



DURHAM COUNTY

Board of Elections

DURHAM COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Minutes of Board Meeting

Tuesday, May 1, 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
Deputy Director Samuel Gedman
Other staff: Rose Wolf and Alan Resley

Audience members present: Susan Pochapsky, Susan Weaver, and Rae Thompson

Meeting opening

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

Mr. Bowens recommend the Board adjust the agenda to allow for a closed session personnel matter (as the Board had reserved the right to do so in its meeting notice). Mr. Farley moved to adopt the agenda as adjusted. The motion was seconded by Secretary Lehman and passed 4-0.

The Board reviewed draft minutes of the previous meeting held on April 24, 2018. Mr. Farley moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Secretary Lehman 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 3,567 one-stop early voting ballot applications, for a total of 3,581 applications. Approval of the absentee ballot applications came by motion of Vice Chairman Gray, was seconded by Secretary Lehman, 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 two substitutions for Election Judge positions for the May 2018 Primary/Election. The approval came by a motion by Mr. Farley, which was seconded by Vice Chairman Gray and passed 4-0.

Public comment and questions

Susan Pochapsky inquired about a matter from the previous meeting regarding protocols for election observers and the use of personal devices. Mr. Bowens clarified that the further consideration, which would involve hearing input from the county's political party chairs, would take place at a future meeting after the election. In the meantime, instruction provided to election workers during training would stand.

Closed session; general discussion; adjournment

The Board moved to go into closed session for a permitted purpose (personnel matter) as allowed under G.S. 143-318.11. The motion was made by Vice Chairman Gray, seconded by Secretary Lehman, and passed 4-0. The Board met in closed session from approximately 5:20 p.m. to 6:14 p.m. At the conclusion of the closed session, the Board returned to open session, and Chairwoman Baxton announced that staff had been provided instructions on the matter by the Board.

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

Adjournment

The Board adjourned at approximately 6:15 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Farley, seconded by Secretary Lehman, and passing 4-0.



Philip Lehman, Secretary