



Alpena County Clerk's Office
Keri Bertrand, Alpena County Clerk

DATE: September 14, 2023
TO: Alpena County Board of Commissioners
FROM: Keri Bertrand, Alpena County Clerk
RE: Board of Canvassers Term Appointment

Regarding the expiring terms of the Alpena County Board of Canvassers – I received only one name from each of the County Parties.

The Democratic Party nomination is for Linda Ayres (current member).

The Republican Party Nomination is Todd Britton.

I am requesting the Board of Commissioners appoint Linda Ayres (D) and Todd Britton (R) to the Alpena County Board of Canvassers.

Motion as follows:

Recommend to appoint Todd Britton (R) and Lynda Ayres (D) to the Alpena County Board of Canvassers for a four-year term beginning November 1, 2023 and ending October 31, 2027.

Sincerely,

Keri Bertrand
Alpena County Clerk

Expiring County Canvassers Seats

Bourbonais, Lori (MDOS)

Wed 08/16/23 2:54 PM

To: Bourbonais, Lori (MDOS) <bourbonaisl@michigan.gov>

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County Clerks and Election Directors,

The terms of two members of the Board of County Canvassers established in your county expire on November 1 this year (one Republican member and one Democratic member). Michigan election law provides that the expired terms must be filled as follows:

- The county committee of each political party is required to provide the County Clerk with the names of three nominees for the party's expiring seat on the Board **no later than September 1, 2023**. (MCL [168.24c\(2\)](#))
- The County Board of Commissioners is required to fill the two vacancies on the Board by electing a Republican member and a Democratic member from the submitted names. Michigan election law specifies that the County Board of Commissioners use ballots when filling the seats. (MCL [168.24c\(3\)](#)) (Note: As the Open Meetings Act prohibits a voting procedure at a public meeting which prevents citizens from knowing how members of the public body have voted, a "secret" balloting process cannot be employed by the Board of County Commissioners when filling the positions.)
- The County Clerk is required to notify the appointees within five days. (MCL [168.24a\(7\)](#))
- Michigan election law grants the County Board of Commissioners the authority to request any of the following from county canvasser nominees before making the required appointments:
 - A letter signed by the nominee indicating 1) an interest in serving on the Board of County Canvassers and 2) an intent to discharge the duties of the position to the best of his or her ability.
 - Information on any prior election experience, including canvassing elections.
 - Information on whether the nominee has been convicted of a felony or election crime.

We have alerted Republican and Democratic Party Chairpersons of the September 1 deadline for the county committees to certify names to you, and have asked that they advise their county committees. We also ask that you alert the members of the County Board of Commissioners in your county of their responsibilities in this matter. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact this office at elections@michigan.gov.

Lori A. Bourbonais, Director
Election Administration Division
Michigan Bureau of Elections