



STATE OF DELAWARE  
DEPARTMENT OF ELECTIONS

February 12, 2026

## Minutes

### Public Hearing for the Machine and Polling Place Audit for the 2026 Laurel School District Referendum

**ATTENDEES:**

Kenneth A. McDowell, County Director  
Tracey Wilkerson, County Deputy Director  
Jennifer Williams, Department Employee  
Michelle Downes, Department Employee  
Eddie Downes, Department Employee

The meeting was called to order February 12, 2026, at 11:00 AM.

Kenneth A. McDowell, County Director, called the meeting to order to conduct the Audit of the 2026 Laurel School District Referendum. Mr. McDowell gave an introduction and overview prior to administering the Oath.

Deputy Director Tracey Wilkerson distributed the card containers from the randomly selected polling place (Laurel Fire Hall). The opening team was composed of two people from differing party affiliations. All containers were unsealed and recounted (XLSC01485, XLSC01486, XLSC01487, XLSC01489, and XLSC01490). The votes on the activation cards matched the results on the machine paper tapes perfectly.

The single machine to be audited was SC01465 from North Laurel Elementary School. The audited cards matched the machine paper tapes perfectly and were sealed in a banker's bag.

No members of the public were present and there were no comments or discussions.

Kenneth McDowell gave closing comments, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:46 PM on Thursday, February 12, 2026.

Kenneth A. McDowell  
Sussex County, Director

Tracey Wilkerson  
Sussex County, Deputy Director

<https://ivote.de.gov>

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