



League Links Special Edition: Board of Canvassers Observation February 2024

Hello LWVMI Members:

As we have in past years, the League is observing the Board of Canvassers work after the Feb. 27th election. Starting on Feb. 28 or 29, some smaller counties will take only a day or two to complete the canvass, but bigger, more populous counties will take the full 2 weeks.

We need your help.

Why does the League conduct this observation after each election?

1. These meetings are open to the public, and the repetitive observation by LWV members let the BOC members and the staff know that they are being monitored.
2. Many counties are considered “hot spots” where there is real potential for mischief by bad actors.
3. Our presence demonstrates to the County Clerk, the Director of Elections, their staffs, and the BOC members that we support good governance.
4. Our democracy partners (including our grant funder) depend on the shift reports of the observers to alert them to anything unusual or suspicious. Depending on their evaluation of the issue, it may then be elevated to the Secretary of State’s office or an attorney.

Watching the BOC process requires no experience. You may bring a partner if you wish. It is interesting to see what happens to the thousands of ballots cast at all the precincts in a county. This post-election chapter of an election is often skipped over by journalists and even candidates.

What we're asking of you:

- **Please** sign up for at least one 2-3 hour shift following the election [Click here for the link](#). Scroll down until you find the county you can work in, and choose shift(s) that suit your schedule.
- If you’re new to Observing the BOC, watch this training video (it’s a few

years old, but still relevant) [Here's the link.](#)

- Send in a “shift report” within 2 hours after you leave. You can do this on your phone. [Here's the link to the shift report](#) and here are [the questions in the report](#) so you can be prepared.

More information about the BOC program and guidelines for being an observer [can be found here.](#)

The link for each county contains information about where and when the Board of Canvassers will be meeting. We even if lunch hours noted if we could get that information.

For more information about the Wayne County BOC observation, contact [Paula Bowman](#) or [Sara Weertz](#).

Thank you for your help with this important work!!

-Paula Bowman and Denise Hartsough

Connect with us!

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