



# Wisconsin Elections Commission

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**Wisconsin Elections Commission**  
Special Teleconference Meeting  
201 W. Washington Avenue, Second Floor  
Madison, Wisconsin  
10:30 a.m. November 29, 2024

## Canvass Minutes

Present: Commissioner Ann Jacobs, by teleconference.

Staff present: Robert Kehoe, Anna Langdon, Riley Willman, and Meagan Wolfe, all by teleconference.

## **Canvass of the official results of the November 5, 2024, General Election**

Commission Chair Jacobs began the canvass at 10:30 a.m. She stated that pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 7.70(3), she was reviewing the official canvass statement for the November 5, 2024 General Election.

Administrator Meagan Wolfe informed the Chair that the meeting was noticed in accordance with Wisconsin's open meetings laws.

Chair Jacobs stated that she had before her the canvass statements for the Presidential electors, U.S. Senate, Representative in Congress, State Senator, Representative to the Assembly, District Attorney, and a statewide referendum question. She noted one omission identified by staff in Wards 1 and 2 in the Village of Birnamwood in Shawano and Marathon Counties. She gave the following statement regarding the issue:

I have examined the canvass statements. One omission that was identified by Elections Commission staff are the results in Ward 2 in the Village of Birnamwood in Marathon and Shawano Counties. In the Village of Birnamwood, Ward 1 is located in Shawano County, and Ward 2 is located in Marathon County. On Election Day, a poll worker used a Ward 2-specific ballot for voters who resided in Ward 1.

105 voters in the Village of Birnamwood Ward 1 in Shawano County and Congressional District 8 were incorrectly issued a Ward 2 ballot with contests for Congressional District 7 and Marathon County District Attorney, Clerk, Treasurer, and Register of Deeds. All other contests on the ballot were the same in both wards within the village.

This error was discovered around 1:00 p.m. on Election Day, and poll workers promptly contacted the respective county clerks and the WEC. At that time, it was determined that in total,

*Wisconsin Elections Commissioners*

Ann S. Jacobs, chair | Marge Bostelmann | Don M. Millis | Carrie Riepl | Robert Spindell | Mark L. Thomsen

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Administrator  
Meagan Wolfe

117 Ward 2 ballots from the Village of Birnamwood had been cast, of which 105 were incorrectly issued and 12 correctly issued.

In accordance with state law, the Marathon County Board of Canvassers met to canvass the election. The Board of Canvassers made the determination that the votes cast by those 105 voters for Congressional District 7, the Marathon County District Attorney, Clerk, Treasurer, and Register of Deeds could not be counted nor canvassed, as those voters were not eligible to cast a ballot in those contests. However, because ballots cast by voters are secret ballots, the Board of Canvassers could not determine which 105 ballots of the 117 cast were cast by the 105 ineligible voters, and which were cast by the 12 eligible voters.

Accordingly, the Board of Canvassers concluded that all 117 ballots would not be canvassed as to the races for Congressional District 7, the Marathon County District Attorney, Clerk, Treasurer, and Register of Deeds.

However, the Marathon County Board of Canvassers did count the votes cast by those 117 voters in the other contests on the ballot from the Village of Birnamwood Ward 2, including the offices of President, U.S. Senator, Assembly District 87, and the statewide referendum question as these contests appeared on all of the ballots within the Village of Birnamwood.

The total amount of voters from the Village of Birnamwood Wards 1 and 2 that were issued an incorrect ballot was 105 voters. The difference between all contests that appeared on the ballots in Wards 1 and 2 were all well over 105 votes. The Marathon County Board of Canvassers have provided a signed statement detailing this issue and their decision to not include the vote totals as previously explained.

Chair Jacobs asked Administrator Wolfe if any other errors or omissions were identified by staff outside of the issue with the Village of Birnamwood, Wards 1 and 2. Administrator Wolfe answered that no other errors or omissions had been identified in the staff review.

Chair Jacobs then signed and displayed the official canvass statements in the following order:

Presidential electors

U.S. Senate

Representative in Congress

State Senator

Representative to the Assembly

District Attorney

The statewide referendum question

After signing the canvass statement for Presidential electors, Chair Jacobs also signed a Certificate of Determination which detailed the total number of votes cast for the election of Presidential electors, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 7.70. She stated that once it is signed, the Commission will prepare a certificate of ascertainment determining the results, which the governor will sign and transmit to the presidential electors and applicable federal authorities.

Chair Jacobs announced that the canvass statements were now signed and would be made public on the WEC website along with the Certificate of Determination and the statement from the Marathon County board of canvass. She concluded the canvass at 10:36 a.m.

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November 29, 2024, Wisconsin Election Commission canvass minutes prepared by:



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Anna Langdon, Help Desk Staff

November 29, 2024