

**Marshall County Board of Supervisors
EMERGENCY Special Session June 8, 2022, at 8:30 a.m.
Annex, 101 E Main Street, Conference Room and via ZOOM
MINUTES**

The Marshall County Board of Supervisors met in an EMERGENCY special session according to the posted notices in the Annex conference room, 101 E Main Street, Marshalltown, Iowa, and via online ZOOM. Chair Thompson called the meeting to order on June 8, 2022, at 8:30 a.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present: Chair David E Thompson, Vice Chair Steve Salasek, Member Bill Patten. Members of the public attending physically were Supervisor Candidates Hibbs, Heil and Treasurer Candidate Tomlinson. Attending via ZOOM, John Hall, Marshalltown Chamber Executive.

Salasek moved to approve the agenda, second by Patten. Motion carried 3-0.

The Board of Supervisors received the attached letter from Auditor and Recorder Benson requesting an administrative recount according to the Code of Iowa. Due to the sensitivity of the election matter, the Board of Supervisors declared an EMERGENCY existed and an Emergency session of the Board was required to authorize the recount. The electronic website notice was posted prior to 9pm on June 7, as quickly as possible following the discovery of the equipment jam and tabulation after the 8 pm polling place closure confirmed there was an error. Due to courthouse construction the physical bulletin board is located on the 2nd floor of the Great Western Bank/ Interstate Bank at 11 N 1st Avenue, and the notice was placed on that bulletin board prior to 8 am when the bank opened. County Auditor and Recorder Benson phoned the local candidates on the ballot that could have been affected by the error.

Auditor and Recorder Benson explained the reason for the recount, as outlined in the letter:

"In the Auditor/Recorder's Office, we are committed to making sure that every eligible voter can vote and that their vote will count. Even though each machine was thoroughly tested prior to election day, we have been made aware that there were technical issues with voting machines in multiple counties on election day. We were in contact with the Secretary of State's office throughout the day yesterday discussing the issue regarding the Unisyn voting equipment. There were multiple instances of machines experiencing paper jams when voters were inserting their ballot into the tabulator. This caused the number on the tabulator to increase and lead to the appearance that more ballots were cast than voters who signed a Declaration of Eligibility. Due to the fact our Unisyn equipment is older, our elections equipment vendor, RBM, has made us aware that this issue was caused by the older motherboards in the equipment.

At the end of the five (5) precincts noted that the ballots cast were different by one of the signed declarations of eligibility slips. This included Miller Middle School 2-1 only, YMCA 3-2 only, Redeemer 4-1 and 4-2, Legrand, and State Center.

In order to protect the integrity of our election and ensure every vote has been counted correctly, as the Marshall County Commissioner of Elections and at the recommendation of the Secretary of State's Office, I am making a request to conduct an administrative recount on the Precincts listed above."

Patten moved, second by Salasek to approve Auditor and Recorder request for an administrative recount due to voting equipment jams at the specified polling places (Miller Middle School 2-1 only, YMCA 3-2 only, Redeemer 4-1 and 4-2, Legrand, and State Center) during the 2022 Primary Election. Motion carried 3-0.

Adjournment. There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 8:36 a.m.


Dave Thompson
Board of Supervisors, Chairman

Attest:


Nan Benson, Auditor and Recorder



NAN BENSON
Auditor and Recorder / Commissioner of Elections
MARSHALL COUNTY, IOWA

1 E. Main St.
Marshalltown, IA 50158
Phone (641)754-6323
Fax (641) 754-6321

Assistant Auditors:
Whitney Hunt, Real Estate
Mary Stubbs, Accounting
Jessica Chizek, Elections

June 7, 2022

Board of Supervisors,

In the Auditor/Recorder's Office, we are committed to making sure that every eligible voter can vote and that their vote will count. Even though each machine was thoroughly tested prior to election day, we have been made aware that there were technical issues with voting machines in multiple counties on election day. We were in contact with the Secretary of State's office throughout the day yesterday discussing the issue regarding the Unisyn voting equipment. There were multiple instances of machines experiencing paper jams when voters were inserting their ballot into the tabulator. This caused the number on the tabulator to increase and lead to the appearance that more ballots were cast than voters who signed a Declaration of Eligibility. Due to the fact our Unisyn equipment is older, our elections equipment vendor, RBM, has made us aware that this issue was caused by the older motherboards in the equipment.

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In order to protect the integrity of our election and ensure every vote has been counted correctly, as the Marshall County Commissioner of Elections and at the recommendation of the Secretary of State's Office, I am making a request to conduct an administrative recount on the Precincts listed above.

Respectfully,

Nan Benson

Nan Benson
Marshall County Auditor and Recorder/
Commissioner of Elections