



MEETING MINUTES

Board of Elections Meeting
Tuesday, July 9, 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 L. Bowens, Deputy Director Brenda Baker, Voter Services Manager Daniel Lassiter, Systems Specialist Julius Richards and Absentee Coordinator Alan Resley

Guests in Attendance: See attendance sheet

Meeting Type: In-Person and Zoom

Meeting Opening

Chairwoman Baxton called the meeting to order at approximately 5:30 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, Mrs. Oxendine moved to approve the agenda as submitted by staff. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

Public Comment

No comments were provided.

New Business

a. Signature Verification Pilot (Tier 2 Review)

- Mr. Bowens informed the Board that staff scanned 894 absentee by-mail ballot envelopes through the signature verification software provided by the State Board of Elections. Of the 894 scanned envelopes, 829 were either accepted as valid matches by the signature verification software or deemed valid per SBE Numbered Memorandum 2024-04 and were not subject to Tier 2 evaluation.
- Mr. Bowens presented the Board with 65 ballots that were subject to Tier 2 review under SBE Numbered Memorandum 2024-04. Following discussion and review, Mr. Beskind moved to accept the signatures for 58 of the Tier 2 ballots using guidance provided by the State Board of Elections. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0. The Board reviewed the remaining 7 ballots individually.

- **Ballot Envelope 1** - Mr. Beskind moved to reject Ballot Envelope 1 due to no matching signatures. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.
 - **Ballot Envelope 2** - Mr. Beskind moved to reject Ballot Envelope 2 due to no matching signatures. The motion passed, 3-2, with Chairwoman Baxton and Dr. Weaver dissenting.
 - **Ballot Envelope 3** - Mr. Beskind moved to accept Ballot Envelope 3. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.
 - **Ballot Envelope 4** - Mrs. Oxendine moved to accept Ballot Envelope 4. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.
 - **Ballot Envelope 5** - Mrs. Oxendine moved to accept Ballot Envelope 5. The motion passed, 4-1, with Mr. Boone dissenting.
 - **Ballot Envelope 6** - Mr. Boone moved to accept Ballot Envelope 6. The motion passed, 3-2, with Dr. Weaver and Mr. Beskind dissenting.
 - **Ballot Envelope 7** – Mrs. Oxendine moved to accept Ballot Envelope 7. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.
- In total, the Board accepted five absentee ballot envelopes and rejected two during Tier 2 review of the Signature Verification Pilot.

General Discussion

Mr. Bowens provided the Board with an update on canceling the meeting scheduled for Thursday, July 11, 2024.

Ask the Board

One comment was provided in-person and addressed by Mr. Bowens.

Adjournment

The Board adjourned at approximately 7:11 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Boone. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

s/David K. Boone
Secretary