

# **MEETING MINUTES**

Board of Elections Meeting Tuesday, October 31, 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: Member James P. Weaver, Member Pamela A. Oxendine, and Member David K. Boone

**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**

In the absence of Chairwoman Baxton, Mrs. Oxendine called the meeting to order at approximately 5:30 p.m. at the Durham County Board of Elections Warehouse (2445 S. Alston Ave, Durham, NC 27713). Chairwoman Baxton and Member Donald Beskind was not present for this meeting.

# 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, 3-0.

# Public Comment

No comments were provided.

#### New Business

# a. Review of absentee-By-Mail Ballots

- Mr. Bowens presented the Board with 1,964 One-Stop, 61 Civilian, 32 Military/Overseas duplicated, 1 Overseas Accepted-Cured duplicated ballots and applications for review and approval. Following discussion and physical review, Mr. Boone moved to accept a total of 2,058 ballots and applications per the recommendation of staff. Mr. Boone also moved to allow staff to open 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 carried unanimously, 3-0.
- Mr. Bowens presented the Board with 11 Civilian Affidavit Review Pending, 3 Civilian Pending and 2 Witness Information Incomplete ballots and applications for review. Two of the civilian pending ballots and applications were found to have the photo ID exception forms placed inside of the ballot envelope instead of the plastic sleeve. The 1 remaining ballot and application was received with the ballot, executed ballot envelope, and photocopy of the photo ID sealed inside of the outer return

ballot envelope. Following discussion, Dr. Weaver moved to allow staff to open 2 Civilian ballots and applications for the Board to conduct a physical review. Following physical review of the 3 pending and 11 Civilian Affidavit Review Pending ballots, Dr. Weaver moved to accept the 3 pending and 11 Civilian Affidavit Review Pending ballots and applications per the recommendation of staff. The motion carried unanimously, 3-0. Mr. Boone moved to disapprove the 2 Witness Information Incomplete ballots and applications. The motion passed unanimously, 3-0.

 Following the motions for the 3 pending, 11 Affidavit Review Pending and 2 Witness Information Incomplete ballots and applications, the approved absentee counts for the October 31, 2023, meeting was 1,964 One-Stop, 64 Civilian, 32 Military/Overseas duplicated, 1 Overseas Accepted-Cured duplicated, and 11 Affidavit Review Pending ballots and applications. The total approved absentee count was 2,072.

# General Discussion

There was no general discussion.

# <u>Adjournment</u>

The Board adjourned at approximately 6:40 p.m. on a motion made by Dr. Weaver. The motion carried unanimously, 3-0.

<u>s/David K. Boone</u> Member