top tab in place – it should have been removed before tabulating at the public test)*

Inspectors then proceeded to "re-tabulate" the regular Election Day ballots.

One ballot was found to have an "over-vote" which upon inspection revealed a vote for "uncommitted" as well as a vote for "write-in". As an invalid write-in vote cannot take away from the uncommitted – the ballot will be duplicated omitting the vote for write-in but counting the vote cast as uncommitted.

Inspection was then had of the AV ballots that were delivered to the Board – but not counted – in some instances no applications could be found, return envelope was not signed – and some were opened when received by inspectors.

It was determined that 3 of the AV's could be counted and those with no applications and those not signed could not be counted.

Those 3 AV ballots were then entered into the poll book and processed through the tabulator.

The remaining AV's that were not counted were stored in the canvass ballot bag along with the "challenged" AV envelopes. This bag was tagged and sealed with seal #0084781.

Processed ballots were then returned to the blue ballot storage bag along with the "test" deck ballots – tagged and sealed with seal #0084793.

Poll book totals (Ballot Summary and Statement of Votes) were adjusted to account for use of ballot to duplicate and the 3 additional ballots that were counted. New seal numbers were also entered.

Inspectors then printed out 5 total tapes and signed each. The first tape with all entries of processing was retained with the Poll Book. One tape went into the Canvass envelope, one tape to Township Clerk Linda Frye and others to interested parties who were present.

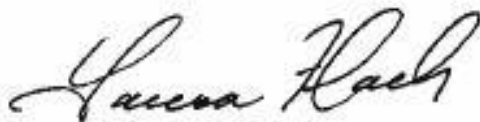
Once secure – election materials were returned the Clerk Linda Frye for safe keeping.

Sue McRill thanked the canvassers for their time and efforts as well as the inspectors.

The Board of Canvassers then retired to the elections conference room on the second floor to complete their canvass.

Election results were certified to include the new vote counts determined by the "re-tabulation"

As it was now 4:30 p.m. the time which County offices close – and as it would take some time for the Clerk to "read" the new Billings counts into the tabulation program and "adjust" the "unofficial" figures reported to the State – which would enable printing of the "Official" canvass report --- Board members decided that the Clerk would prepare the necessary documents and each would return at their convenience to sign the Canvass report on Friday the 18th or Tuesday the 22nd



Laura Flach
Gladwin County Clerk/
Clerk to the Board of County Canvassers