

November 19, 2019

4:30 PM

Loretta Reynolds

WILFRED LACK

Peggy Popham

Melody Pajak

Stemont / Phonnin

Robert Jordan

DARLYNE SAHARA

Madelon Clark

Scott Clark

Barbara Gregg

John Gregg

Jeff Rose

Tobey Pierce

George Keller

George + Elaine Elam

Zaria Abdullarim

Edward Peters

Jan + Bill Jones

~~Ken + Sue~~

Melanie Curlee

Tom SURIVAN

Sheryl Schrage

Jay Yee

Glenn Michael

Phoebe Watson

Todd Page

Aida Carson

Clayton

Charles + Sherry Wain

LARRY DOBSON

Betsy Hudson

Beth Johnston

Buncombe County Board of Elections

Meeting Minutes
November 19, 2019

Opening

The scheduled meeting of the Buncombe County Board of Elections was called to order at 4:35 pm on November 19, 2019 at 77 McDowell Street, Asheville, NC 28801.

Present

Board Members-

BOE Staff-

Jake Quinn, Chairman
Elizabeth Newman, Secretary
Linda Block
Stephen G. Duncan
Jay Watson

Joyce Kanavel, Interim Director
Neggy Fox
Jennifer Sparks

Visitors-

(See attached)

Welcome of Visitors

Announcement of Interim Director

- Chairman Quinn announced Director Velez’s departure to a new position as Deputy Director for the State of North Carolina Board of Elections. The timeline for a new hire is late January, 2020, and Joyce Kanavel will serve as Interim Director.

Item One – Early Voting for March 3rd Primary Election

- Staff member Fox proposed an early voting plan for the 2020 primary. Statistics with 2020 projections, maps of previous site use, a list of prospective voting locations, and mandatory hours were presented. It was recommended that the Board select sites from these prospective locations and choose weekend hours.
- Chairman Quinn opened the Board to discussion. Secretary Newman asked for clarification on why some sites did not make the suggested list. Staff member Fox responded that these locations had low turnout. Member Block expressed concern over parking at the 50 Coxe Ave. Staff member Fox reported that street parking and meters will be reserved for voters, the bus station is across the street, and that it is anticipated that there will be walking traffic. Chairman Quinn requested that the North Asheville Library remain on the list until a new site can be found. Member Block, Member Duncan, and Chairman Quinn expressed preference for the Leicester Library over the Land of Sky location.

number requested that presentation be made available online. Audience members CA and AB Tech as possible locations. Staff member Fox explained that these are options but will be reviewed for the November General Election. Audience member expressed the preference of Leicester Library over the Land of Sky. Staff member discussed using Wesley Grant Senior Center and Bee Tree Fire Station. Member Block expressed the importance of Wesley Grant Senior Center having access for all people of color. Audience member concurred with member Block’s Statement. Chairman Quinn stated that Wesley Grant has had low attendance in the past. Because of this and the location of 50 Coxe to both the Grant center and the bus station, the Board decided Wesley Grant would not be used for early voting. The Board decided that with low attendance Bee Tree Fire Station would not be used. The Board selected the following ten (10) locations:

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Warehouse; 50 Coxe Ave | 6. North Asheville Library |
| Leicester Library | 7. South Buncombe Library |
| Leicester Library | 8. West Asheville Library |
| Leicester Library | 9. Weaverville Town Hall |
| Leicester Library | 10. Asheville Mall |

Chairman Quinn initiated discussion on weekend hours and suggested leaving early on Presidents Day Weekend (2/15/2020 and 2/16/2020). The hours of the following weekend (2/21/2020 and 2/22/2020) were proposed. Chairman Quinn called for a motion, Member Watson motioned for the selected 10 sites and the hours of 10am-6pm on 2/21/2020 and 2/22/2020 be approved. Secretary Newman seconded, and the Board unanimously approved.

Item Two – Primary for City of Asheville

Chairman Quinn reported that the City of Asheville requested a primary and that the City Attorney and county legal suggested that there is litigation risk in conducting an election. The Board discussed the pros and cons of conducting the election. The Board decided that filing would begin December 2nd. Secretary Newman suggested obtaining independent legal opinion. Member Newman motioned to set aside for further discussion at the next board meeting when more information would be available.

Item Three – Request of County Voting Systems

The Board granted approval of software upgrades and acquisition of ExpressVote ADA machines to replace AutoMark ADA machines. Staff Member Sparks noted that ExpressVote could be used for provisional voting as it has the advantage of eliminating provisional ballots.

- Chairman Quinn called for a motion. Secretary Newman motioned to approve software upgrades. Member Watson seconded, and the Board approved unanimously.
- Chairman Quinn called for a motion. Member Block motioned to approve the acquisition of ExpressVote machines. Member Watson seconded, and the Board approved unanimously and signed the SBOEs Request for Replacement of Buncombe County's Voting System

Old Business

Item Four – Update: Precinct Lines and NC House and Senate Districts

- Interim Director Kanavel reported that the State Board has notified staff that the data for the new Legislative districts (NC House and Senate) should be delivered this week.

New Business

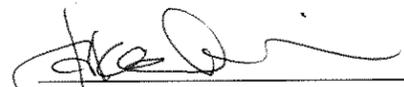
Item Five – Draft of November 3rd General Election Proposed Board Meeting Schedule

- Interim Director Kanavel delivered a draft Absentee board meeting schedule for November, 2020, to the board.
- Member Watson motioned to adjourn. Member Duncan seconded and the Board approved unanimously.

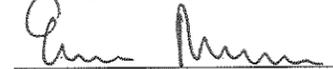
The meeting adjourned at 6:33 pm. The next meeting will be 1:00 pm on November 22, 2019, at 77 McDowell Street, Asheville, NC 28801.

Minutes submitted by: Corinne M. Duncan

Approved by:



 Jake Quinn, Chairman



 Elizabeth Newman, Secretary

 Jay Watson, Member



 Stephen G. Duncan, Member



 Linda Block, Member