



DURHAM COUNTY Board of Elections

DURHAM COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Minutes of Board Meeting

Tuesday, October 20, 2020 5:00 P.M.

Members Present

Phil Lehman, Chairman
Michael Gray, Secretary
Pamela Oxendine, Member
Gregory, Irby, Member
Dawn Baxton, Member

Staff Present

Derek Bowens, Elections Director
Brenda Baker, Deputy Director
Alan Resley, Absentee Coordinator
James Graves, Elections Systems Specialist
David Beuttel, Elections Logistics Manager
Rebecca Troedsson, Elections Specialist
Daniel Lassiter, Elections Manager

County Officials Present: Willie Darby, County Attorney

Audience Members Present: See attendance log.

Meeting opening

Chairman Lehman called the meeting to order at 5:12 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Bowens presented the Board with the agenda for the meeting. Following review, Ms. Baxton moved to approve the agenda and all approved, 5-0.

Public Comment and Questions

Comments and questions were made by members of the public via the public comment portal and in-person.

New Business

a. Review of Absentee-By-Mail Ballots

- Consistent with Numbered Memorandum 2020-25, Mr. Bowens requested that the Board agree to random spot checking of absentee ballot applications recommended for approval by staff in lieu of reviewing each individual envelope. The Board agreed unanimously to each review at least 50 randomly selected applications of absentee-by-mail ballots recommended for approval.
- After discussion and a random physical review of the absentee ballot applications, Ms. Baxton moved to approve a total of 2885 civilian and military/overseas absentee applications and ballots received by mail per the recommendation of staff. The motion was approved by all, 5-0.
- Ms. Baxton moved to authorize staff to open approved absentee-by-mail envelopes and begin the optical scanning process authorized under NCGS 163-234(3) and Numbered Memorandum 2020-25. The motion was approved by all, 5-0.
- Following review of duplicated military/overseas ballots consistent with Board policy (BOE-001), Ms. Baxton moved to approve 85 duplicated military/overseas ballots. The motion was approved by all, 5-0.
- Staff opened and scanned all approved absentee-by-mail ballots.
- Mr. Bowens presented the Board with a review of all Pending/Held Absentee Ballots. Following review, Mr. Irby made a motion to reject 235 ballots with a status of Witness Information Incomplete and instructed staff to spoil and reissue those ballots. The motion was approved by all, 5-0.
- Mr. Bowens presented the board with a review of One-Stop voting. After discussion, Mrs. Oxendine moved to approve 37,200 One-Stop applications. Ms. Baxton seconded, and motion was approved by all, 5-0.

General Discussion

Mr. Bowens presented the Board with updates on One-Stop voting. Ms. Baxton suggested the deployment of porta potties to all One-Stop sites.

Closed Session

Chairman Lehman moved for the Board to meet in closed session as allowed under N.C. Gen. Stat. §§ 143-318.11(a)(1) and 143-318.11(a)(7). The Board met in closed session from approximately 7:08 p.m. to 7:38 p.m. At the end of the closed session, the Board returned to open session.

Adjournment

The Board adjourned at approximately 7:46 p.m. on a motion made by Ms. Oxendine. The motion was approved by all, 5-0.

Michael H. Gray

Michael H. Gray Secretary