

# **DURHAM COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

# Minutes of Board Meeting

Monday, April 2, 2018, 10:00 a.m.

### Members present

Dawn Baxton, Chair Michael Gray, Vice Chair Philip Lehman, Secretary Luke Farley

## Staff present

Elections Director Derek Bowens Deputy Director George McCue Deputy Director Samuel Gedman

**Audience members present:** Marilyn Flanary, Karen Gray, Brian Gray, Susan Pochapsky, Shirley Ellis, Bruce Mitchell, and Colin Duffy

#### Introductory matters

Mr. Bowens called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **New business**

Oath ceremony for new members, 2017-2019 term

Board Members' oaths were administered by Superior Court Judge Andrew Heath.

#### Election of officers

Mr. Bowens provided information on the election of officers according to law and the guidance of the State Board of Elections and Ethics Enforcement. According to this guidance, the Chair of the County Board of Elections for the immediate future would be a Democratic Party appointee, while the Vice Chair of the County Board of Elections would be a Republican Party appointee. Current officers would remain in those positions until the Board's first meeting in July 2018, at which time the Board would elect officers with a Chair being a Republican Party appointee and the Vice Chair being a Democratic appointee.

Mr. Gray moved to appoint Dawn Baxton as Chair. Mr. Lehman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Lehman moved to appoint Mr. Gray as Vice Chair. Mr. Farley seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Farley moved to appoint Mr. Lehman as Secretary. Mr. Gray seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

## Board meeting schedule

The Board discussed the current schedule and standing tradition of holding regular meetings on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 5:00 p.m. Following discussion, the Board decided to hold regular meetings monthly, on the second Thursday each month at 5:00 PM. This modified schedule was adopted on a motion by Mr. Lehman, seconded by Vice Chair Gray, and passing unanimously.

## **Duties of Director of Elections**

The Board discussed duties of the Director of Elections. Mr. Farley moved to adopt the existing duties as set out by the past Board of Elections. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lehman and passed unanimously.

# Memorandum of Understanding with the Administration of Durham County

The Board discussed duties of an existing Memorandum of Understanding made between the Durham County Board of Elections and the Administration of Durham County's government. Vice Chair Gray moved to adopt the existing duties as set out by the past Board of Elections. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lehman and passed unanimously.

# General discussion; public comments

Mr. Lehman provided remarks of appreciation toward the prior Board of Elections. Mr. Farley suggested a resolution of appreciation would be appropriate, and Mr. Bowens noted he would prepare a resolution for the Board.

Members of the public were invited for comment but none were given.

## Adjournment

The Board adjourned at approximately 10:30 a.m.

Philip Lehman, Secretary