



MEETING MINUTES

Board of Elections Meeting
Tuesday, April 30, 2024
5:30 P.M.

Board Members:

Dawn Y. Baxton, Chairwoman
David K. Boone, Secretary
James P. Weaver, Member
Pamela A. Oxendine, Member
Donald H. Beskind, Member

Board Members Present: Chairwoman Dawn Y. Baxton, Member Pamela A. Oxendine, Member James P. Weaver, Member Donald H. Beskind and Secretary David K. Boone

Board Staff Present: Elections Director Derek Bowens, Deputy Director Brenda Baker, Voter Services Manager Daniel Lassiter, Systems Specialist Julius Richards, and Absentee Coordinator Alan Resley

Guests in Attendance: Chief Human Resources Officer/Employment Counsel Kathy Everett-Perry and Senior Assistant County Attorney Bettyna Abney

Meeting Type: In-Person and Zoom

Meeting Opening

Chairwoman Baxton called the meeting to order at approximately 5:35 p.m. at the Durham County Board of Elections Warehouse (2445 S. Alston Ave, Durham, NC 27713) and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Bowens presented the Board with a request to approve the agenda for the meeting. Following review, Dr. Weaver moved to approve the agenda as submitted by staff. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Bowens presented the Board with minutes from the 4/23 Board meeting. Following review, Mrs. Oxendine moved to approve the minutes as submitted by staff. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

Public Comment

Fourteen comments were provided in the public comment portal regarding the 2024 Statewide General Election Early Voting Plan and summarized by Mr. Bowens. Two comments were provided in-person and addressed by Mr. Bowens.

New Business

a. Adoption of 2024 Statewide General Election Early Voting Plan

- Mr. Bowens presented the Board with the staff proposed 2024 Statewide General Election Early Voting Plan. Following discussion and review, Mr. Boone moved to adopt the 2024 Statewide General Election Early Voting Plan as recommended by staff. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0. The plan was adopted with 12 sites and voting enclosures to be determined for Durham Technical Community College and Southern High School.

b. Adoption of Revised Board Meeting Schedule

- Mr. Bowens presented the Board with a revised regular Board meeting schedule to account for the 2024 Statewide Republican Second Primary Election. Following discussion and review, Mr. Beskind moved to adopt the revised regular Board meeting schedule as presented. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

c. Resolution to Adopt a Time for Counting Absentee Ballots

- Mr. Bowens presented the Board with a Resolution to Adopt a Time for Counting Absentee Ballots as per N.C. Gen. Stat. § 163-234(a)(2) and (11). Following discussion, Mr. Beskind moved to adopt the resolution as presented by staff. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0. The resolution will be executed by Chairwoman Baxton. Pursuant to the resolution, the Board will meet at 5:00 p.m. on Election Day, May 14, 2024, to count approved absentee ballots and again on May 23, 2024, to address supplemental absentee by-mail ballots and provisional ballots.

d. Review of Absentee By-Mail Ballots

- Mr. Bowens presented the Board with a total of 9 absentee ballots and applications recommended for approval, for review. Following physical review and discussion, Dr. Weaver moved to approve a total of 9 ballots and applications as recommended by staff. Dr. Weaver also moved to allow staff to open and scan all approved absentee ballots as preparatory steps prior to the count on Election Day in accordance with NCGS 163-234(2) and (3). The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.
- The total approved absentee counts for the April 30, 2024, meeting was 9 Civilian ballots and applications. The total approved count was 9.

General Discussion

Mr. Bowens provided the Board with an update on early voting statistics and shared information on a new process for tracking election officials transporting sensitive materials to and from the Board of Elections with the use of GPS Trackers. The new process will provide transparency for the Board and the public.

Closed Session

The Board entered closed session under N.C.G.S §§ 143-318.11(a)(1) and 143-318.11(a)(6) at approximately 6:12 p.m. to discuss personnel matters. The Board returned to open session at approximately 6:26 p.m. in accordance with N.C. Gen. Stat. §143-318.10(d) to conduct business remaining before the Board.

Adjournment

The Board adjourned at approximately 6:29 p.m. on a motion made by Dr. Weaver. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

s/David K. Boone
Secretary