



MEETING MINUTES

Board of Elections Meeting
Tuesday, February 24, 2026
5:30 P.M.

Board Members:

David K. Boone, Chairman
Pamela A. Oxendine, Secretary
Dawn Y. Baxton, Member
Natalie Beauchaine, Member
James P. Weaver, Member

Board Members Present: Member Pamela A. Oxendine, Member James P. Weaver, Member Natalie Beauchaine and Member Dawn Baxton

Board Staff Present: Elections Director Derek L. Bowens, Deputy Director Brenda Baker, Election Services Manager Julius Richards and Ballot Processing and Audit Manager Adam Byrnes

Guests in Attendance: See attendance sheet

Meeting Type: In-Person

Meeting Opening

In the absence of Chairman Boone, Dr. Weaver called the meeting to order at approximately 5:30 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, Ms. Baxton moved to approve the agenda as submitted by staff. The motion carried unanimously amongst members present, 4-0.

New Business

a. Review of Absentee By-Mail Ballots

- Mr. Bowens presented the Board with 151 absentee ballots and applications recommended for approval, for review. Following discussion and physical review, Mrs. Beauchaine moved to approve a total of 151 ballots and applications per the recommendation of staff. Mrs. Beauchaine 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 amongst members present, 4-0.
- Mr. Bowens presented the Board with 1 Civilian Pending application and ballot where a copy of the Photo ID was inside of the ballot envelope. Following discussion, Mrs. Oxendine moved for staff to open the ballot envelope and retrieve the Photo ID for evaluation. The motion passed amongst members present, 3-1, with Dr. Weaver dissenting. Following review, Mrs. Beauchaine moved to accept the 1 application and ballot as recommended by staff. The motion passed unanimously amongst members present, 4-0.

- Mr. Bowens presented the Board with 1 Witness Information Incomplete application and ballot for review. Following review and discussion, Ms. Baxton moved to disapprove the 1 Witness Information Incomplete application and ballot per the recommendation of staff. The motion passed unanimously amongst members present, 4-0. The voters were reissued an application and ballot per State Board of Elections Numbered Memorandum 2021-03.
- The approved counts for the February 24, 2026, meeting was 110 Civilian, 8 Accepted-Exception Civilian, 2 Accepted-Cured Civilian, 2 Military/Overseas By-Mail, 2 Military/Overseas duplicated Accepted-Cured and 28 Military/Overseas duplicated applications and ballots. The total approved absentee count was 152.

General Discussion

Mr. Bowens provided an update on the upcoming Board meetings scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on March 2, 2026, and 2:00 p.m. on March 3, 2026. He also shared updates on early voting turnout, the Voter Experience Dashboard, staff training, the Modernization of Election Data Systems (MEDS) Commission, and a threat incident that occurred at the Main Library on February 16th.

Public Comments and Questions

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

Adjournment

The Board adjourned at approximately 6:24 p.m., on a motion made by Mrs. Oxendine. The motion carried unanimously amongst members present, 4-0.

s/Pamela A. Oxendine
Secretary