

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Linda J. Sutton
CHAIR

Frank M. Dickerson
SECRETARY

Jerry D. Jordan
MEMBER



Robert H. Coffman
Director of Elections

Lamar Joyner
Deputy Director

FORSYTH COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS BOARD MEETING – June 15, 2010

Present: Linda J. Sutton, Chair
Frank M. Dickerson, Secretary
Jerry D. Jordan, Member

Staff: Rob Coffman, Director of Elections
Lamar Joyner, Deputy Director of Elections
Judy Speas, Senior Office Assistant
Rebecca VanderKlok, Office Assistant
Kevin McGuckin, Assistant County Attorney
Karen White, Interim Director of Human Resources

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM in the Board of Elections Conference Room.

Approval of Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes for June 8, 2010. Ms. Sutton requested any corrections or additions to the minutes. Mr. Dickerson moved to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Absentee Ballots

The Staff recommended 51 absentee ballots for approval and zero for disapproval. The Board checked whether second ballots from two previously disapproved voters had been received during the week. Mr. Jordan moved to approve the recommendation of absentee ballots by staff. The motion passed unanimously.

One Stop Voting Plan for General Election

The Board reviewed a document of One-Stop History data which displayed one stop locations and vote totals from 1998 to 2010. The data showed a clear upward trend in the popularity of early voting. Mr. Coffman explained that the current county budget could only support 3-4 one stop locations in the 2010 General Election. The Board members agreed that the State Board of Elections may possibly be able to fund additional sites and that a One Stop Voting Plan for the General Election should be submitted promptly in order to receive available funds. The Board studied a Forsyth County wall map indicating the one stop

locations used in past elections. The early voting sites had been chosen considering the various population centers and key geographic areas of the county. Ms. Sutton stated that one determining factor in choosing sites would be whether the voters needed transportation. In particular, areas with a large number of college students may need a location nearby. The Board also discussed the days and hours of operation for early voting, considering the possible percentage of voter participation. After all factors were discussed, Mr. Coffman composed a tentative One Stop Voting Plan for the General Election which stated the days and hours of operation for early voting at the Board of Elections office and at the satellite locations chosen. The additional sites would only operate if the One Stop Site Grant is approved by the State Board of Elections. Mr. Dickerson moved to approve the One Stop Voting Plan draft to be sent to the State Board of Elections. The motion was unanimous and the plan was signed by the Chair. After approval, the chairperson of each political party in the county would be notified and advertisements would appear in local newspapers and on the website.

Director's Performance Appraisal

Ms. Sutton suggested that the Board go into closed session. Mr. Jordan moved to go into closed session. Mr. McGuckin stated that the purpose of the closed session would be based on G.S. 143-138.11 (a) (6) (closed session to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee; or to hear or investigate a complaint, charge, or grievance by or against an individual public officer or employee). The motion passed unanimously and the Board went into closed session at 1:53 PM.

Other Business

The Board returned from closed session to the open meeting at 2:35 PM. The Board discussed an email message received from Nathan Tabor, Chairman of the Forsyth County Republican Party. Plans were made to invite Mr. Tabor to a future meeting.

The Board discussed a letter received from Rodney Robles, an unaffiliated voter from Beesons Crossroads Fire Station Precinct. Mr. Robles stated that he had been delayed in receiving the proper ballot in the 2010 Primary precinct voting and Second Primary one stop voting. It was agreed that a change of language would be suggested for the Onsite Voter Registration Database, the electronic poll book system regulated by the State Board of Elections. The wording should be improved to prompt the precinct worker in asking an unaffiliated voter for the proper ballot type. Precinct workers also receive training with this information before each election.

Mr. Jordan stated that Robert Litaker, the Chief Judge of Latham Elementary Precinct, had contacted him regarding a parking problem at the school. The Board decided to visit the campus during the General Election and to reevaluate the facility after the completion of construction.

Adjournment

Ms. Sutton requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Jordan moved to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 PM. The next meeting will be June 22, 2010 at 11:00 AM.

Linda J. Sutton, Chair

Frank M. Dickerson, Secretary

Jerry D. Jordan, Member