



DURHAM COUNTY Board of Elections

DURHAM COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Minutes of Board Meeting

Tuesday, April 24, 2018, 5:00 p.m.

Members present

Dawn Baxton, Chair
Michael Gray, Vice Chair
Philip Lehman, Secretary
Luke Farley, Member

Staff present

Elections Director Derek Bowens
Deputy Director George McCue
Other staff: Rose Wolf and Alan Resley

Audience members present: Susan Pochapsky, Susan Weaver, and Elizabeth Mushak

Meeting opening

Chairwoman Baxton called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretary Lehman moved to adopt the agenda as prepared by staff. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Gray and passed 4-0.

The Board reviewed draft minutes of the previous meeting held on April 17, 2018. Secretary Lehman moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Farley and passed 4-0.

New business

Review of absentee ballots

The Board reviewed 14 returned absentee-by-mail ballot applications. Staff recommended approval of those 14 applications, along with 1,005 one-stop early voting ballot applications, for a total of 1,019 applications. Mr. Bowens noted that outside of that, there was one case where an election official inadvertently inserted a ballot into the tabulator and that would need to be corrected before canvass. Approval of the 1,019 absentee ballot applications came by motion of Vice Chair Gray, was seconded by Secretary Lehman, and passed 4-0.

The Board approved continuance of taking preparatory steps with absentee ballots for counting on a motion by Mr. Farley, which was seconded by Vice Chair Gray and passed 4-0.

Chief judge and judge substitution appointments

Based upon the recommendations of the political parties and staff, the Board approved a list of five substitutions for Election Judge positions for the May 2018 Primary/Election. The approval came by a motion by Secretary Lehman, which was seconded by Vice Chair Gray and passed 4-0.

Public comment and questions

None

General discussion

Mr. Bowens noted that the public was provided new statistics and graphical comparisons of early voting numbers, which are updated daily.

Mr. Bowens also provided an update on some feedback on election observer protocols that the office received from Durham County Democratic Party Chair Stephen Gheen. This matter pertained to whether telephonic communications on personal devices should be allowed in the voting enclosure. Following discussion, Chairwoman Baxton instructed staff to invite both Mr. Gheen and Durham County Republican Party Chair Immanuel Jarvis to a future Board Meeting to discuss this matter.

Adjournment

The Board adjourned at approximately 5:35 p.m. on a motion made by Vice Chair Gray, seconded by Mr. Farley, and passing 4-0.



Philip Lehman, Secretary