



MEETING MINUTES

Board of Elections Meeting
Friday, March 15, 2024
11:00 A.M.

Board Members:

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

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

Board Staff Present: Elections Director Derek Bowens, Deputy Director Brenda Baker, Voter Services Manager Daniel Lassiter, 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 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 approved the agenda as submitted by staff. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

Public Comment

No comments were provided in the chat function or in-person.

New Business

a. Review of Provisional Ballots

- There were no pending provisional ballots following the 3/15 Pre-Canvass meeting. The final accepted provisional ballot count for the 2024 Statewide Primary and Election was 353.

b. Early Voting Ballot Challenge Hearings

- **Antar McCormick:** A challenge was entered on Election Day to the early voting ballot of Mr. Antar McCormick due to him being convicted of a felony conviction as reported by the State Board of Elections. Following discussion and review of provided documentation, Mr. Beskind moved to overrule the challenge due to lack of evidence affirming that Mr. McCormick was still in an active felony status. The motion carried, 3-0. Chairwoman Baxton, Mrs. Oxendine, and Mr. Beskind were in favor of overruling the challenge. Mr. Boone and Dr. Weaver abstained. Mr. McCormick's cast ballot will be reflected in the early voting totals.

- **Joshua Adell:** A challenge was entered on Election Day to the early voting ballot of Mr. Joshua Adell due to the person voting Mr. Adell's ballot not being who he or she represented himself or herself to be. During the post-election audit and review, staff concluded that a voter with a similar name voted under Mr. Adell's registration during the early voting period. The incorrect voter could not be identified; therefore, staff could not notify them of the challenge. Following discussion, Mr. Beskind moved to sustain the challenge to Mr. Adell's early voting ballot. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0. Mr. Adell's provisional ballot was counted.
- **Camden Ross:** A challenge was entered on Election Day to the early voting ballot of Mr. Camden Ross due to him voting in the incorrect party primary based on his existing registration. Following discussion, Mr. Beskind moved to partially sustain the challenge to Mr. Ross' ballot. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0. Mr. Ross' ballot will be partially counted for contests that he would have been eligible to vote for had he received the correct ballot style.
- **Jakory Johnson Jones:** A challenge was entered on Election Day to the early voting ballot of Mr. Johnson Jones due to him voting in the incorrect party primary based on his existing registration. Following discussion, Mr. Beskind moved to partially sustain the challenge to Mr. Johnson Jones' ballot. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0. Mr. Johnson Jones' ballot will be partially counted for contests that he would have been eligible to vote for had he received the correct ballot style.
- Orders will be prepared by Senior Assistant County Attorney Bettyna Abney that will provide details of the hearing proceedings and finding of facts.

c. Review of Post-Election Audit Report

- Mr. Bowens presented the Board with a Post-Election Audit report for the 2024 Statewide Primary and Election for review. Following review of the Post-Election Audit Report, Mr. Bowens requested the Board to authorize staff to pull ballots and remove votes for three early voters due to returned verification card mailings consistent with NCGS §163-82.6B. Following discussion, Mr. Boone moved to allow staff to retrieve the ballots and remove votes for the three early voters. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0. For the 2024 Statewide Primary and Election, ballots cast was one over when compared to voter history.
- Mr. Bowens also presented the Board with the final write-in results for the 2024 Statewide Primary and Election. In total, there were 2,208 write-in ballots cast.

d. Canvass of the 2024 Statewide Primary and Election

- Mr. Bowens presented the Board with a request to finalize canvass for the March 5th, 2024, Statewide Primary and 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 March 5th, 2024, Statewide Primary and Election. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0. The Board signed three Official Canvass Abstracts.

e. Approval of the 2024 Statewide Republican Second Primary Early Voting Plan

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

General Discussion

Mr. Bowens provided the Board with an update on the May 14, 2024, Statewide Republican Second Primary Election, Upcoming Board Meetings and Pending Minutes.

Following discussion on Board meeting dates, Mr. Beskind moved to cancel regular Board meeting dates for April 11, 2024, and May 9, 2024. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

Adjournment

The Board adjourned at approximately 12:44 p.m. on a motion made by Mrs. Oxendine. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

s/David K. Boone
Secretary