

Minutes of the Recount for County Supervisor – District 15
April 9, 2024
Oneida County Courthouse – Committee Room 2

County Clerk Hartman called the Board of Canvass to order at 1:00 p.m. Board of Canvass members presented were County Clerk Tracy Hartman, Cindy Skinner and Carla Fletcher. Hartman reported that notice of the Recount was given to Lenore Lopez and Michael Roach on April 8, 2024 via email at 11:50 a.m. Candidates Lopez and Roach each confirmed receipt of the recount notice. The Notice of Recount was also provided to the media and posted as a public meeting.

There were a number of observers for the recount and Hartman gave an overview of the process that would occur.

Reconcile Poll Lists and Voter Data – [Wis. Stat. § 9.01\(1\)\(b\)1.](#)

Lake Tomahawk – Ward 1 – Poll book reconciliation – The two poll lists recorded the same voters, absentee voters and supplemental voters. The only irregularity noted was a voter was listed in both the printed poll list and the supplemental poll list. Election workers had caught the error and noted it in the poll book.

- Voters: 221
- Absentee: 29

Newbold – Ward 1 – Poll book reconciliation – The two poll lists recorded the same voters, absentee voters and supplemental voters. The only irregularity noted was a voter was listed in both the printed poll list and the supplemental poll list. Election workers had caught the error and noted it in the poll book.

- Voters: 103
- Absentee: 28

Newbold – Ward 2 – Poll book reconciliation – The two poll lists recorded the same voters, absentee voters and supplemental voters. No irregularities noted.

- Voters: 240
- Absentee: 39

Review Absentee Ballots and Materials – [Wis. Stat. § 9.01\(1\)\(b\)2.](#)

a) *Determine Number of Absentee Voters* – BOC members compared the number of absentee voters listed in the poll lists to the number of certificate envelopes and the number of absentee voters listed on the inspectors statement and the absentee ballot log and determine the following:

Lake Tomahawk – Ward 1 – 29 verified absentee voters.

Newbold – Ward 1 – 28 verified absentee voters.

Newbold – Ward 2 – 39 verified absentee voters.

b) *Review Rejected Absentee Ballots* – BOC members reviewed the rejected absentee ballots for each reporting unit to determine if all ballots were properly rejected. The BOC determined the following:

Lake Tomahawk – Ward 1 – No rejected absentee ballots.

Newbold – Ward 1 – One rejected absentee ballot due to missing voter signature. BOC agreed with election inspector's determination to reject the ballot. There were a number of absentee ballots returned to the municipal clerk as undeliverable. The BOC determined that those envelopes are not rejected and should not have been put in the rejected absentee envelope.

Newbold – Ward 2 – No rejected absentee ballots.

- c) *Examine Absentee Ballot Envelopes* – BOC members reviewed the used certificate envelopes for all wards to determine if there were any absentee ballots processed that were defective. The BOC determined the following:

Lake Tomahawk – Ward 1 – All envelopes were determined to be sufficient.

Newbold – Ward 1 – There was an envelope found that did not contain a witness printed name. Per the rules in the election day manual if “the signature of either the elector or the witness is missing or the witness’ printed name or address is missing, the absentee ballot certificate envelope is insufficient, and the absentee ballot must be rejected”, however, per the recount manual “for recount purposes, an absentee ballot certificate envelope is defective “only if it is not witnessed or if it is not signed by the voter”.

Hartman contacted the WEC to clarify the discrepancy between the two manuals. WEC staff stated that it is at the discretion of the Board of Canvass to determine if the envelope is sufficient. The Board of Canvass determined that was not a reason for rejection.

Newbold – Ward 2 – All envelopes were determined to be sufficient.

Recount Step 3

Examine Ballot Bag or Container – [Wis. Stat. § 9.01\(1\)\(b\)3.](#)

The BOC examines the ballot bag or ballot container to determine that it has not been tampered with, opened, or opened and resealed. The BOC should verify that the tamper-evident seal matches the serial number on the ballot Container Certificate (EL-101) and the Inspectors’ Statement (EL-104). The WEC recommends the BOC investigate any irregularities or possible tampering with the ballots and note its findings in the minutes.

Lake Tomahawk – Ward 1 – No irregularities noted and serial numbers match.

Newbold – Ward 1 - No irregularities noted and serial numbers match.

Newbold – Ward 2 - No irregularities noted and serial numbers match.

Recount Step 4

Reconcile Ballot Count – [Wis. Stat. § 9.01\(1\)\(b\)4.](#)

- a) *Ballot Count* – [Wis. Stat. § 9.01\(1\)\(b\)4.a.](#)

The BOC opens the ballot bag or ballot container and removes the contents. The BOC members or tabulators count the number of ballots in the ballot bag, excluding any ballots that were set aside and not counted by the election inspectors on Election Night under the provisions of [Wis. Stat. § 7.51\(2\)](#). These “set aside” ballots should have been marked and bundled by the election inspectors on Election Night.

Lake Tomahawk – Ward 1 – 221 Ballots

Newbold – Ward 1 – 103 Ballots

Newbold – Ward 2 – 240 Ballots

The BOC reviews all ballots marked rejected, defective, and objected to, in order to decide whether such ballots were correctly categorized when the ballots were first examined after the election.

Lake Tomahawk – Ward 1- No concerns noted.

Newbold – Ward 1 - No concerns noted.

Newbold – Ward 2 - No concerns noted.

- b) *Separate and Compare the Count of Probable Absentee Ballots* – [Wis. Stat. § 9.01\(1\)\(b\)4.b.](#)

The BOC separates all Probable Absentee Ballots from the other ballots (see definition, above). The BOC shall presume that a ballot initialed only by the municipal clerk, executive director of the board of election commissioners, deputy clerk, or secretary is an absentee ballot. [Wis. Stat. § 9.01\(1\)\(b\)4.b.](#) The number of Probable Absentee Ballots should equal the number of properly completed certificate envelopes (as determined by the BOC in Step 2 above), the number of absentee ballots recorded on the registration list

on Election Night, and the number of written applications. Any discrepancies should be recorded in the minutes.

Lake Tomahawk – Ward 1- 29 absentee voters – 28 absentee ballots located. The BOC was unable to locate one absentee ballot.

Newbold – Ward 1 – 28 absentee voters – 28 absentee ballots located.

Newbold – Ward 2 – 39 absentee voters – 39 absentee ballots located.

c) *Reconciling the Number of Ballots with the Number of Voters* – [Wis. Stat. § 9.01\(1\)\(b\)4.b.](#)

If the number of voters is greater than or equal to the number of ballots, record that information, but skip this step. Only engage in the following procedure if the number of ballots exceeds the number of voters.

Lake Tomahawk – Ward 1 – Not applicable

Newbold – Ward 1 – Not applicable

Newbold – Ward 2 – Not applicable

Recount Step 5

Count the Votes

The Board of Canvass hand counted each reporting unit. For all reporting units the following process was used:

- Ballots were separated into two stacks and each stack was first sorted by candidate. The tabulators traded stacks and verified that the stacks were sorted correctly.
- Each tabulator separated their stacks of ballots further into stacks of 25. The tabulators again traded stacks and verified that each stack contained 25 ballots.
- Each tabulator counted the stacks for each candidate to verify vote totals. Each candidate stacks were counted by two tabulators to confirm the vote totals.

Reporting Unit	Total Ballots	Lenore Lopez	Mike Roach	Write-In	Undervotes
Lake Tomahawk – Ward 1	221	118	82	1	20
Newbold – Ward 1	103	37	57	0	9
Newbold – Ward 2	240	98	110	1	31

Recount Step 6

After the completion of each step the election materials for each reporting unit was secured by the Board of Canvass.

Recount Step 7

The Board of Canvass completed the EL-106, Summary Statement of the Board of Canvassers, Tabular Statement and Certification of the Board of Canvassers. No changes to vote totals occurred. Clerk Hartman adjourned the meeting.