



BOARD OF VOTER REGISTRATION and ELECTIONS OF BEAUFORT COUNTY



Matthew Sweeney
Chairman

James Backer
Vice Chairman

Jean Felix
Director

Board Members:

Beverly Dore
Herbert Ford
Elizabeth Johnson
Donald Lucas
Allyne Mitchell
Joan Petrucci
Michael Swiecicki

15 John Galt Road • Post Office Drawer 1228 • Beaufort, South Carolina 29901-1228

Minutes from August 27, 2026 Canvass Hearing August 25- US Senate Republican Special Primary RUNOFF Board of Voter Registration and Elections of Beaufort County 15 John Galt Road, Beaufort, SC 29906

The electronic and print media were duly notified in accordance with the State Freedom of Information Act.

Board Members Present

Matthew Sweeney, Chairman	Elizabeth Johnson
James Backer, Vice-Chairman	Don Lucas
Michael Swiecicki, Secretary	Allyne Mitchell
Beverly Dore	Joan Petrucci
Herbert Ford	

Board Members Absent

None

Staff Members Present

Jean Felix, Director
Wendell Roberson, Sr, Deputy Director
Tiara Glover, Training and Outreach Coordinator
Kristina Weitz, Voter Registration and Elections Manager
Vernon Kemp, Election Systems Manager
Jammie Moore, Election Specialist

Public Present

None

Call To Order

The canvass hearing was called to order by Chairman, Matthew Sweeney at 10:00 am. He asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Canvass Hearing

Mrs. Felix administered the oath to Mr Sweeney; Mr. Sweeney then administered the oath to the Board.

Mr. Sweeney reviewed the unofficial results of the election.

	Name	Accept	Reject	Provisional Failsafe	Board Vote
Seal 5223161					
1	Gregory L Moore	X		Provisional	Passed
2	Terri Moore	X		Provisional	Passed
3	James Hardy	X		Provisional	Passed
4	Lauren Taveroni	X		Provisional	Passed
5	Thomas L Taveroni	X		Provisional	Passed
6	Kathleen T Shea	X		Provisional	Passed
7	Patricia L Carroll	X		Provisional	Passed
8	Robert Carroll	X		Provisional	Passed
9	Jeffrey M Dils	X		Provisional	Passed
10	Kimberly C Dils	X		Provisional	Passed
11	Lucy Calder	X		Provisional	Passed
12	Stephen Calder	X		Provisional	Passed
13	Darlene F McGroarty	X		Provisional	Passed
14	Gregory L Moore	X		Provisional	Passed
15	Anthony Graziani		X	Provisional	Passed
16	Joann Graziani		X	Provisional	Passed
17	Robert Sedgwick		X	Provisional	Passed
18	Sandra Rodriguez		X	Provisional	Passed
19	Terrance Plesek		X	Provisional	Passed
20	JC Byrd		X	Provisional	Passed
21	Nancy Rittenhouse	X		Provisional	Passed
22	Don McCombs	X		Provisional	Passed
23	Joan Bilotti	X		Provisional	Passed
24	Ernie Watts	X		Provisional	Passed
25	Linda Lee Watts		X	Provisional	Passed
26	Calvin Hoagland, IV		X	Provisional	Passed

Mr. Sweeney recused himself from the discussion and vote of the provisional ballot for Calvin Hoagland, IV, and was not present in the room.

Felix, Jean

From: Matt Sweeney <matthewsweeney@protonmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 26, 2026 12:33 PM
To: beverlysmith30@outlook.com; herbertford@hotmail.com; jimbacker88; amitch1251@gmail.com; Michael Swiecicki; lizjohnsonelections@gmail.com; Don (&Karen) Lucas; Mrs. Joan M. Petrucci
Cc: Felix, Jean; Weitz, Kristina
Subject: Sweeney Recusal from Hoagland Provisional Ballot Discussion
Attachments: 08 27 2026 Canvass Hearing Agenda.pdf; 08 27 2026 Board Meeting Agenda.pdf; 08 27 2026 Hotwash Discussion Agenda.pdf

[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Please report any suspicious attachments, links, or requests for sensitive information to the Beaufort County IT Division at 843-255-2000.

Dear Board Members,

During Election Day voting on August 25, 2026, for the 2026 U.S. Senate Special Republican Primary Runoff Election, Mr. Calvin Hoagland cast a provisional ballot that will be considered at the Ballot Canvass and Certification meeting on August 27, 2026.

Consistent with my prior recusals from matters concerning Mr. Hoagland, I, Matthew Sweeney, Chairman of the Board of Voter Registration and Elections of Beaufort County, hereby recuse myself from any participation in the discussion, consideration, or disposition of Mr. Hoagland's provisional ballot at the Canvass and Certification meeting on August 27, 2026.

This recusal is based on a conflict of interest arising from a legal matter involving my wife and Mr. Hoagland.

Please include this notice in the meeting minutes.

Respectfully submitted,
Matthew J. Sweeney
Chairman
Board of Voter Registration and Elections of Beaufort County

Mr. Sweeney recessed the Canvass Hearing for tabulating of the results from the August 25 US Senate Republican Special Primary Election at 10:31 a.m. The Canvass Hearing came back to order at 11:09 a.m.

Mr. Sweeney read the results into the record.

Motion:	To certify Beaufort County's results of August 25, 2026, US Senate Republican Special Primary Election.
Moved by:	Mr. Lucas
Second by:	Ms. Mitchell
Decision:	The Board voted and the motion passed unanimously

Closing Comments

- The board meeting on 9/23 will be at 12 o'clock.
- Board workshop is on 9/24 and will be attended by Ms. Mitchell, Mr. Lucas and Mr. Backer.
- Mr. Sweeney recognized the efforts of the staff in implementing the August 25th runoff. It was the 5th election in 3 months, and there will be at least one maybe two elections, in November.
- For EVC's, Beaufort was only one of two top 10 counties to have four or more EVC's. Greenville and Charleston, for example, each had only one.
- On Election Day, we operated 68 of our 87 regular locations, that's 78% and it puts us #6 of the top 10. A key metric is the average number of registered voters per location, and we're the lowest by far of the top 10 at 2,083. The next lowest is 20% higher. And Greenville, Richland and York may have been at 100% of their regular locations, but they had nearly 4,000 voters at each location on average. Kudos to the staff for keeping our precincts at 1,500 or fewer voters, and for maximizing our regular polling locations at the last minute.

Adjournment

Motion:	To adjourn canvass hearing.
Moved by:	Mr. Sweicicki
Second by:	Mrs. Johnson
Decision:	The Board voted and the motion passed unanimously

The Canvass Hearing adjourned at 11:14 am.