

**SANTA FE COUNTY**

**CANVASSING BOARD**

**MEETING**

**March 8 & 15, 2019**

Anna T. Hamilton, Chair - District 4  
Henry Roybal, Vice Chair - District 1  
Rudy Garcia - District 3  
Anna Hansen, Chair - District 2  
Ed Moreno - District 5

SFC CLERK RECORDED 04/10/2019

**SANTA FE COUNTY**

**CANVASSING MEETINGS**

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**March 8 & 15, 2019**

1. The Santa Fe County Canvassing Board was called to order by Chair Anna Hamilton at approximately 2:01p.m. on March 8, 2019, in the Santa Fe County Commission Chambers, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

2. **Roll Call**

Roll was called by County Clerk Geraldine Salazar and indicated the presence of a quorum as follows:

**Members Present:**

Commissioner Anna Hamilton, Chair  
Commissioner Rudy Garcia  
Commissioner Anna Hansen  
Commissioner Ed Moreno  
Commissioner Henry Roybal [telephonically]

**Members Excused:**

None

3. **Motion to Convene as County Canvassing Board, Pursuant to Section 1-13-1, NMSA 1978**

CHAIR HAMILTON: Can I entertain a motion to convene this as County Canvassing Board?

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Madam Chair, before we do that, actually, I also sit on the school board, so actually the school board actually did actually move forward on the election, and I'm going to recuse myself because I don't know whether it's appropriate to actually vote on the canvassing on this. Madam Clerk knows the answer to that.

CLERK SALAZAR: What was that?

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: About whether I should recuse myself because I sit on the school board as well. I think it doesn't hurt to actually recuse myself. Right. So I'll recuse myself.

CHAIR HAMILTON: Okay. Thank you very much, Commissioner Garcia. So we nevertheless have a quorum. Yes, Commissioner Hansen.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: I would like to move to convene as the County Canvassing Board pursuant to Section 1-13-1, New Mexico SA 1978.

COMMISSIONER ROYBAL: Second.

COMMISSIONER MORENO: Second.

SFC CLERK RECORDED 04/10/2019

CHAIR HAMILTON: Thank you. I have a motion and two seconds.

**The motion passed by unanimous [4-0] voice vote.**

4. **Open Canvass of June 5, 2018 Primary Election, Pursuant to Section 1-13-3, NMSA 1978** [*Exhibit 1: Provisional Election Results; Exhibit 2: Unofficial Results*]

CHAIR HAMILTON: Thank you. So, Madam Clerk, is there any statements we need to make to prepare the canvass?

STEVE FRESQUEZ (Elections Bureau Chief): I'm here to answer any questions for the Board.

CHAIR HAMILTON: Thank you. Commissioner Hansen.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: I want to move to open the canvass of March 5, Santa Fe Public School District Special All-Mail Ballot Election pursuant to 1-13-3 NMSA 1978.

COMMISSIONER ROYBAL: Second.

CHAIR HAMILTON: I have a motion and a second.

**The motion passed by unanimous [4-0] voice vote.**

5. **Motion Directing County Clerk to Prepare Canvass**

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: I move to direct the County Clerk to prepare the canvass.

COMMISSIONER ROYBAL: I'll second.

CHAIR HAMILTON: Thank you. I have a motion and a second.

**The motion passed by unanimous [4-0] voice vote.**

CHAIR HAMILTON: Commissioner Garcia, you had some discussion?

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: I didn't know if it was appropriate to ask at this time, the number of mail-out ballots that actually were mailed out and the number that were returned, and the numbers that actually – do we have numbers as to what was – I guess some of the concern I have is some people didn't receive a ballot and I don't know why and what we need to do in the future so that everybody does get a ballot. And was there any return ballots for the address not being correct? Just some basic questions.

MR. FRESQUEZ: Chair Hamilton, Commissioner Garcia, the total number of ballots that were mailed out was 85,403. The total number that were returned and were counted were 28,998. In addition to those, I believe we had a little over 80 ballots that were provisional ballots who were people that didn't receive their ballots and they came into the office to get another one to vote on. An as far as addressing the issue of some people didn't get their ballots, we use their mail address, their mailing address on their voter registration. A lot of the voters usually vote in person for elections and they weren't aware that people who previously had P.O boxes and got rid of them. They didn't

update their address information, so it went to these vacant places. There are people who haven't updated their address in a while, so that was the reason for the amount of undeliverables. We had 7,833 undeliverable ballots.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: So can you give me the numbers again? 85,403 were mailed out.

MR. FRESQUEZ: Yes. 85,403. And we had a total of a little over 48,200 that didn't return their ballot.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: 48,200?

MR. FRESQUEZ: 48,246 is what I have, but all these numbers are unofficial until we finish processing. We received about 800 or 900 ballots yesterday that we couldn't count because they came after the 7:00 deadline on Tuesday. So a lot of people – they all got mailed on the same day, so they had these ballots the week of February 5<sup>th</sup>. So they had instructions to mail them back and they had to be received in our office by 7:00 pm election night.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: The reason why I was just asking because this is actually a new state law that was, what enacted this year? So I'm just kind of following how special elections work and how we make sure everybody gets a ballot. But thank you for the answers.

MR. FRESQUEZ: You're welcome.

CHAIR HAMILTON: Madam Clerk.

CLERK SALAZAR: Chair Hamilton, Commissioners, I'd also like to note that the last time there was an election for a bond, 7,000+ participated. This all-mail ballot election – close to 30,000 participated, so there was an increase in participation. So I think that's the greatest thing that we need to take with us is that over close to 30,000 participated as compared to the last of being 7,000+

CHAIR HAMILTON: Thank you very much. Any other questions or discussion?

COMMISSIONER ROYBAL: Madam Chair.

CHAIR HAMILTON: Commissioner Roybal.

COMMISSIONER ROYBAL: A quick question also and I'm glad that also – that was my question, that I wanted to get some numbers to compare with the last election of same activity. Madam Clerk just answered that question. I guess my other question was if you could keep us informed how we're going to proceed to possibly try to get the rest of the ballots out there to where we don't have as many returns, and if there's any ideas moving forward or if you could keep the Commission abreast of those ideas I'd appreciate that as well. But I'm really glad and happy to see that we actually have – if you look at 30,000 versus 7,000, that's more than four times the amount of voters that replied. And I did have a lot of people out there, feedback from some of my constituents that really liked this method of voting, and so I think this is going to make a difference in the future, just looking at the amount of votes that did come back. That's really positive feedback, so thank you.

CHAIR HAMILTON: Thank you, Commissioner Roybal. Commissioner Garcia.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Just one last thing. Manager Miller actually looks a little different today and I was just wondering if she would like to say a few

words.

TESSA JO MASCARENAS (County Manager's Office): County Manager Miller is actually in a meeting right now and I'm just filling in. Thank you though.

**6. Recess**

Following a motion by Commissioner Moreno and second by Commissioner Roybal, Chair Hamilton declared recess at 2:10.

**March 15, 2019**

1. Chair Hamilton reconvened the Canvassing Board at approximately 2:02 p.m. in the Santa Fe County Commission Chambers, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

**2. Roll Call**

Roll was called by County Clerk Geraldine Salazar and indicated the presence of a quorum as follows:

**Members Present:**

Commissioner Anna Hamilton, Chair  
Commissioner Anna Hansen,  
Commissioner Ed Moreno  
Commissioner Rudy Garcia [telephonically]

**Members Excused:**

Commissioner Henry Roybal

**3. Motion to Reconvene as County Canvassing Board**

CHAIR HAMILTON: So I'll entertain a motion to reconvene as the Canvassing Board.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN : So moved.

COMMISSIONER MORENO: Second.

**The motion passed by unanimous [4-0] voice vote.**

**4. Motion for Approval of March 5, 2019 Santa Fe Public School District Special All-Mail Ballot Election Canvass, Pursuant to Section 1-22-15B, NMSA 1978**

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Madam Chair, I would like to make a motion to approve the March 5, 2019 Santa Fe Public School District special all-mail ballot election canvass, pursuant to Section 1-22-15B, NMSA 1978.

COMMISSIONER MORENO: I second the motion.

CHAIR HAMILTON: Thank you. So I have a motion and a second.

**The motion passed by unanimous [4-0] voice vote.**

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CHAIR HAMILTON: So, Madam Clerk, do you have any information that you need to present to us?

GERALDINE SALAZAR (County Clerk): Madam Chair, I would like to have Steve up here if you have any questions. First of all, I want to thank all of you for being here. It's an important process.

CHAIR HAMILTON: Thank you, Madam Clerk.

MR. FRESQUEZ : I'm ready for questions if the Board has any.

CHAIR HAMILTON: Commissioner Hansen.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: What was the final number of voters?

MR. FRESQUEZ: The final number was 29,252. The turnout was 34.25 percent. The difference between that and the last election, the voter turnout was 7,734, and the percentage 9.6. So we have a little over 21,000 additional voters than we did the last time.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: That's fantastic. What was the actual vote?

MR. FRESQUEZ: The final tally was 17,163 for the bond, 12,025 against.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Okay. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: I have a question, Madam Chair.

CHAIR HAMILTON: Commissioner Garcia.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: I would just actually like to thank the County Clerk and Steve Fresquez and his staff for actually doing a great job for our first County mail-out ballot. You guys did an excellent job and thank you guys and your staff.

MR. FRESQUEZ: Thank you, Commissioner Garcia. You're welcome. And I just want to thank the entire Clerk's staff. We got this accomplished with the support of Clerk Salazar. It wasn't as difficult as I thought it was going to be, so I think we'll be a little more ready for the next one.

CHAIR HAMILTON: Excellent.

CLERK SALAZAR: You're welcome, Commissioner Garcia. I also want to thank the County Manager and all of her staff who really were supportive of this process and made sure that we had the funds in place and everything in order for us to accomplish this. So this is a historic type of election for us as a County but also as a state where we had an all-mail ballot special election. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Thank you, County Clerk. And this is also great because one of the things, I want to thank the electorate, putting my school board hat on, for actually supporting the public schools in our election. I appreciate that. So thank you all.

CLERK SALAZAR: May I also say that we went through a long process with the New Mexico County Clerks with regards to local elections, Local Election Act, consolidating a lot of things. But in the end, the county clerks always stated this is what we do; we run elections. And throughout the process we will perfect and continue to ensure that statutes are in place for us to be effective in the work that we do. So we do appreciate the voters that did vote, which was a tremendous increase from the last election. So remember, the county clerks work very hard. We work hard to ensure that there's fairness, security and accountability in this whole process.

And our Board, the Santa Fe County Board of Commissioners, is part of this

process and we appreciate your participation.

CHAIR HAMILTON: Thank you very much.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Madam Chair.

CHAIR HAMILTON: Commissioner Hansen.

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: Yes, I would just like to thank Geraldine and Steve for running a really great election process and the whole staff – all your staff and everybody. It's really important that people have access to voting.

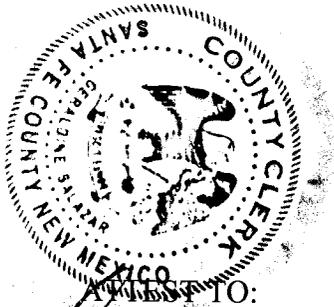
CHAIR HAMILTON: Steve.

MR. FRESQUEZ: I just wanted to add one more comment. Theresa Atencio was very crucial in coordinating the effort of all the staff opening the envelopes. So I'd also like to acknowledge her.

CHAIR HAMILTON: Excellent. Thank you very much.

**5. Adjournment**

Upon motion by Commissioner Hansen and second by Commissioner Moreno, and with no further business to come before this body, Chair Hamilton declared this meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.



Approved by:

*Anna Hamilton*  
Board of County Commissioners  
Anna Hamilton, Chair

*Geraldine Salazar*  
GERALDINE SALAZAR  
SANTA FE COUNTY CLERK



CANVASSING BOARD MINUTES  
PAGES: 9

COUNTY OF SANTA FE )  
STATE OF NEW MEXICO ) ss

I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for  
Record On The 10TH Day Of April, 2019 at 11:17:33 AM  
And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1883463  
Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

Respectfully submitted:

*Karen Farrell*  
Karen Farrell, Wordswork  
453 Cerrillos Road  
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office  
Geraldine Salazar  
Deputy County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM

*Estrella Martinez*

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# Santa Fe County School Board Election Results



Year	Election	Voter Turnout	Eligible Voters
2018	Santa Fe Public School Special Election	7,734 (9.6%)	80,820
2017	Santa Fe Public School and Community College Election	8,313 (9.94%)	83,613
	Pojoaque Valley Public School Election	635 (12%)	5,252
2016	Santa Fe Public School Special Election	4,647 (6%)	77,450
2015	Santa Fe Public School and Community College Election	4,495 (5%)	86,678
	Pojoaque Valley Public School Election	676 (13%)	5,381
2013	Pojoaque Valley Public School Election	696 (13%)	5,358
	Pojoaque Valley Public School GO Bond Election	210 (4%)	5,362
	Santa Fe Community College Election	1,806 (2%)	83,877
	Santa Fe Public School Election	5,632 (7%)	83,156
2012	Santa Fe Public School Special Election	4,052 (5%)	77,954
2011	Santa Fe Community College Election	384 (1%)	76,494
	Santa Fe Public School Election	3,477 (8%)	45,176
	Pojoaque Valley Public School Election	691 (14%)	4,939

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Summary for: All Contests, All Districts, All Tabulators, All Counting C

UNOFFICIAL RESULTS

March 5, 2019

Santa Fe Public Schools Special Election

Eligible Voters 85,403

**Creation of debt to be repaid by property tax levy QUESTION - Santa Fe  
(Vote for 1)**

Candidate	Party	Total	
FOR		17,098	58.75%
AGAINST		12,005	41.25%
Total Votes		29,103	
		Total	
Unresolved Write-In		0	

SANTA FE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE  
**Unofficial Results**

Date: 3/5/19 Time: 7:47 pm

Staff Initial SA

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