

# **MEETING MINUTES**

Board of Elections Meeting Friday, November 17, 2023 11:00 A.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, Member Donald H. Beskind, and Member David K. Boone

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

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 11:00 a.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, 5-0. Mrs. Oxendine attended via Zoom.

### **Public Comment**

Two public comments were provided in-person and addressed by Mr. Bowens.

# **New Business**

#### a. Absentee Challenge Hearing

Mr. Bowens was sworn in by Chairwoman Baxton preceding the presentation of evidence for the challenge to the one-stop ballot for Mr. Dillon Kimmel. Mr. Kimmel was issued the wrong ballot style when he presented to vote at a one-stop site for the 2023 Municipal General Election. After voting and leaving the one-stop site, Mr. Kimmel realized that he voted the wrong ballot style and returned to the site for resolution. He was allowed to cast a provisional ballot of the correct style. Mr. Boone moved to sustain the challenge to his original ballot and to count Mr. Kimmel's provisional ballot. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0. The votes from Mr. Kimmel's one-stop ballot will be deducted from the election day counts and his provisional ballot will be counted.

## b. Review of Pending Provisional Ballots

• The only pending provisional ballot was that of Mr. Dillon Kimmel, whose ballot was accepted following the challenge hearing. After the addition of Mr. Kimmel's provisional ballot, the final accepted provisional ballot count for the 2023 Municipal General Election was 288.

#### c. Review of Post-Election Audit Report

 Mr. Bowens presented the Board with a Post-Election Audit report for review. The report includes statistics for each reporting group (Absentee, Provisional, One-Stop and Election Day). For the 2023 Municipal General Election, voter history was one over when compared against total ballots cast.
Mr. Bowens provided an explanation of the discrepancies. This item did not require a motion.

## d. Canvass of the 2023 Municipal General Election

 Mr. Bowens presented the Board with a request to finalize canvass for the November 7, 2023, Municipal General Election. The Board executed all required documentation prior to reviewing the consolidated results for certification. Following review of Canvass documents, Dr. Weaver moved to approve the certification of the November 7, 2023, Municipal General Election. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

# e. Approval of the 2024 Statewide Primary and Election Early Voting Plan

 Mr. Bowens presented the Board with the staff proposed 2024 Statewide Primary and Election One-Stop Voting Plan. Following discussion and review, Mr. Beskind moved to approve the 2024 Statewide Primary and Election Early voting plan as recommended by staff. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

## **General Discussion**

There was no general discussion.

### <u>Adjournment</u>

The Board adjourned at approximately 12:05 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Beskind. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

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