

DURHAM COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Minutes of Board Meeting

Thursday, December 12, 2019 5:00 P.M.

Members present

Phil Lehman, Chairman Michael Gray, Member Pamela Oxendine, Member Luke Farley, Secretary Dawn Baxton, Member

Staff present

Derek Bowens, Elections Director Brenda Baker, Deputy Director

County officials present: Willie Darby, County Attorney

Audience members present: See attendance sheet

Meeting opening

Chairman Lehman called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Bowens presented the Board with the agenda for the meeting. Ms. Oxendine moved to approve the agenda. Ms. Baxton seconded, and the motion was approved, 4-0. Mr. Farley was not present for this motion.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Bowens presented the Board with minutes from 10/29, 11/4, 11/5, 11/14, 11/15 and 11/21. Following review, Mr. Lehman made a motion to approve the minutes and all approved, 4-0. The Board also decided that all Absentee minutes from the October Municipal Primary and November Municipal General Election should be amended to reflect that ballots were approved only by members who were present (in-person). Mr. Lehman made a motion for the Absentee minutes to be amended. The motion passed, 4-0. Mr. Farley was not present for either motion made for the approval of minutes.

Director's Report

Mr. Bowens presented the Board with updates on List Maintenance, Financials, Legislation/Litigation and 2020 Outreach Initiatives.

New Business

- a. 2020 Primary Election Absentee One-stop Voting Plan
 - Mr. Gray made a motion to accept the Absentee One-stop Voting Plan. Mr. Lehman seconded, and the motion was approved, 4-0. Mr. Farley abstained, therefore the vote was not unanimous. The Absentee One-Stop Voting Plan will go before the State Board of Elections for approval.
- b. Adoption of Board Meeting Schedule
 - Ms. Oxendine made a motion to accept the 2020 meeting schedule and all approved,
 5-0.
- c. Resolution to Adopt a Polling Place Change for Precincts 16 and 19
 - Mr. Gray made a motion to adopt a Polling Place change for Precinct 16. Ms. Oxendine seconded, and the motion was approved 5-0.
 - The motion to adopt a Polling Place change for Precinct 19 was tabled for staff to conduct further research.

Public Comment

Several members of the public made comments and asked questions regarding polling place changes, the One-Stop Absentee Voting Plan and Photo ID. Mr. Bowens and the Board provided comments and answers as necessary.

General Discussion

Mr. Bowens informed the Board and the public that Candidate filing is under way and going well. Mr. Farley announced his resignation and informed the Board that he will continue to serve as Secretary to the Board until the end of the month.

Closed Session

The Board went into closed session at 6:23 p.m. and returned to regular session at 6:36 p.m.

Adjournment

The Board adjourned at approximately 6:38 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Lehman. The motion was approved and passed, 5-0.

Secretary

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