

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Linda J. Sutton
Chair

Michael Flatow
Secretary

Jonathan S. Dills
Member



Robert H. Coffman
Director of Elections

Lamar Joyner
Deputy Director

FORSYTH COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS BOARD MEETING MINUTES – May 1, 2012

Call to Order

An Absentee Meeting of the Forsyth County Board of Elections was held in the Board of Elections Conference Room on May 1, 2012. The meeting convened at 5:03 PM, Chairman Linda Sutton presiding.

Board Members in attendance: Chairman Linda Sutton, Secretary Michael Flatow, Member Jonathan Dills

Board Members not in attendance: none

Staff Members in attendance: Director Robert Coffman, Lamar Joyner, Judy Speas, Joshua Chunn, Jacob Wright

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Sutton requested that the Board review the minutes of April 24, 2012. Member Dills moved and Secretary Flatow seconded the motion to approve the minutes of April 24, 2012. Motion carried unanimously.

Absentee Ballot Report

Mr. Chunn recommended 243 absentee ballots for approval and six for disapproval in the Primary Election weekly report. Rejection reasons and the option of a second mailed ballot were explained for the six disapproved ballots. Board members also considered a returned ballot that was incorrectly signed by the voter. Secretary Flatow moved and Member Dills seconded the motion to approve the recommendation of absentee ballots. Motion carried unanimously.

Precinct Worker Report

Mr. Wright reported that each precinct will have experienced precinct workers for the Primary Election. Elections' training has been completed for all precinct workers and computer operators. Computer operators have been specifically trained to use EVID, the voter registration electronic poll book system. At least one assistant for each precinct will be provided to complete coverage.

Other Business

Board members discussed several election issues. Mr. Coffman stated that early voting was operating smoothly and would close on Saturday, May 5, 2012. Equipment had been tested; supplies would be picked up on Friday; and, equipment would be delivered and set up on Monday prior to the Election.

Board members decided that the next meeting would be 12:30 PM on Election Day, May 8, 2012, to process the absentee ballots. Mr. Coffman explained the statutory procedure of preprocessing absentee ballots where ballot envelopes are opened and ballots are placed in precinct order.

Member Dills moved and Secretary Flatow seconded a motion that the staff be allowed to preprocess the absentee ballots by opening them early, placing them in precinct order and adding weight to flatten the ballots for machine counting. Results would not be revealed until the Board is in attendance at 7:30 PM on Election Night. Motion carried unanimously.

The mandatory Canvass meeting would be held at 11:00 AM on May 15, 2012 to determine the official election results. The meeting would involve a sample hand/eye audit which would be conducted to compare the number of paper ballots against the reported machine total.

Board members decided to allow the political parties to extend their Early Voting Observer lists for the Government Center to the satellite sites. The deadline for the party chairs to submit observer lists for Primary Election Day is May 3, 2012.

Closed Session

Chairman Sutton recommended a motion for closed session by stating: I move that the Board go into 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 pursuant to the provisions of G.S. 143-318.11(a)(6). Member Dills seconded the motion. The motion carried and the Board went into closed session at 5:43 PM.

Chairman Sutton moved to reconvene the meeting at 5:54 PM. Member Dills seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Chairman Sutton moved and Secretary Flatow seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 PM. The next meeting will be held in the Elections Storage Room on Primary Election Day, May 8, 2012, at 12:30 PM.

Approved:

Linda J. Sutton, Chair

Date

Michael Flatow, Secretary

Date

Jonathan S. Dills, Member

Date

Attachments on File: none