



DURHAM COUNTY Board of Elections

DURHAM COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Minutes of Board Meeting

Tuesday, February 18, 2020 5:00 P.M.

Members present

Phil Lehman, Chairman
Michael Gray, Secretary
Pamela Oxendine, Member
Dawn Baxton, Member
Gregory Irby, Member

Staff present

Derek Bowens, Elections Director
Brenda Baker, Deputy Director
Daniel Lassiter, Elections Manager
Eric Brown, Elections Systems Specialist
Alan Resley, Elections Absentee Assistant

County officials present: Willie Darby, County Attorney

Audience members present: See attendance sheet

Meeting opening

Chairman Lehman called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Bowens presented the Board with the agenda for the meeting. Following review, Ms. Oxendine moved to approve the agenda and all approved, 4-0.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Bowens presented the Board with minutes from the 02/11/2020 Board meeting. Following review, Ms. Oxendine made a motion to approve the minutes and all approved, 4-0.

New Business

a. 2019-2021 Oath Ceremony for Board of Elections Member

- Mr. Gregory Irby was sworn in by Mr. Macio Carlton, Deputy Clerk to the Durham County Board of Commissioners.

b. Review of Absentee Ballots

- After review of the absentee ballot applications, Chairman Lehman moved to approve 6,976 applications and ballots per the recommendation of staff (includes absentee-by-mail and absentee one-stop). The motion was approved by all, 5-0.
- Chairman Lehman moved to reject 4 applications and ballots per the recommendation of staff. The deficiencies were due to the voter insufficiently completing the absentee return envelope. The motion was approved by all, 5-0.
- Ms. Baxton made a motion for staff to duplicate non machine-readable ballots and scan all approved absentee ballots as preparatory steps prior to the count on Election Day in accordance with NCGS 163-234 (2) and (3). The motion was approved by all, 5-0.

Public Comments and Questions

Public comments and questions were made by two members of the public.

General Discussion

Mr. Bowens provided the Board and public with an update on Early Voting. All is going well, and sites have reconciled each night. Mr. Willie Darby provided an update on the voting enclosure for Precinct 1 - W.J. Brogden Middle School. Voting will continue to take place in the Auditorium for the March Primary and will be moved to the Gym for the November General Election.

Closed Session

Chairman Lehman moved for the Board to meet in closed session as allowed under N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 143-318.11(a)(1) to discuss a confidential legal matter. The motion was approved by all, 5-0. The Board met in closed session from approximately 5:40 p.m. to 5:56 p.m. At the end of the closed session, the Board returned to open session on a motion by Chairman Lehman, which was approved by all 5-0.

Adjournment

The Board adjourned at approximately 5:59 p.m. on a motion made by Ms. Baxton. The motion was approved by all, 5-0.



Michael H. Gray

Secretary