



MEETING MINUTES

Board of Elections Meeting
Tuesday, October 3, 2023
5:30 P.M.

Board Members:

Dawn Y. Baxton, Chairwoman
David K. Boone, Member
James P. Weaver, Member
Pamela A. Oxendine, Member
Donald H. Beskind, Member

Board Members Present: Chairwoman Dawn Y. Baxton, Member James P. Weaver, Member Pamela A. Oxendine, and Member Donald H. Beskind

Board Staff Present: Elections Director Derek Bowens, Deputy Director Brenda Baker, Systems Specialist Julius Richards, and Absentee Coordinator Alan Resley

Guests in Attendance: Senior Assistant County Attorney Bettyna Abney

Meeting Type: In-Person and Zoom

Meeting Opening

Chairwoman Baxton called the meeting to order at approximately 5:34 p.m. at the Durham County 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, Dr. Weaver moved to approve the agenda as submitted by staff. The motion carried unanimously, 4-0. Mr. Boone was not present for the meeting.

Public Comment

One public question was submitted through the online portal and one comment was presented in-person. Both comments were addressed by Mr. Bowens.

New Business

a. Review of Absentee-By-Mail Ballots

- Mr. Bowens presented the Board with 3,167 One-Stop, 43 Civilian, 1 Civilian Accepted-Cured, and 25 Military/Overseas duplicated absentee ballots and applications for approval. Following discussion and physical review, Mr. Beskind moved to approve the 3236 ballots and applications per the recommendation of staff.
- Mr. Bowens presented the Board with ballots and applications for the following categories: 5 Civilian Affidavit Review Pending, 2 Pending Cure, 1 Witness Information Missing, and 1 Pending. Following discussion and physical review, Dr. Weaver moved to accept the 5 Affidavit Review Pending ballots. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0. Mrs. Oxendine moved to reject the 1 Witness Information

Missing ballot. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0. The 1 Pending and 2 Pending Cure Ballots did not require a motion of the Board.

- Following the motions for the 5 Affidavit Review Pending and 1 Witness Information Incomplete ballots and applications, the approved absentee counts for the October 3, 2023, meeting was 3167 One-Stop, 43 Civilian, 1 Civilian Accepted Cured, 25 Military/Overseas and 5 Affidavit Review Pending. The total approved absentee count was 3,241.

b. 2023 Municipal Elections – Chief Judge and Judge Substitutes

- Mr. Bowens presented the Board with staff recommendations for Chief Judge and Judge Substitutes. Following review and discussion, Dr. Weaver moved to accept the list of Chief Judge and Judge Substitutes as recommended by staff. The motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

General Discussion

- Chairwoman Baxton recognized the passing of three precinct officials.
- The Board discussed two residency challenges submitted by Jacqueline Wagstaff. Mr. Beskind moved to take no action based on guidance from State Board of Elections General Counsel Paul Cox and Numbered Memorandum 2018-07 as the challenges were based on a change of residency. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

Adjournment

The Board adjourned at approximately 6:52 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Beskind. The motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

s/David K. Boone
Member