



DURHAM COUNTY Board of Elections

DURHAM COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Minutes of Board Meeting

Thursday, November 15, 2018, 2:00 p.m.

Members present

Chairman Luke Farley
Vice Chairman Philip Lehman
Member Pamela Oxendine
Member Michael Gray

Staff present

Elections Director Derek Bowens
Deputy Director Samuel Gedman
Elections Manager Daniel Lassiter
Elections Administrator Rose Wolf
Elections Training Specialist Erin Lewandowski
Elections Specialist Rebecca Troedsson

County attorney present: Yes

Audience members present: See attendance sheet

Meeting opening

Chairman Farley called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Lehman moved to approve the agenda. The motion was passed 4-0.

New Business

Sample audit count

The Board approved staff to begin processes for a hand-count audit of randomly-selected samples (Precinct 46 and Precinct 25) using bipartisan teams of staff. The approval came by motion of Mr. Lehman and passed 4-0.

Review and count of supplemental absentee ballots

The Board reviewed 1264 absentee ballot applications. Staff recommended approval of 1142 of the submitted applications. 122 of the applications were recommended for disapproval. Following discussion, Secretary Lehman moved to accept the recommendation of staff. This motion was seconded by Mr. Gray, which passed 4-0.

Mr. Gray moved to permit staff to begin the counting of supplemental absentee ballots under a previously passed resolution. This motion was seconded by Mr. Lehman and passed 4-0.

Review and count of provisional ballots

Staff presented a group of 1530 provisional ballot applications to the Board along with its recommended disposition of each following research. Staff presented a disposition report showing the recommended disposition and findings of staff research. In total, 625 applications were recommended for full and/or partial approval, 904 were not recommended for approval, and 1 remained pending status. Mr. Bowens also informed the Board that manual edits would be required to account for provisional ballots that were entered erroneously into tabulators on Election Day and during early voting.

Mr. Bowens reviewed in detail the research methods that were utilized by staff to assist in making the recommended dispositions. Mr. Bowens also informed the Board that the State Board of Elections and Ethics Enforcement will release an audit of provisional ballots on canvass day, which may change some of the recommended provisional dispositions. Following discussion, Mr. Gray moved to accept the recommendation of staff, which included further research on the ballot application in pending status. This motion was seconded by Ms. Oxendine and passed 4-0.

Per a previously passed resolution, Chairman Farley directed staff to begin the counting of approved and partial provisional ballots (this entailed ballot replication by a bipartisan team of ballots eligible for partial count and/or machine rejected).

General Discussion

The board presented questions to Director Bowens on substantive issues surrounding the canvass process.

Public comment and questions

No public comments were provided.

Recess

At approximately 4:30 p.m., on a motion by Mr. Gray, seconded by Vice Chairman Lehman, the Board went into recess. Board representation from both political parties was present during the counting process.

Adjournment

At 10:55 a.m. on November 16, 2018, Vice Chairman Lehman moved to close the November 15, 2018 meeting. This motion was seconded by Mr. Gray and passed 4-0.



Philip Lehman

Philip Lehman, Secretary