

in the afternoon, the board of canvassers for each county and for the City of Baltimore shall meet at the usual place for holding the circuit court of the county or at the office of the board. Each board of canvassers shall elect a chairman and secretary from their number. Each member of the board of canvassers shall take an oath, which shall be administered and recorded by the clerk of the court, to truly canvass, add up and declare the votes as required by law. At their first meeting a majority of the whole board of canvassers shall be a quorum. If a majority shall not attend as aforesaid, the canvassers present shall adjourn to the next day, when they shall meet again between the same hours. The canvassers shall perform the duties required by law; and all questions arising in the course of their proceedings shall be determined by a majority of the canvassers. All the sessions, deliberations and proceedings of the board of canvassers shall be public, and the candidates and their counsel shall have the right to attend and inspect the original statements and returns, and all other documents and records.

(b) In the event any member of the board is not present at the time fixed in subsection (a) hereof for conducting the canvass, any substitute member of the board may be sworn in as a member of the Board of Canvassers, provided that at all times at least one member of the Board of Canvassers shall be a member of the same political party as the minority member of the board.

17-3. Statements of votes cast.

(a) The board of canvassers, upon being duly organized, shall open all the original statements of votes cast, general returns, tally sheets delivered or transmitted to them, and shall canvass and add up the votes and make abstracts or statements thereof in the following manner, as the case may require: All votes for Governor shall be written out in words at length on one sheet; in like manner, all votes for other State officers shall be written out on another sheet; all votes or presidential electors, on another sheet; all votes for judges of courts, on another sheet; all votes for Senators and Delegates to the General Assembly, on another sheet; and all votes for any other officer, on a separate and appropriate sheet; all votes for or against any proposition which may be submitted to a vote of the people, on another sheet.

(b) If, upon proceeding to canvass the votes, it shall clearly appear to the canvassing board for the city or county that in any statement or tally sheet produced to them, certain matters are omitted which should have been inserted, or that any mistakes exist, they shall immediately issue a subpoena to the election officials who prepared and certified the returns. These persons shall forthwith attend and shall make such corrections as the facts in the case require; such changes shall not alter any decision previously duly made by them, but shall cause the canvass to be correctly stated.

17-4. Verification of voting machines.

(a) Within ten days after each election, each board as a part of its canvass shall verify the votes cast on the voting machines. In the case of voting machines which have not provided a printed or photographic record of the numbers registered on the counters by voting, the board shall make a record of the number of the seal