



DURHAM COUNTY Board of Elections

DURHAM COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Minutes of Board Meeting

Tuesday, September 19, 2017, 5:00 p.m.

Members present

Chairman Bill Brian

Secretary Dawn Baxton

Member Margaret Griffin

Staff present

Elections Director Derek Bowens

Deputy Director George McCue

Election Administrator Rose Wolf

County attorney present: Senior Assistant County Attorney Willie Darby

Audience members present: See attendance sheet

Introductory matters

Chairman Brian called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. In case the meeting ran long, Chairman Brian proposed rearranging the order of the agenda to move the closed session up to after the Director's Report. The Board approved the meeting agenda as modified on a motion made by Ms. Griffin, seconded by Secretary Baxton, and passing 3-0.

The Board reviewed minutes from its last meeting on September 14, 2017. Ms. Griffin moved to approve the minutes. Secretary Baxton seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Director's report

Mr. Bowens provided a brief demonstration of databases he had engineered to electronically track computer inventory and ballot stock supplies.

Closed session

Ms. Griffin moved for the Board to go into closed session for authorized purposes pursuant to GEN. STAT. 143-318.11(a)(3) relating to potential litigation and 143-318.11 (a)(1) and (a)(6) to discuss personnel matters. Secretary Baxton seconded that motion, which passed 3-0. The Board began its closed session at approximately 5:10 p.m.

Upon returning to open session at 5:40 p.m., Chairman Brian reported that the Board had instructed staff on certain matters and took no action requiring announcement in open session.

Old business: Memorandum of Understanding with Durham County administration

Director Bowens reported that this document was in the hands of Human Resources Director Kathy Everett-Perry and County Attorney Lowell Siler.

New business

Review of absentee ballots

The Board reviewed 7 returned absentee ballot applications that had been submitted in time for this meeting. Ms. Griffin moved to approve all applications. The motion was seconded by Secretary Baxton and passed 3-0. Director Bowens informed the Board that preliminary steps to process the ballots, including replication on machine-readable ballots where necessary, and tallying of ballot counts (not results), would be performed by staff.

Kid's voting simulation

Mr. Bowens informed the Board of proposal to conduct a simulated voting event for children at certain voting sites as allowed by law. Ms. Griffin moved to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded by Secretary Baxton and passed 3-0.

Election judge substitutions

Mr. Bowens provided the Board with a list of needed substitutions of chief judge and election judge positions. Mr. Bowens noted that these substitutions would only be in effect for the upcoming October municipal election. Board members inquired whether these substitutions were based on party recommendations. Mr. Bowens affirmed. Ms. Griffin moved to approve the list. The motion was seconded by Secretary Baxton and passed 3-0.

Public comment and questions; general discussion; adjournment

Mr. Bowens announced the fact that early voting would begin on Thursday, September 21. The Board adjourned at 5:54 p.m. on a motion from Ms. Griffin, which was seconded by Secretary Baxton and passed 3-0.



Dawn Baxton, Secretary