



BUNCOMBE COUNTY ELECTION SERVICES

BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Board Meeting Agenda

Thursday October 6, 2020

3:00 pm

Welcome of Visitors

- I. Minutes
- II. Office Updates
- III. MAT Appointments
- IV. Absentee Review
- V. Early Voting Machine Testing

Buncombe County Board of Elections
Meeting Minutes
October 6, 2020

Opening

The scheduled meeting of the Buncombe County Board of Elections was called to order at 3:05 pm October 6, 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; 4:30)
Stephen G. Duncan (in person;
3:15PM)
Elizabeth Newman (in person;
3PM)
Jay Watson (in person; 3:05PM)

Visitors-

9 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)
Jane McKinney (in person)
Kanthilata Kahaduwe (in person)
Mary Soyenova (in person)
Marc Zigterman (in person)
Patrick Kilroy (in person)
Anita Sparks (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 September 29.

Member Watson moved to approve the minutes of September 29 as amended, the Board approved.

Item Two – Office Updates

- Director Duncan gave the following updates;
 - Training for Election Day workers has begun and training for early voting training is wrapping up this week.
 - The office was able to hire Elections Day Officials early to help out at the board meetings, they are present here today.
 - The SBOE has released two more numbered memos (2020-28 and 2020-29) with further clarification on witness or assistant issues on the container envelopes and with instructions to suspend the cure process until further notice.

Item Three – MAT appointments

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

Chairman Quinn moved to approve the new mat member, a DEM, the Board approved the member

- Staff member Noce was able to get clarification from the State Board that two UNA members can be scheduled together to visit a facility in the case of insufficient numbers.

Item Four – Absentee Review

- Staff member Noce first presented the Board with the 88 UOCAVA ballots that had been duplicated in preparation for this meeting.
- Staff member Noce then presented the Board with the zero tapes from the DS850s.
- Approximately 4500 CIV ballots will be reviewed this meeting, the accepted ballots before the Board for approval range from the dates September 20 to September 29.
- At 4:43 staff member Noce presented the Board with two envelopes that contained ballots whose CIV number did not match but rather with that of a different member of the household.
- The Board discussed whether to disapprove the ballots or not, and the possible ramifications of allowing such ballots.

Member Watson moved to disallow the four presented ballots for the reasons indicated by discussion and on the recommendation of staff, Chairman Quinn seconded and the Board unanimously passed the motion.

The meeting recessed at 6:30 for dinner. The Board reconvened at 7:03 and resumed reviewing the absentee by mail ballots.

- In total the Board reviewed 2,702 absentee by mail ballots;
 - 88 UOCAVAS
 - 5 of which came in the mail
 - 83 of which were duplicated
- The Board verified the machine totals at the end of the evening matched the total number done.

Item Five – Early Voting 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. Early voting for the general election 2020 requires two tabulators.
- The machine testing was conducted by two members of the Board, Linda Block and Stephen Duncan.
- The Board members tested two DS200 machines and two ExpressVote machines.
- The machines tested were:
 - DS200 -- Serial # DS0315350092
 - DS200 -- Serial # DS0315350160
 - ExpressVote -- Serial # EV0219377642
 - ExpressVote -- Serial # EV0219377436
- The Board Members shared that the testing was successful.
- Testing began at 6:04pm at the Asheville Mall site and concluded at 7:57pm at the Asheville Outlet Mall site.
- Machine testing for Election Day will occur October 13 at 50 Cox Ave.

Public Comments

Public questions and comments from the virtual attendees were addressed.

The meeting recessed at 8:36 pm. The meeting will reconvene at 3:00 pm on October 8, 2020, at 77 McDowell Street, Asheville, NC 28801.

Reconvening of Board Meeting
October 8 (Continuation of October 6)

The continuation of the October 6 meeting of the Buncombe County Board of Elections was at 3:05 pm October 8, 2020 at 77 McDowell Street, Asheville, NC 28801.

Present

Board Members-

Jake Quinn, Chairman (in person;
4:05 PM)
Stephen G. Duncan (in person;
2:50 PM)
Elizabeth Newman (in person;
3PM)
Jay Watson (in person; 3PM)

Visitors-

6 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)
James Vaughn (in person)
Amy Gerald (in person)
Kanthilata Kahaduwe (in person)
Mary Soyenova (in person)
Marc Zigterman (in person)
Patrick Kilroy (in person)
Anita Sparks (in person)
Gregory Parlier (in person)
Emma Rose Trautmann-Galloway (in
person)

Item One – Office Updates

- Director Duncan shared with the Board that Elections Services received a sub-grant from the CARES Act.

Item Two – Continuation of Absentee Review

- The Board reviewed the last 1,750 absentee by mail ballots.

- Staff member Noce invited the Board members present to check the numbers on the two machines, to ensure that they match those of the end of the meeting on Tuesday; all members agreed that they matched.
- Staff member Noce brought to the Board's attention voters who have passed away and that two of the precincts already scanned for this meeting will have to be rescanned.

Chairman Quinn moved to disapprove the two ballots and to rescan the two precincts to make the count accurate, member Watson seconded and the Board passed the motion.

- Staff member Noce presented the Board with a ballot where the voter printed their own name in the witness printed name section.

Chairman Quinn moved to disapprove ballot 27528 and the Board passed the motion.

- The Board discussed ballots that had been returned with a Power of Attorney signature in place of that of the voter. The Board determined that while POA signatures are not acceptable, more investigation would need to be done on whether the voter assistant is an authorized party under the law before a determination can be made on whether or not to disapprove the ballots.
- Staff member Noce presented the Board with a ballot that was left at the County Board of Elections office (77 McDowell St) under the doormat.

Chairman Quinn moved to disapprove the ballot on the basis that it was not delivered in an acceptable fashion. The Board passed the motion.

- Staff member Noce presented the Board with ballots recommended for disapproval.

Member Watson moved to disapprove the 16 ballots due to various reasons, the most prominent being damaged envelopes and switched signatures. Chairman Quinn seconded and the Board passed the motion.

- The Board discussed how to approach the ballots and ballot envelopes that have been swapped by voters in a household. All members expressed interest in waiting until the next board meeting to make a decision in order to ensure all voters are being treated fairly, and to wait and see if the state provides further guidance.

Chairman Quinn moved to table all 67 of these swapped ballots until next meeting, including the four that the Board moved to disapprove earlier in the meeting, the Board passed the motion.

- The Board members verified the ending numbers on the machines to ensure they matched the cover sheet staff member Noce provided for them.

Chairman Quinn moved to approve the 4,591 ballots scanned in this meeting. The Board passed the motion.

Public Comments

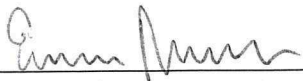
Public questions and comments from the virtual attendees were addressed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 on October 8. The next meeting will be at 3:00 pm on October 13, 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



Linda Block, Member

Interested Workers (Not approved):

Christina Abrams

Dem

Approved?

EV

[Handwritten signature]



BUNCOMBE COUNTY ELECTION SERVICES

Board Meeting Date: 29-Sep-20

APPROVED					
		Count total from Board Checked Lists	Cumulative total from Scanners		Daily Total from Scanners
	Date	Generated in SEIMS	Generated by DS850		Calculated
Day 1	10/6/2020		2699	2702	2702
Day 2	10/8/2020		1892	4591	1889
GRAND TOTALS			4591		4591

DISAPPROVED			
		Count total from Board Checked Lists	
	Date	Generated in SEIMS	
Day 1	10/6/2020		N/A
Day 2	10/8/2020		16
GRAND TOTALS			16

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