

ST. LUCIE COUNTY CANVASSING BOARD ACTION MINUTES
FOR AUGUST 18, 2026 PRIMARY ELECTION

AUGUST 20, 2026

ATTENDEES:

- ❖ Gertrude Walker, Supervisor of Elections
- ❖ Hon. Daryl Isenhower - Chair (County Court Judge)
- ❖ Commissioner Cathy Townsend (SLC Commissioner)

ATTORNEYS:

- ❖ Jean Stasio (SLC Assistant County Attorney)
- ❖ Nicholas Gieseler (Supervisor of Elections Counsel)

ELECTIONS STAFF:

- ❖ Amber McCants (Supervisor of Elections Staff)
- ❖ Peter Lomonaco (Supervisor of Elections Staff)
- ❖ Neal Sullivan (Supervisor of Elections Staff)
- ❖ Tywann Clemons (Supervisor of Elections Staff)
- ❖ Richard Vincent (Supervisor of Elections Staff)
- ❖ Kris Barcomb (Supervisor of Elections Staff)
- ❖ Other SOE Staff
- ❖ Kathy Cabre Peters (Court Reporter-Esquire Reporting, Inc.)

CANVASSING BOARD BUSINESS:

- ❖ Meeting called to order at 4:00 P.M. by Judge Isenhower.
- ❖ Mrs. Walker introduced Canvassing Board and counsel.
- ❖ There was no public comment.
- ❖ Mrs. Walker introduced Candidate Bernard Taylor and James Martin campaign representative Ben Topol.
- ❖ Mrs. Walker announced the Board will be presented with 57 VBM ballots – eight signature cure affidavits, five signature cure affidavits with no identification, five affidavits with no signature and 27 ballots with signatures that were deemed not

to match, the voter sent a cure affidavit, but the signature cure affidavit was not returned.

- ❖ SOE Counsel Nicholas Gieseler clarified that the Board will not make a final decision on any ballots awaiting the 5:00 P.M. validation deadline.
- ❖ Mrs. Walker advised there are 26 provisional ballots to be reviewed by the Board.
- ❖ Two Early Voting provisional ballots were reviewed and voted on by the Board. A portion of Election Day provisional ballots were reviewed and voted on individually, pending the 5:00 P.M. deadline, with SOE staff member Ankara Avilez answering any Board questions as to the reason the voter had to vote provisionally.
- ❖ Signature cure affidavits were examined by the Board, along with identification provided, and voted on separately.
- ❖ Attorney Gieseler clarified for record purposes the statute speaks interchangeably about the “signature on file” and “signature in the registration books and precinct records,” but does not really define those terms. Statute 98.077 speaks to updating a voter’s signature, but also indicates for signatures requiring secondary or tertiary review, older signatures may be used.
- ❖ Board began review of ballots with no signature on ballot envelopes and no cure affidavit being received and moved to reject those ballots, the 5:00 P.M. deadline having arrived and the staff confirming that no cure affidavits had been received.
- ❖ Several cure affidavits received with no proper identification were reviewed and rejected as not meeting criteria.
- ❖ The Board next reviewed ballots where staff had deemed the signatures did not match, the voter was sent a signature cure affidavit, but the cure affidavit had not been returned. Each was voted on accordingly.
- ❖ SOE Counsel Nicholas Gieseler advised the Board at every point of signature rejection, the voter is notified. Mrs. Walker advised the voter is sent a voter registration application with a letter asking that the voter update their signature on file.
- ❖ Non-matching signature ballot review continued.
- ❖ A ballot that had been previously protested as to signature was brought back to the Board, the voter having been emailed a cure affidavit, but not returning the affidavit. The Board requested to review all available signatures for this voter again.

- ❖ Criteria regarding signature cure affidavits with no identification provided was explained by counsel; once a signature is determined to not match and the signature cure affidavit is received without proper identification, the Board undertaking to perform signature matching on the affidavit to the signature on file is not sufficient – in order to cure, proper identification must be provided or the ballot should be rejected.
- ❖ The remaining affidavits with proper I.D. not provided were reviewed and voted on individually.
- ❖ Provisional ballots from Election Day were continued to be reviewed and a decision made as to each, with SOE staff explaining why it was voted as a provisional ballot.
- ❖ Discussion ensued as to the ballot previously protested that the Board had requested all available signatures on. Because a cure affidavit had not been received, the decision was to reject same.
- ❖ Mrs. Walker advised the accepted ballots from today's Canvassing Board will be sent for tabulation and the election report generated.
- ❖ Unscanned ballots from Early Voting and Election Day precincts were reviewed by the Board, with SOE staff member Julia Adams providing explanation as to each. The Board voted on each individually and any that were deemed accepted were sent for tabulation.
- ❖ Judge Isenhower announced the voted ballot box cage Seal 0862988 had been broken. Additional VBM ballots, accepted provisional ballots and accepted unscanned ballots were added to the cage and resealed under Seal 0862867.
- ❖ SOE staff member Kris Barcomb announced Seal 0460270 had previously been broken on the ICE machine used in today's tabulation.
- ❖ The Canvassing Board cage was opened, Seal 0862820 having been broken. The box containing rejected provisional ballots, envelopes for the accepted ballots, and envelopes with rejected ballots was sealed under Seal 98-008. The box containing rejected unscanned ballots and ICE machine tapes was sealed under Seal 98-010.
- ❖ Judge Isenhower announced election totals.
- ❖ Box containing broken seals, various log sheets, rejected signature cure affidavits and unofficial results report was placed in box under Seal 98-009.
- ❖ All sealed boxes were placed in the Canvassing Board cage under Seal 0862868.

- ❖ Mrs. Walker advised the August 24, 2026, Canvassing Board meeting will not be necessary. The Board members will sign off on the official election results on Monday, 8/24/2026, at their convenience.
- ❖ Commission Townsend and Judge Isenhower thanked Mrs. Walker, counsel and SOE staff for their hard work in this election cycle.
- ❖ The next Canvassing Board meeting is August 31, 2026, at 10:00 A.M.
- ❖ Judge Isenhower made motion to adjourn, second by Commissioner Townsend. Motion carried unanimously.
- ❖ Meeting adjourned at 8:16 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Cabre Peters, Court Reporter