



2024 LWVNC CBOE MONITORING PROJECT

ABSENTEE BALLOT REVIEW MEETINGS

Beginning on Oct 1 (5 weeks before the election) all CBOEs will meet to review and approve absentee ballots that have been received in their office.

The ballots will (likely) have been opened and reviewed by staff before the meeting and will be evaluated: Recommend Approve and Board Review Required. You will not see reports of the ballots that were returned to the voter because they contained an obvious deficiency such as missing voter or witness signatures or other missing information.

The Board members will individually review all the recommended “approve” ballot applications, take a vote and proceed to a tabulator process to count the ballots. These ballots will be stored in the same manner as early voting ballots (beginning on Oct 17). The Voter History will be updated on Voter Search and the voter will know that they have voted. In your CBOE Monitoring Report, you can follow along with this process and indicate how many ballots have been received and counted. They may also indicate how many absentee ballots have been mailed.

The second group of ballots will be those that have less obvious deficiencies and can be Approved or Denied by CBOE members. Pay close attention to these discussions. Here are the primary categories you are likely to see.

- ID Exception Forms: all ballots that included a photo ID Exception Form will be separately reviewed. Make a note of any forms that were not accepted including the reasons discussed and the decision/vote by the Board. Once reviewed and voted on, the Absentee Ballots that included approved ID Exception Forms should be marked “approved” and counted along with the other absentee ballots.
- Photo IDs that may be missing expiration dates, unreadable copies, be temporary versions of an ID or have other deficiencies. Include the discussion and decision on these individual ballots
- Problems with the Container Envelope that holds the ballot: torn envelope, unsealed or reopened envelopes, envelopes numbers that don’t match the ballot number, or other issues. Include the discussion and decision on these ballots.
- Other issues: problems with a Notary Seal, photo ID copies not in the outer sleeve, witness information in wrong place, etc. Include the discussion and decision on these ballots.

- UOCAVA – overseas and military ballots are evaluated separately.
- VIP (Visually Impaired Portal). Voters that meet the visually-impaired criteria are evaluated separately.

Understanding this process will help you communicate with voters who may be voting absentee. It will also help you prepare to understand what will happen at the Canvass meetings after election day.