



# MEETING MINUTES

Board of Elections Meeting  
Monday, March 2, 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

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**Board Members Present:** Chairman David K. Boone, 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

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## Meeting Opening

Chairman Boone 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, 5-0.

## New Business

### a. Review of Absentee By-Mail Ballots

- Mr. Bowens presented the Board with 209 absentee ballots and applications recommended for approval, for review. Following discussion and physical review, Mrs. Beauchaine moved to approve a total of 209 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, 5-0.
- Mr. Bowens presented the Board with 3 Civilian Pending applications and ballots where a copy of the Photo ID was inside the ballot envelope. Following discussion, Mrs. Beauchaine moved for staff to open the ballot envelopes and retrieve the Photo IDs for evaluation. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0. Following review of the 3 Civilian Pending applications and ballots, Mrs. Beauchaine moved to accept the 3 applications and ballots as recommended by staff. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.
- Mr. Bowens presented the Board with 3 Witness Information Incomplete applications and ballots for review. Following review and discussion, Mrs. Beauchaine moved to disapprove the

3 Witness Information Incomplete applications and ballots per the recommendation of staff. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0. The effected voters were reissued an application and ballot per State Board of Elections Numbered Memorandum 2021-03.

- The approved counts for the March 2, 2026, meeting was 136 Civilian, 23 Accepted-Exception Civilian, 2 Accepted-Cured Civilian, 50 Military/Overseas duplicated, 1 Military/Overseas Accepted-Exception duplicated applications and ballots. The total approved absentee count was 212.

**b. Appointment of Chief Judge and Judge Substitutes**

- Mr. Bowens presented the Board with staff recommendations for Chief Judge and Judge Substitutes for the 2026 Statewide Primary and Election. Following review and discussion, Dr. Weaver moved to accept the list of 37 Chief Judge and Judge Substitutes as recommended by staff. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

**c. Appointment of 2026 Statewide Primary and Election Precinct Assistants**

- Mr. Bowens presented the Board with staff recommendations for Election Precinct Assistants for the 2026 Statewide Primary and Election. Following review and discussion, Ms. Baxton moved to accept the list of 315 Election Precinct Assistants as recommended by staff. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

**d. Approval of 2026 Statewide Primary and Election Certified List**

- Mr. Bowens presented the Board with the 2026 Statewide Primary and Election Certified List. Following review, Mrs. Oxendine moved to approve the certified lists. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0. In total, the Board approved 524 absentee ballots to be counted on Election Day.

**General Discussion**

Mr. Bowens provided an update on final early voting turnout and reported that two challenges were scheduled to be presented before the Board on Election Day. He also provided updates on the Voter Experience Dashboard, the Unvalidated DL/SSN Dashboard, early voting machine-rejected ballots that need to be counted on Election Day, and completed supply deliveries to all 58 polling places.

**Public Comments and Questions**

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

**Adjournment**

The Board adjourned at approximately 6:47 p.m., on a motion made by Mrs. Oxendine. The motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

s/Pamela A. Oxendine  
Secretary