

**MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
REGULAR SESSION
Board of Elections Conference Room
Wednesday, December 9, 2015
3:00 PM**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Smathers called the meeting of the Madison County Board of Elections to order at 3:01 p.m. at the Board of Elections Conference Room. In attendance were 5 members of the public; Dyatt F. Smathers, Chair; Ray Lewis, Secretary; Jerry Wallin, Member; Wade Gahagan, Elections Specialist; and Kathy Ray, Director.

AGENDA

Moved, Seconded (RL, JW) and Carried (3,0) to set the agenda as amended to add “Beech Glen Community Center Security Plan” under Director’s Report.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved, Seconded (RL, JW) and Carried (3,0) to approve the November 10, 2015 regular/canvass meeting minutes.

CHAIR’S REPORT

Chair Smathers referred to G.S. 163-122(3) and informed those present of the qualifications to run for a local office as an unaffiliated candidate.

He also reported that State Board of Elections Chair Josh Howard has resigned, and the State Board is searching for a replacement.

MEMBERS’ REPORTS

Member Wallin commented on the status of the transition of the Laurel School facility to the county commissioners.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT

The November 30, 2015 budget and expenditure report was presented. The Director reported that the current barcode scanners have all the capabilities that will be needed during the 2016 elections, and there will be no need to purchase new scanners. Funds set aside for new scanners will be diverted to purchase security carts for storing one-stop election supplies and media at the Beech Glen and Hot Springs Community Centers.

The Director provided an update on the status of the one-stop plan reduction request. Several counties have submitted requests for reductions in sites and/or hours. The number of counties requesting reductions may impact SBOE response time.

The Director reported that 6 candidates have filed for county offices. Chair Smathers added that a local resident used the Madison County Board of Elections to file his candidacy for NC House of Representatives.

The Director reported that Beech Glen Community Center one-stop site needs additional security for election equipment and media. Chair Smathers requested the Director explore options and costs for security gates.

Moved, Seconded (RL, DS) and Carried (3,0) to purchase 2 security carts for the Beech Glen and Hot Springs Community Centers' one-stop sites.

IEW BUSINESS

Moved, Seconded (RL, JW) and Carried (3,0) to approve the Primary 2016 Resolution to take preparatory steps and count absentee ballots.

Moved, Seconded (RL, JW) and Carried (3,0) to approve the Notice of Change in Time of Absentee Meetings and Additional Absentee Meetings.

Moved, Seconded (RL, JW) and Carried (3,0) to approve the list of poll worker assistants, one-stop staff, and MAT, Logic & Accuracy Testing, and Hand-Eye Audit Team members.

Discussion ensued regarding the iVotronic Logic & Accuracy testing process. The process has the State Board of Elections approved option to "open" and "lock" the iVotronic machines during L&A testing. During the discussion, Chair Smathers recessed the meeting to obtain a copy of the District Election Technician's report on the 2010 General Election protest. After reviewing the document, Chair Smathers reconvened the meeting.

Moved, Seconded (RL, JW) and Carried (3,0) to approve the iVotronic testing process to "open" and "lock" the machines during L&A testing.

The Director presented the schedule of poll worker trainings for the months of January and February 2016.

The Elections Specialist provided the Board with Buffer Zone maps of each precinct and one-stop site.

The Director reported that janitorial services and phones will have to be provided for Laurel, Sandy Mush, and South Marshall Precincts. Maintenance has begun to complete the work needed at the Sandy Mush Precinct Building.

The Elections Director reported that two voters were moved from the Grapevine Precinct to the Ebbs Chapel Precinct based on information provided by the State Board of Elections weekly GIS Audit Report and the county GIS precinct map.

The Director provided Board members with SBOE training materials and a list of forms that will be used at the polling place registration desks. Voter and training information is to be consistent with State Board guidance. Additionally, county boards are responsible for website content they provide. Counties can link directly to the SBOE website to ensure compliance.

OLD BUSINESS

Moved, Seconded (RL, JW) and Carried (3,0) to approve Kristi Lusk as the Republican Judge for the Sandy Mush Precinct.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

A citizen commented that she is impressed with the elections staff.

The Board and some citizens complimented the work of the News Record and Sentinel's senior editor.

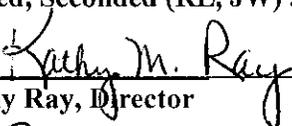
ANNOUNCEMENT

The State Board of Elections Conference is February 1st and 2nd, 2016 in Durham.

The next Board meeting is Wednesday, January 13th, 2016.

ADJOURNMENT

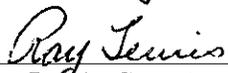
Moved, Seconded (RL, JW) and Carried (3,0) to adjourn at 4:42 P.M.



Kathy Ray, Director



Wyatt Smathers, Chairman



Ray Lewis, Secretary