



MEETING MINUTES

Board of Elections Meeting
Thursday, November 14, 2024
2:00 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, 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 2:00 p.m. at the Durham County Board of Elections Office (3825 S. Roxboro St. Suite 101 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, Mr. Beskind moved to approve the agenda as submitted by staff. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

Public Comment

One comment was provided in the public comment portal and addressed by Mr. Bowens.

New Business

a. Sample Audit Count (Precincts 25 and 53-2)

- Mr. Bowens presented the Board with a request for staff to conduct the sample audit count for Precincts 25 and 53-2, using bi-partisan teams, for the 2024 Statewide General Election in accordance with N.C. Gen. Stat. §163-182.2(a)(2). Mr. Boone moved to authorize staff to proceed with the sample audit count. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

b. Counting of Write-In Ballots

- Mr. Bowens presented the Board with a request to authorize bi-partisan teams to count 3,047 write-in votes for the 2024 Statewide General Election. Following discussion and review, Dr. Weaver moved to authorize staff to proceed with counting write-in votes for the 2024 Statewide General Election. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

c. Review and Counting of Provisional Ballots

- Mr. Bowens presented the Board with a provisional statistics report of 642 Approved, 261 Partial and 1,484 Not Approved. Following discussion, Mrs. Oxendine moved to accept the provisional disposition recommendations presented by staff as reflected in the provisional statistics report. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0. As authorized by the Board, staff counted all approved and partial provisional ballots. Following the count, Board members signed the provisional ballot results tapes.

d. Review and Counting of Supplemental Absentee Ballots

- Prior to the review of absentee by-mail ballots and applications, Mr. Bowens explained that due to the high volume, the Board may consider reviewing a sample of returned ballots and applications and all Military/Overseas duplicated ballots recommended for approval, in accordance with SBE Numbered Memorandum 2020-25. The Board unanimously agreed to review a sample of 50 returned ballots and applications, and all Military/Overseas duplicated ballots recommended for approval. Ballots that were in an Accepted-Cured status were included in the sample review.
- Mr. Bowens presented the Board with 33 Pending applications and ballots where the Photo ID Exception Form or copy of the photo ID was inside of the ballot envelope. Following discussion, Mr. Boone moved for staff to open the return envelopes and retrieve the Photo ID Exception Form or copy of a valid photo ID for evaluation. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

Following review and discussion of the 33 Pending applications and ballots:

- Mr. Boone moved to Accept 32 of the 33 Pending applications and ballots as recommended by staff. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.
- Mr. Beskind moved to update the status for 1 of the 33 Pending applications and ballots to spoiled, since the voter voted during the early voting period. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.
- Following physical review and discussion, Mr. Boone moved to approve a total of 1,401 applications and ballots as recommended by staff. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.
- Mr. Bowens presented the Board with 43 Witness Information Incomplete applications and ballots for review. Following physical review and discussion, Dr. Weaver moved to disapprove the 43 Witness Information Incomplete applications and ballots as recommended by staff. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.
- Mr. Bowens presented the Board with 162 applications and ballots returned after the statutory deadline of 7:30 p.m. on Election Day. Following discussion, Mrs. Oxendine moved to disapprove the 162 applications and ballots returned after the statutory deadline of 7:30 p.m. on Election Day as recommended by staff. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.
- Mr. Bowens presented the Board with 41 Civilian Pending Cure, 2 Overseas Pending Cure and 1 Military Pending Cure applications and ballots for review. The 44 applications and ballots did not require action from the Board.
- The total approved absentee counts for the October 15, 2024, meeting was 810 Civilian, 280 Affidavit Review Pending, 39 Civilian Accepted-Cured, 32 Pending, and 237 Military/Overseas

Duplicated and 3 Military/Overseas Accepted-Cured Duplicated applications and ballots. The total approved count was 1,401. As authorized by the Board, staff counted the approved supplemental absentee ballots. Following the count, Board members signed the supplemental absentee ballots results tapes.

General Discussion

Mr. Bowens provided an update on agenda topics for the 11/15 Canvass meeting, which includes challenge hearings, post-election audit review and the signing of Canvass abstracts.

Adjournment

The Board adjourned at approximately 10:07 p.m. on a motion made by Mr. Boone. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

s/David K. Boone
Secretary