



# DURHAM COUNTY Board of Elections

## DURHAM COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

### Minutes of Board Meeting

Thursday, April 12, 2018, 5:00 p.m.

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#### Members present

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

#### Staff present

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

**Audience member present:** Susan Pochapsky

#### Meeting opening

Chairwoman Baxton called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Farley moved to adopt the agenda as prepared by staff. The motion was seconded by Secretary Lehman and passed 4-0.

The Board reviewed draft minutes of the previous meeting held on April 2, 2018. Secretary Lehman moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Gray and passed 4-0.

#### Director's report

Mr. Bowens provided updates on voter registration list maintenance, finances, legislation, litigation, and voting machine testing ("logic and accuracy testing"). During discussion on finances, Mr. Bowens noted that he planned to adjust plans for the purchase of new voting equipment to request additional machines. Upon request by Secretary Lehman, Mr. Bowens provided additional detail on the process of budget approval by County Administration. The Board agreed that this should continue to be a function delegated to the Director.

Regarding orientation of new Board Members, Mr. Bowens noted that he will send out possible dates for orientation sessions.

Mr. Bowens reported that removed chief judge Douglas Register had appealed his removal to the Bipartisan State Board of Elections & Ethics Enforcement.

Mr. Bowens also provided an update on preparation for the May Primary/Election and noted that election worker training materials would soon be distributed.

#### **New business: Chief judge and judge substitution appointments**

At the recommendation of staff (and based upon party input), the Board considered the substitution appointment of 35 election workers in the position of chief judge and judge in order to fill vacancies. The Board agreed that the replacements would be effective only for the May 2018 Primary/Election. Mr. Farley moved to approve the list of appointments. Vice Chairman Gray seconded the motion, which passed 4-0.

#### **Public comment and questions**

Ms. Pochapsky provided some input on making the new early voting site locator tool easier to access. Staff responded that they would work to feature it more prominently on the front page of the department website.

#### **General discussion**

The Board discussed aspects of curbside voting.

#### **Adjournment**

The Board adjourned at approximately 6:10 p.m.



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Philip Lehman, Secretary