

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF CANVASSERS OF ROCK COUNTY
RECOUNT of the Office of County Supervisor for District 8
in the April 7, 2026 Spring Election
51 S. Main St., Courthouse Conference Center – 2nd Floor, Janesville, Wisconsin

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m.

Members of the Rock County Board of Canvassers were introduced: Mike Hoffman – Republican Representative, Mark Fuller – Democratic Representative and County Clerk Lisa Tollefson.

Mike Hoffman and Mark Fuller moved to approve the agenda. Agenda approved by voice vote.

Oath of Office was given to all tabulators: Dawn Miller, Josselyn Cadena, Sue Fugate, Candice Coogan, Wendy Loveland, Brooke Osborne, Tiffany Chinn Barsness, Cortney Bloyer, Stephanie Podwell West, Kat Mawhinney, Courtney Ross, Kristina Bennett, Ranay Zillmer and Don Blakeney.

Board of Canvassers agreed to hand count the ballots and follow the procedures set forth in the Wisconsin Election Commission’s Recount Manual - *Election Recount Procedures – November 2024*. Polling locations recounted in the following order: Town of Rock, Town of Beloit and Town of Janesville. Noted that no votes were cast in the City of Janesville Ward 13.

County Supervisor District 8 – Recount

At the County Board of Canvassers meeting on April 13, 2026, the vote totals for each County Supervisor - District 8 candidate were determined to be Bryce R. O’Leary-616 and Daniel Burke-618.

Bryce R. O’Leary filed his Recount Petition in the Rock County Clerk’s office on April 13, 2026, and was notified of the location, date and time for the Recount at the time of filing. Members of the Rock County Board of Canvassers were noticed with the Order of Recount on April 13, 2026. Daniel Burke accepted service on the Notice of Recount on April 13, 2026. The Rock County Board of Canvassers meeting was posted on April 14, 2026, more than 24 hours in advance of the meeting in compliance with the Open Meetings Law.

Pertinent voting information is as follows for each Reporting Unit.

Town of Rock

Ward 1-5 & 7	After Rock County Canvass	Recount Total
Bryce R. O’Leary	224	224
Daniel Burke	234	234
Write-in	3	3
Over vote	0	0
Under vote	35	35

Total Registered Voters: 1373

Total Electors for District 8 (absentee and election day): 496

Items of Note:

Confirmed the number of voters – 496 total including Election Day Registrations. Confirmed ballot bags seal matched on Inspectors’ statement – 00200841 and 00184919. Ballot bags opened.

Number of ballots noted on Election Night – 496. Number of ballots hand-counted – 496. Number of absentee ballots matched the number of absentee voters. All remade ballots were remade correctly.

Review of used absentee envelopes showed all absentee ballot envelopes opened contained complete certificates. Review of rejected absentee envelopes showed all rejected absentee ballots were rejected correctly.

Benjamin Gerard (Primary for Bryce R. O’Leary) questioned whether the assistor and the witness can be the same person when signing an absentee envelope. The County Clerk confirmed both the assistor and the witness can be the same person. Objection withdrawn.

Benjamin Gerard (Primary for Bryce R. O’Leary) questioned a crossed-out signature on assistor line on absentee envelope with the same signature not crossed out on the witness line. The County Clerk explained that the witness signed in the wrong box and corrected it. Objection withdrawn.

The ballots for Wards 6-8 were sealed in ballot bag number 00185406.

The ballots for Wards 1-5 & 7 were sealed in ballot bag number 00185405.

All original remade ballots for all wards were sealed in ballot bag number 00185407.

Recount of Town of Rock – Ward 1-5 & 7 completed at 10:20 a.m.

Town of Beloit

Ward 1 & 13	After Rock County Canvass	Recount Total
Bryce R. O’Leary	75	75
Daniel Burke	80	80
Write-in	1	1
Over vote	0	0
Under vote	30	30

Total Registered Voters: 554

Total Electors (absentee and election day): 186

Items of Note:

Confirmed the number of voters – 186 total including Election Day Registrations. Confirmed ballot bag seals matched on Inspectors’ statement – 3738863, 00119441 and 00184968. Ballot bags opened.

Number of ballots noted on Election Night – 186. Number of ballots hand-counted – 186.

Number of absentee ballots matched the number of absentee voters. Review of used absentee envelopes showed all absentee ballot envelopes opened contained complete certificates. Review of rejected absentee envelopes showed all rejected absentee ballots were rejected correctly. All remade ballots were remade correctly. (Note the Original Remade ballots and the Spoiled ballots were sealed in the opposite envelopes.)

Benjamin Gerard (Primary for Bryce R. O’Leary) questioned two absentee envelopes with unreadable signatures. The County Clerk explained that an “X” can be a signature. There is no requirement for a signature to be legible. Objection withdrawn.

Benjamin Gerard (Primary for Bryce R. O’Leary) objected to 2 election day ballots with only one set of initials. Ballots issued at the polls on Election Day should contain the initials of two poll workers. Disqualifying ballots with only one set of initials, is only considered when there are more ballots than voters. In this case the number of ballots is equal to the number of voters. This is considered a clerk/poll worker error. The voter is not penalized for this error. (Gonfiantini v. Rock County Board of Canvassers)

The Board of Canvassers voted in favor of keeping the ballots in the count. Fuller and Tollefson voted in favor. Hoffman voted against. No ballots were drawn down.

The ballots for Wards 2-5 were sealed in ballot bag number 00185408.

The ballots for Wards 1 & 13 were sealed in ballot bag number 00185409.

All original remade ballots for all wards were sealed in ballot bag number 00185410.

Recount of Town of Beloit – Ward 1 & 13 completed at 11:15 a.m.

Town of Janesville

Ward 1-3, 9 & 10	After Rock County Canvass	Recount Total
Bryce R. O’Leary	317	317
Daniel Burke	304	301
Write-in	3	3
Over vote	1	1
Under vote	68	68

Total Registered Voters for all Wards 1-10: 2681

Total Registered Voters for Wards 1-3, 9 & 10: 1628

Total Electors for all Wards 1-10 (absentee and election day): 1130

Items of Note:

The Town of Janesville Polling Location serves voters from four different county supervisory districts and four different school districts. This polling location has eight different ballot styles available to cover the different combinations of county supervisory and school districts.

Confirmed the number of voters – 1130 matched the total number of ballots cast absentee and in person on Election Day including Election Day Registrations for the Wards 1-10. Confirmed ballot bags seal matched on Inspectors’ statement – 00184847, 00184848 and 00184849. Ballot bags opened.

Verified the total number of absentee ballots for Wards 1-10 equaled the total number of absentee voters – 287.

Confirmed there were 147 absentee voters in Wards 1-3,9 &10.

Verified there were 149 absentee ballots for Wards 1-3, 9 &10.

Benjamin Gerard (Primary for Bryce R. O’Leary) questioned the lack of zip codes on absentee envelopes. Clerk Tollefson provided guidance on what is considered an address. The envelopes questioned had the required information. Objection withdrawn.

Lunch Break 11: 43 a.m. – 12:04 p.m.

Review of poll books. No notable variations were found.

Reviewed Remade ballots. Ballots were remade correctly.

Reviewed 3 Rejected Absentee Ballots. All rejected absentee ballots were rejected correctly.

Reviewed Used Absentee Certificate envelopes. One Used Absentee Certificate envelope was missing the voter signature. The Board of Canvasser unanimously agreed one absentee ballot should be drawn down, since the ballot in the Used Certificate missing the voter signature should not have been counted. The ballot drawn down was voted for Daniel Burke. One vote was removed from Daniel Burke’s totals.

Since there were 149 absentee ballots and only 147 absentee voters for Supervisory District 8, the Board of Canvassers determined two voters who did not live in County Supervisory District 8 received the wrong ballot. Those two voters should not have had the opportunity to vote in District 8. The Board of Canvassers unanimously agreed that two ballots should be drawn down to correct the error. Both Ballots drawn down were voted for Daniel Burke. Two votes were removed from Daniel Burke’s totals.

Brandon Buchanan (Primary for Daniel Burke) objected to one Used Absentee Certificate where the voter signature line was blank and the legible voter’s signature was signed in the Assistor’s line directly below the voter signature line. The Board of Canvassers agreed that the voter mistakenly signed the wrong line, but their signature was present. There would be no drawn down for this certificate envelope.

The ballots for Wards 4,5,6,7,8 were sealed in ballot bag number 00185412.

The ballots for Wards 1,2,3,9,10 were sealed in ballot bag number 00185414.

All original remade and spoiled ballots for all wards were sealed in ballot bag number 00158413.

Recount of Town of Janesville – Ward 1-3, 9 & 10 completed at 1:36 p.m.

City of Janesville

Ward 13	After Rock County Canvass	Recount Total
Bryce R. O’Leary	0	0
Daniel Burke	0	0
Write-in	0	0
Over vote	0	0
Under vote	0	0

Total Registered Voters: 0

Total Electors (absentee and election day): 0

Total Ballots Cast at the polling location: 0

Final votes for County Supervisor – District 8.

Municipality Reporting Unit		Bryce R. O' Leary	Daniel Burke	SCATTERING
Town of Beloit	Wards 1, 13	75	80	1
Town of Janesville	Wards 1-3, 9 & 10	317	301	3
Town of Rock	Wards 1-5 & 7	224	234	3
City of Janesville	Ward 13	0	0	0
Total		616	615	2

Bryce R. O'Leary was certified as the winner.

Updated *Summary Statement of the Board of Canvassers for District 8* was signed by the Board of Canvassers.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

Minutes prepared by County Clerk Lisa Tollefson.

Appendix A

Individuals present in the recount area

Daniel Burke – Candidate for County Supervisor District 8

Brandon Buchanan – Candidate Primary Representative for Daniel Burke

Bryce R. O’Leary – Candidate for County Supervisor District 8

Benjamin Gerard – Candidate Primary Representative for Bryce R. O’Leary

Observers at Recount

Leslie Hubert