



## **FORSYTH COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

### **Video Conference Absentee Board Meeting Agenda**

**November 2, 2020 – 2 p.m.**

1. Meeting Called to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Moment of Silence
4. Public Comments

If you wish to speak, please click on this link <https://meet.google.com/dim-vuhq-bne> at 1:45 pm on the day of the meeting and inform the Board Clerk. You will be recognized to speak during the public comment period in the order you have joined the meeting. The Chairperson will also ask for any additional speakers before the meeting is called to order.

5. Approval of Meeting Minutes
6. Approval of Absentee Ballots
7. Pre-processing of Absentee Ballots
8. Other Business
9. Adjournment

## **FORSYTH COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**November 2, 2020 – 2:00 p.m.**

#### **Meeting Called to Order**

A meeting of the Forsyth County Board of Elections was called to order on November 2, 2020 at 2:06 p.m. Chairperson Campbell presiding.

**Board Members in attendance:** Chairperson Susan Campbell, Secretary Robert Durrah, Member Stuart Russell, Member John Loughridge, and Member Catherine Jourdan

**Staff Members in attendance:** Director Tim Tsujii, Deputy Director Michelle Bobadilla, Monica Gary, Kanitha Davis-Englebert, Danielle Malone, Shante' Blakes, Angela Jones, Molly Southern, Holly Mathis, Adrienne Bohlen, Carma Buchanan, Sherry Glen, and Paul Simon

**Guest Attendee:** Lonnie Albright joined the meeting at 2:34 p.m. via telephone.

#### **Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairperson Campbell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **Moment of Silence**

Chairperson Campbell called for a moment of silence.

#### **Public Comments**

Chairperson Campbell called for public comments, providing two minutes for each speaker: No public comments.

#### **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Secretary Durrah moved to table the approval of the October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and the October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020 meeting minutes; Member Russell seconded; **Motion carried unanimously.**

#### **Approval of Absentee Ballots**

Ms. Gary reported that there were 3,209 civilian ballots, 29 military ballots and 40 overseas ballots totaling 3,278 absentee by-mail ballots. Ms. Gary reported that 16 cure certification letters were returned and that 31 ballots were disapproved, which the Board of Elections staff had already contacted those voters.

#### **Pre-processing of Absentee Ballots:**

Review and pre-processing of absentee ballots began at 2:27 p.m.

The Director asked the Board Members to sign the zero report for both high-speed scanners. All Board Members signed the report.

Ms. Gary asked the Board Members to review the 29 military and 40 overseas ballots. Member Russell pulled out an absentee ballot that had instructions that needed clarification and directive from the Board members. Secretary Durrah moved to approve the ballot based on the voter's directives; Seconded by Member Loughridge. Member Russell opposed. **Motion carried 4-1.**

Director Tsujii presented to the Board a list of 13 emergency poll worker judges for Election Day. The emergency judges will be available in case someone does not show up or additional help is needed. This is the first time that the Forsyth County Board of Elections have a reserve list of poll workers. The Director explained that all emergency poll workers had received training. The Board was also presented with a list of replacement judges assigned to specific precincts.

Chairperson Campbell asked for the disapproval of a precinct judge that held an office with a political party. Anyone who holds office of a political party cannot be a judge. Secretary Durrah moved to disapprove the precinct judge; Seconded by Member Loughridge. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Director Tsujii asked the Board Members to review an overseas absentee ballot. The overseas voter had returned her absentee ballot (FWAB) to our office however, she had the impression that she could only vote for Federal offices. After contacting the Board of Elections for clarification, she was informed that she could vote for all offices. The voter submitted another ballot with all of her choices. Director Tsujii explained that after consulting with the State Board of Elections, the directives were to allow the Board Members to review both ballots and transcribe her choices from the second ballot to the first ballot. The first and second ballots were passed around for the Board members to review as well as the directives from the State Board of Elections. Member Jourdan moved to accept and transcribe the voter's choices on the ballot; seconded by Secretary Durrah. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Director Tsujii reported that 165,775 Forsyth County voters' casted ballots through either absentee by-mail or at a One-Stop Early Voting location.

Director Tsujii asked the Board members to sign the One-Stop Early Voting report list of voters that had voted this election. Member Russel moved to approve the list; seconded by Secretary Durrah. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Ms. Gary reported the final absentee by-mail numbers: 3,218 civilians, 29 military, 40 overseas, 15 cure certification letters and 31 disapproved ballots. The total absentee by-mail ballots was 3,297. Member Russell moved to disapprove the 15 cure certification letters; seconded by Member Loughridge. Chairperson Campbell, Secretary Durrah and Member Jourdan opposed. **Motion failed 2-3.** Secretary Durrah moved to approve 3,297 ballots and disapprove 31 ballots; seconded by Member Jourdan. Members Russell and Member Loughridge opposed. **Motion carried 3-2.**

Board members continued processing ballots with write-in candidates.

**Other Business**

Chairperson Campbell called for other business; none was presented.

**Adjournment**

Secretary Durrah moved to adjourn the Board meeting; seconded by Member Russell; **Motion carried unanimously.**

Meeting was adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

Approved:

s/ Susan Campbell

Chair

s/ Robert Durrah

Secretary

s/ Stuart Russell

Member

s/ John Loughridge

Member

s/Catherine Jourdan

Member