CITY OF CRANSTON
BOARD OF CANVASSERS
Meeting of September 9, 2026 – OFFICIAL MINUTES

The Cranston Board of Canvassers met on September 9, 2026, in a meeting advertised in accordance with the Rhode Island Open Meetings Act on August 3, 2026. The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson, Kirk McDonough, at 5:45 a.m. It was held in the Third Floor Conference Room at Cranston City Hall.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Anthony Mastantuono, Bill White (for Ms. Moronta until 5:46 a.m.; for Mr. McDonough after 10:06 p.m.), Quilcia Moronta (arrived at 5:46 a.m.), Kirk McDonough (until 10:06 p.m.)

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT: Jason Case (Board Alternate), Nicholas Lima (Registrar / Director of Elections, until 10:06 p.m.)

The chair declared a quorum present.

AGENDA

- **I. Call to Order and Approval of the Agenda** (*votes may be taken*)
- **II. Approval of Minutes of Prior Meetings** (*votes may be taken*)
- **III. Items for Discussion, Vote, and/or Other Action** (*votes may be taken on all items*)
  - A. The Cranston Board of Canvassers will convene to conduct the September 9, 2026 Rhode Island Statewide Primary Election, and will remain in session throughout the entire day until the close of Board business pertaining to the election in accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-8-9. The Board will enter recess after convening and may resume from recess from time to time throughout the day at the posted public meeting location to hear and consider any election matter that requires an immediate ruling or determination. The Board will adjourn following the receipt and accounting of election returns and results from polling locations by the Canvassing Authority staff. Polling locations will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. at assigned precincts. *(votes may be taken)*
  - B. The Board may certify emergency mail ballot applications in accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-20-10 *(votes may be taken)*
- **IV. Updates from the Registrar / Director of Elections** (*no votes taken on any items*)
  - A. Review of the role of individual Board members as field technicians and election officials exercising independent supervision of polling locations and poll workers on Election Day.
- **V. Adjournment** (*vote may be taken*)

I. Call to Order and Approval of the Agenda (*votes may be taken*)

Mr. McDonough asked for a motion to approve the agenda as posted.

MOTION: By Mr. Mastantuono and seconded by Mr. White to approve the agenda as posted.
PASSED ROLL CALL VOTE – 3-0 – Mr. Mastantuono, Mr. White, and Mr. McDonough voting aye.

II. Approval of Minutes of Prior Meetings (*votes may be taken*)

Mr. McDonough asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the prior meeting as officially posted.

MOTION: By Mr. Mastantuono and seconded by Mr. White to approve the prior meeting minutes.
PASSED ROLL CALL VOTE – 3-0 – Mr. Mastantuono, Mr. White, and Mr. McDonough voting aye.

III. Items for Discussion, Vote, and/or Other Action *(votes may be taken on all items)*

A. The Cranston Board of Canvassers will convene to conduct the September 9, 2026 Rhode Island Statewide Primary Election, and will remain in session throughout the entire day until the close of Board business pertaining to the election in accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-8-9. The Board will enter recess after convening and may resume from recess from time to time throughout the day at the posted public meeting location to hear and consider any election matter that requires an immediate ruling or determination. The Board will adjourn following the receipt and accounting of election returns and results from polling locations by the Canvassing Authority staff. Polling locations will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. at assigned precincts. *(votes may be taken):*

Mr. Lima informed the Board that at this time there are no items of business for the Board other than the approval of mail ballot certifications.

B. The Board may certify emergency mail ballot applications in accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 17-20-10 *(votes may be taken)*

Mr. McDonough asked for a motion to certify all remaining applications.

MOTION: By Mr. Mastantuono and seconded by Mr. White to certify all mail ballot applications received to date.
PASSED ROLL CALL VOTE – 3-0 – Mr. Mastantuono, Mr. White, and Mr. McDonough voting aye.

Ms. Moronta arrived at 5:46 a.m.

IV. Updates from the Registrar / Director of Elections (*no votes taken on any items*)

A. Review of the role of individual Board members as field technicians and election officials exercising independent supervision of polling locations and poll workers on Election Day.

Mr. Lima noted that the meeting has been publicly advertised and posted for this location throughout the day, so the Board may need to reconvene from recess at this location if necessary to discuss any urgent election matter. Otherwise, the Board members will individually travel to

the polling locations throughout the day and report any issues or needs back to the election operations center.

The Board entered recess at 5:49 a.m. Individual members and field technicians were first dispatched to double poll locations to ensure opening went smoothly and election materials were not mixed between the two precincts. Some polling place set-ups required minor adjustments in the morning due to the new arrangement requiring PollPads to remain plugged in.

Turnout was in line with expectations, which was higher than recent statewide primaries. There were several minor voting equipment issues in the morning, which were resolved by state Board of Elections field technicians after they were called in by poll workers or Cranston elections personnel. Election Day went smoothly, and all locations were sufficiently staffed with poll workers and opened on time. No lines were observed at any location throughout the day.

Signage was placed on polling locations that were not in use but had been used in 2024, directing voters to their new locations. An extraordinary amount of VOTE HERE signage was placed at all locations throughout the city to help voters locate the entrance to their polling place if it was unfamiliar to them, including various special signage requested by the Governor's Commission on Disabilities at specific locations during past elections. Party checker tables were set up at all locations, but it was noted that they were generally not utilized by anyone.

No incidents occurred throughout the day that required a quorum of the Board to reconvene to discuss or vote on any election matter. Several locations had trouble connecting to transmit unofficial results, so pre-arranged back-up procedures were used as planned to transport those results to the state BOE as soon as possible, utilizing a police escort from the election detail.

The Board resumed from recess at 10:07 p.m. once returns and ballots from all 26 precincts and early voting had been received by Canvassing Authority staff and accounted for at City Hall.

Ms. Moronta acted as Chair for the final portion of the meeting, as Mr. McDonough and Mr. Lima were accompanying the police escort of election results to the state Board of Elections on Plainfield Pike. Mr. White participated for Mr. McDonough for the remainder of the meeting.

V. Adjournment (*vote may be taken*)

MOTION: By Mr. Case and seconded by Mr. Mastantuono to adjourn.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY – VOICE VOTE

The meeting was adjourned at 10:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nicholas J. Lima
Registrar / Director of Elections
Cranston Board of Canvassers