

MEETING MINUTES

Board of Elections Meeting Thursday, May 26, 2022 2:00 P.M.

Board Members:

Dawn Y. Baxton, Chairwoman Gregory D. Irby, Secretary Philip A. Lehman, Member Pamela A. Oxendine, Member David K. Boone, Member

Board Members Present: Chairwoman Dawn Y. Baxton, Member Philip A. Lehman, Member Pamela A. Oxendine, Secretary Gregory D. Irby, and Member David K. Boone

Board Staff Present: Elections Director Derek Bowens, Deputy Director Brenda Baker, Absentee Coordinator Alan Resley, Voter Services Manager Daniel Lassiter, Logistics and Systems Manager David Beuttel and Systems Specialist Julius Richards

County Staff Present: N/A

Guests in Attendance: See Attendance Sheet

Meeting Type: In-Person and Zoom

Meeting Opening

Chairwoman Baxton called the meeting to order at approximately 2:03 p.m. at the Board of Elections Warehouse (2445 S. Alston Ave, Durham, NC 27713) and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Bowens presented the Board with the agenda for the meeting. Following review, Mrs. Oxendine moved to approve the agenda as submitted by staff. The motion carried, 5-0.

Public Comment

No comments or questions were provided in the chat.

New Business

a. Sample Audit Count (Precincts 42 and 55-49)

• Mr. Bowens presented the Board with a request for staff to conduct the sample audit count for Precincts 42 and Precinct 55-49. Mr. Lehman moved to authorize staff to proceed with the sample audit count. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0. Following the sample audit count, Mr. Bowens informed the Board that all hand-eye counts reconciled to the machine totals for the sampled precincts.

b. Counting of Election Day Machine-Rejected ballot (Precinct 24)

• Mr. Bowens presented the Board with information on a machine-rejected ballot for Precinct 24. A voter inserted their ballot into the tabulator and walked out of the precinct. The tabulator did not accept the ballot, and since the voter had already left, the Chief Judge and Judges followed

protocol for machine-rejected ballots and placed it in a poly bag to be tallied at the close of the polls. Following discussion, Mr. Boone moved to accept the counting of the machine-rejected ballot, per the recommendation of staff, and add it to the count. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

c. Administrative Retrieval of Blank Ballot (Precinct 33)

• Mr. Bowens presented the Board with information on a blank ballot that was placed in the tabulator at Precinct 33. A voter informed the Chief Judge that they accidentally placed a blank ballot in the tabulator. The Chief Judge allowed the voter to vote a provisional ballot and completed an incident report to inform staff of the situation. Following discussion, Mr. Irby moved for staff to retrieve the blank ballot, which was placed on top of the returned voted ballots for Precinct 33 and remove it from the count. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

d. Review of Counting of Supplemental Absentee Ballots

- Mr. Bowens presented the Board with 235 Civilian, and 3 Accepted Cure ballots and applications for review. Following discussion and physical review, Mrs. Oxendine moved to approve a total of 238 Civilian and Accepted Cure absentee ballots and applications per the recommendation of staff. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.
- Mr. Bowens presented the Board with 25 duplicated military/overseas ballots and applications. Following physical review of duplicated military/overseas ballots consistent with Board policy, Mrs. Oxendine moved to approve a total of 25 military/overseas ballots and allow staff to 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 carried unanimously, 5-0.
- Mr. Bowens presented the Board with 29 ballots and applications designated as Returned After Deadline, 3 designated as Witness Information Incomplete and 1 designated as Signature Different. Following review, Mr. Irby moved to disapprove the 33 ballots. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.
- Following action on the 33 disapproved ballots, the approved absentee counts for the May 26, 2022, meeting was CIV 235, Accepted Cure 3, and MIL/OVR 25. The total approved absentee ballot count was 263.

e. Review and Counting of Provisional Ballots

Mr. Bowens presented the Board with Provisional ballot applications for review. Following discussion and review, Mr. Irby moved to approve 115 fully counted and 142 partially counted provisional ballots and applications as recommended by staff. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0. Mrs. Oxendine moved to disapprove 160 applications as recommended by staff. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

General Discussion

Mr. Bowens reminded the Board of the Canvass Meeting on May 27, 2022, at 11:00 a.m.

Adjournment

The Board adjourned at approximately 5:05 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Lehman. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

s/Gregory D. Irby Member