



DURHAM COUNTY Board of Elections

DURHAM COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Minutes of Board Meeting

Tuesday, October 23, 2018, 5:00 p.m.

Members present

Chairman Luke Farley
Vice Chairman and Secretary Philip Lehman
Member Pamela Oxendine
Member Michael Gray

Staff present

Elections Director Derek Bowens
Deputy Director Samuel Gedman
Elections Manager George McCue
Elections Manager Daniel Lassiter
Elections Administrator Rose Wolf

County attorney present: N/A

Audience members present: See attendance sheet

Meeting opening

Chairman Farley called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Lehman moved to adopt the agenda, with the addition of a closed session to discuss personnel matters. This motion was seconded by Mr. Gray and passed 4-0.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes for the 10/11 and 10/16 Board of Elections meetings were presented to the full board for review. Ms. Oxendine moved to accept the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gray and passed 4-0.

Public Comments

None were offered.

New business

Review of Absentee Ballots

Mr. Bowens briefed the board of communications with the state and applicability of the "wet ink statute" when it comes to absentee ballots. There is no expressly stated statutory exclusion on an electronic signature related to absentee ballot applications. Individual ballots under consideration were then taken up for discussion. Ms. Oxendine motioned to approve the ballot of Jasmine Clark. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gray and approved 4-0. Ms. Oxendine motioned to approve the ballot of Jacob Hardy. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gray and approved 4-0. Ms. Oxendine motioned to approve the ballot of Ruth Ann Anderson. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gray and approved 4-0. Ms. Oxendine motioned to reject the ballot of Henry Oldham. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gray and approved 4-0.

The Board reviewed in total 280 returned absentee-by-mail and military/overseas ballot applications. Staff recommended approval of 268 of the submitted applications. 12 of the applications were recommended for disapproval. On motion from Mr. Gray, the Board accepted the recommendation of staff, including the aforementioned ballots considered individually. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lehman and passed 4-0. The Board authorized, per N.C. Gen. Stat. 163A-1315(3), that staff be permitted to duplicate and optically scan approved absentee-by-mail ballots. Mr. Gray moved to approve 13,068 absentee ballot applications, encompassing One-Stop early voting, for approval which was seconded by Ms. Oxendine. The motion passed 4-0.

Closed Session

Chairman Farley moved that the Board enter into closed session under N.C. Gen. Stat. 143-318.11(a)(1), 143-318.11(a)(6), and 143-318.11(a)(7) to discuss personnel matters.

Following closed session, Chairman Farley moved to return to open session in accordance with N.C. Gen. Stat. 143-318.10(d) to conduct business remaining before the Board.

Adjournment

Following the return from closed session, the Board adjourned on a motion by Mr. Lehman that passed 4-0 at 6:54 p.m.



Philip Lehman, Secretary