



BUNCOMBE COUNTY ELECTION SERVICES

BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Board Meeting Agenda

Tuesday October 13, 2020

3:00 pm

Welcome of Visitors

- I. Minutes
- II. Office Updates
- III. MAT
- IV. Election Day Machine Testing
- V. Absentee Review

Buncombe County Board of Elections
Meeting Minutes
October 13, 2020

Opening

The scheduled meeting of the Buncombe County Board of Elections was called to order at 3:04 pm October 13, 2020 at 77 McDowell Street, Asheville, NC 28801. A copy of the agenda is attached.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and NC Safer at Home Order, the board meeting was held with limited in-person Board members and staff. Members of the public and additional staff were invited to attend virtually using Microsoft Teams. Directions on how to attend this virtual meeting are provided to the public on the Buncombe BOE website.

Present

Board Members-

Jake Quinn, Chairman (in person;
3PM)
Linda Block (in person; 4:40PM)
Stephen G. Duncan (in person;
3:05PM)
Elizabeth Newman (in person;
3PM)
Jay Watson (in person; 3PM)

Visitors-

8 virtual guests

BOE Staff-

Corinne Duncan, Director (in person)
Kaylea Noce, Absentee & Training
Specialist (in person)
Devin Whitney, Elections Technical
Specialist (in person)
Kevin Roberts, Administrative Technician
(in person)
Bria Bailey, Elections Technical Specialist
(in person)
Kanthilata Kahaduwe (in person)
Mary Soyenova (in person)
Marc Zigterman (in person)
Patrick Kilroy (in person)
Anita Sparks (in person)
Jane Mckinney (in person)
Gregory Parlier (in person)
Emma Rose Trautmann-Galloway (in
person)

Welcome Visitors and Introduction of Remote Meeting Features

Chairman Jake Quinn welcomed virtual guests.

Item One – Approval of Minutes

- The Board reviewed the minutes of October 6.

Chairman Quinn moved to approve the minutes of October 6 as amended, the Board approved.

Item Two – Office Updates

- Director Duncan gave the following updates;
 - The office is 2,000 requests away from being completely caught up in absentee requests.
 - Voter registration deadline was last Friday and the office is working on getting all of those requests processed.
 - Early voting begins on Thursday, October 15 and will continue through October 31.
 - Long lines on Thursday are expected as the weather is supposed to be very nice.
 - There are a couple of statewide records requests out.
 - One county election services office is currently experiencing a COVID-19 outbreak, which reiterated the importance of considering this virus in this election season and how to plan for a possible outbreak.

Item Three – MAT appointments

- Staff member Noce presented the Board with a single name to approve to the MAT.

The board approved the name to add to the MAT, a REP member.

Item Four – Election Day Machine Testing

- Staff member Johnson explained that according to General Statute 163-33.2 the Board shall test voting machines, in a reasonable number of combinations, no less than ten percent (10%) of all voting machines programmed for each primary or election. Machine testing for the 2020 General Election requires 8 machines be tested.
- On Tuesday October 13, 2020 the testing of the Election Day voting equipment was conducted by Board members Chairman Quinn and Mr. Watson, and Director Duncan.
- The testing began at 5:39pm at the Elections warehouse, 50 Coxe Ave. Asheville NC. There were eight DS200 tabulators and one ExpressVote marking device tested by the board members and Ms. Duncan.

- Below are the serial numbers of the randomly selected machines:
 - DS200
 - Serial # DS0315350144
 - Serial # DS0315350395
 - Serial # DSo315350227
 - Serial # DS0315350428
 - Serial # DS0315350446
 - Serial# DS0315350137
 - Serial # DS0315350155
 - Serial # DS0315350108
 - ExpressVote
 - Serial # EV0219377366
- The testing was concluded at 6:50pm.

Item Five – Absentee Review

- Staff member Noce first presented to the Board for approval the UOCAVA ballots;
 - There are 16 MIL and
 - 114 OVR
 - For a total of 130 UOCAVA ballots.
- There were approximately 5200 absentee by mail ballots set for approval for this meeting, from return dates between September 28 and October 7.
- Staff member Noce presented the Board with the zero tapes for both DS850 machines.
- Staff member Noce presented the Board with the totals from the DS850 after scanning the UOCAVA ballots; 130 total and 130 scanned between the two machines
- The Board recessed at 6:02 for 30 minutes for dinner; the meeting reconvened at 6:38
- The Board decided to reconvene October 14 at 3PM so as to alleviate some of the pressure for the first day of Early Voting.
- 3,347 ballots were scanned in the first night, including the 130 UOCAVA ballots.

Public Comments

Public questions and comments from the virtual attendees were addressed.

The meeting recessed at 9:04 pm. The meeting will reconvene at 3:00 pm on October 14, 2020, at 77 McDowell Street, Asheville, NC 28801.

Reconvening of Board Meeting

October 14, 2020 (Continuation of October 13)

The continuation of the October 13 meeting of the Buncombe County Board of Elections was at 3:11 pm October 14, 2020 at 77 McDowell Street, Asheville, NC 28801.

Present

Board Members-

Jake Quinn, Chairman (in person; 3 PM)
Linda Block (in person; 3 PM)
Stephen G. Duncan (via phone; 5:50PM)
Elizabeth Newman (in person; 3 PM)
Jay Watson (in person; 3 PM)

Visitors-

2 virtual guests

BOE Staff-

Corinne Duncan, Director (in person)
Kaylea Noce, Absentee & Training Specialist (in person)
Devin Whitney, Elections Technical Specialist (in person)
Susan Dobroski (in person)
Roderick Dupree (in person)
Jim Vaughn (in person)
Kanthilata Kahaduwe (in person)
Marc Zigterman (in person)
Patrick Kilroy (in person)
Anita Sparks (in person)
Gregory Parlier (in person)

Welcome Visitors and Introduction of Remote Meeting Features

Chairman Jake Quinn welcomed virtual guests.

Item Five – Absentee Review

- Staff member Noce gave a brief update on absentee by mail return numbers;
 - Absentee request data entry and processing is caught up through October 14.
 - Staff has processed about 4,000 duplicate requests.
 - About 46,000 ballots have been distributed.
- Staff had to re-scan precinct 22.2 because a voter was reported deceased after their ballot was scanned on October 13. The ballot was removed October 14.
- Staff member Noce presented the Board with the ballots recommended for disapproval for various reasons;
 - The ballots of two deceased voters.

Chairman Quinn moved to disapprove the ballots of the two deceased voters, Watson seconded and the board passed the motion.

- A ballot that arrived at the office damaged to the point that the ballot was no longer protected.

Chairman Quinn moved to disapprove the damaged ballot, member Watson seconded the board passed the motion.

- The ballots of two voters who are no longer registered in Buncombe County

Member Block moved to table the two ballots whose registration was denied until more information can be found out, the Board passed the motion.

- Two ballot container envelopes that did not have ballots inside.

Chairman Quinn moved to disapprove the two empty container envelopes, member Block seconded and the Board passed the motion.

- The ballots of voters who are unable to sign due to various reasons, where a POA has signed on behalf of the voter.
- The Board reviewed the envelopes in question and determined that the voter assistant was the near relative of the voter based on surname or that the voter identified themselves as a near relative. POAs cannot sign on behalf of a voter.

Chairman Quinn moved to accept for approval at the next board meeting the envelopes where the voter received assistance, the Board passed the motion.

- The Board continued the discussion on what to do with the voters who have swapped ballots at some point during the voting process so that the CIV number of the ballot no longer matches that of the return envelope.
- The legal department of the State Board of Elections confirmed that this a decision that is left to the discretion of the county Board of Elections.
- Member Block raised the question that if on the rare occasion a ballot needs to be pulled, which one should be pulled in that occasion; CIV number already assigned or the one that was taken out of the voter's envelope?

Member Watson moved to adopt the following rule to apply to ballots returned during the 2020 General Election in the incorrect CIV-numbered return envelope. The mismatched envelope and corresponding ballots must be:

1. A pair of ballots, or more, with corresponding but mismatched CIV numbers.
2. Show matching signatures between voters and witnesses, or a third party witness(es).
3. The ballots came from the same voter household address.
4. Are presented to the Board at a single board meeting.
5. Are otherwise accepted ballots, with no other disqualifying issues.

Member Duncan seconded the motion and the Board unanimously adopted the policy.

Member Watson moved that any ballots that arrive and are approved under this rule and subsequently need to be retrieved due to any reason, that ballot retrieved should be the one with the CIV matched to the voter, not the ballot retrieved from the return envelope. Member Newman seconded and the Board unanimously adopted the policy.

Member Watson moved to accept for approval at the next board meeting the ballots that meet the criteria outlined in the policy and adopted at this board meeting, chairman Quinn seconded the motion passed.

Member Block moved to spoil and notify the voters of the ballots that do not meet the criteria outlined in the policy adopted at this meeting, member Newman seconded and the Board passed the motion.

- At the end of the night the board members checked the number of total ballots counted on the individual DS850 machines to ensure that they matched the numbers on the report of approved ballots received. The Board agreed that the numbers matched.

Chairman Quinn moved to approve the 5,259 ballots that were scanned this meeting, member Block seconded and the board passed the motion.

Public Comments

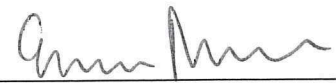
Public questions and comments from the virtual attendees were addressed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:17 on October 14. The next meeting will be on October 20, 2020, at 77 McDowell Street, Asheville, NC 28801

Minutes submitted by: Emma Rose Trautmann-Galloway

Approved by: 

Jake Quinn, Chairman



Elizabeth Newman, Secretary



Jay Watson, Member



Stephen G. Duncan, Member

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda Block". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.


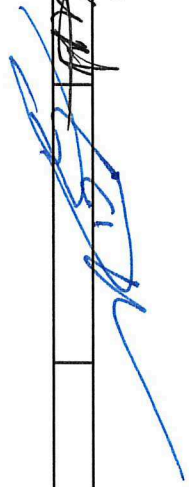
Linda Block, Member

10/13/2020 MAT Approval

Julie Tatol

Rep

Approved?



BUNCOMBE COUNTY ELECTION SERVICES

Board Meeting Date: 13-Oct-20

		APPROVED			
		Count total from Board	Cumulative total from		
		Checked Lists	Scanners	Daily Total from Scanners	
Date		Generated in SEIMS	Generated by DS850	Calculated	
Day 1	10/13/2020	3473	3473	3473	
Day 2	10/14/2020	1786	5259	1786	
GRAND TOTALS		5259		5259	

		DISAPPROVED	
		Count total from Board	
		Checked Lists	
Date		Generated in SEIMS	
Day 1	10/13/2020	N/A	
Day 2	10/14/2020	27	
GRAND TOTALS		27	

Ballots are separated by precinct

Board Members use SEIMS generated lists to match to ballots

Staff use two DS850 scanners to count ballots removed from envelopes

The number counted by the Board must equal the number from the DS850 for every precinct

BOARD MEMBER SIGNATURES:

John "Jake" Joseph Quinn III, Chairman

Elizabeth Newman, Secretary

Stephen G Duncan, Member

John D. Watson III, Member

Linda Block, Member