

MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS  
ABSENTEE SESSION  
Board of Elections Conference Room  
Tuesday, May 24, 2016  
9:00 AM

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Smathers called the meeting of the Madison County Board of Elections to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Board of Elections Conference Room. In attendance were Dyatt F. Smathers, Chair; Ray Lewis, Secretary; Jerry Wallin, Member; Wade Gahagan, Deputy Director; and Kathy Ray, Director.

AGENDA

**Moved, Seconded (RL, JW) and Carried (3,0) to amend the agenda to include the approval of the closed meeting minutes held on April 13<sup>th</sup> and a discussion of June 7<sup>th</sup> poll workers.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Moved, Seconded (RL, JW) and Carried (3,0) to approve the closed meeting minutes of the April 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.**

**Moved, Seconded (RL, JW) and Carried (3,0) to approve the May 17<sup>th</sup> absentee meeting minutes.**

APPROVAL OF ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATIONS

**Moved, Seconded (RL, JW) and Carried (3,0) to approve 5 civilian absentee ballot applications (see attached report).**

**Moved, Seconded (RL, JW) and Carried (3,0) to spoil 1 OVR absentee ballot applications (see attached report).**

OTHER MATTERS

The Director reported on county level participation in The Elections Center (CERA) certification. Approximately 50 percent of the counties have participated and several of the surrounding counties' directors have completed the certification.

**Moved, Seconded (RL, DS) and Carried (3,0) to approve the Director's participation in the Certified Elections/Registration Administrator (CERA) Program using county time and resources.**

A discussion ensued regarding schools being in session on Tuesday June 7<sup>th</sup>. The Chair reported on a conversation with the Sheriff about the recent bomb threats at Madison High School. He also shared a report on the voter turnout during the July 2012 Second Primary. The North Marshall Precinct had only 26 voters on Election Day during 2012. The Director shared that the State Board indicated it does not need any special notification if the local board decides to move the polling place within the precinct from Madison High School to the Board of Elections Room 26. Good signage, media notification, and a notice in the local newspaper will suffice for voter notification.

**Moved, Seconded (DS, RL) and Carried (2,1) to move the June 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional Primary voting location for the North Marshall Precinct from Madison High School to Madison County Administration Building Room 26. Member Wallin opposed the motion.**

The Director informed the Board that Mars Hill Precinct Republican Judge Ray Moore and Republican Poll Worker Assistant Dennis Capps have resigned. Jane McConnell (Una-Mars Hill) has agreed to work on Election Day.

**Moved, Seconded (RL, DS) and Carried (3,0) to approve Jane Briggs (R-Mars Hill) as the Republican Judge and Jane McConnell (Una-Mars Hill) as the Republican Poll Worker Assistant.**

**Moved, Seconded (JW, RL) and Carried (3,0) to pay Madison County Schools Maintenance Worker Danny Frisby \$10.00 per hour to provide services at the Laurel Precinct on Election Day.** The school system will pay his regular salary hours from 7:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. The school system will pay for hours from 5:30 a.m. until 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. until all election activities cease after 7:30 p.m.

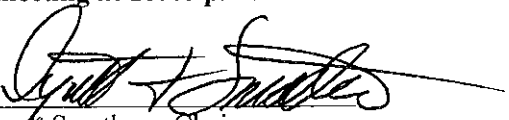
The Chair reported on the Durham County North Carolina Board of Elections mishandling of provisional ballots during the March 15, 2016 Primary and two subsequent election protests.

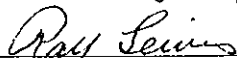
A discussion ensued regarding the passage of the new overtime rules and how that may impact the Board of Elections office staff salary compensation.

The Deputy Director commented on the Edgecombe County School lockdown that was prompted by the report of a man with a gun on campus. The campus was also in use as a voting site, and voting was suspended for 30 minutes until the lockdown was lifted.

**Moved, Seconded (JW, RL) and Carried (3,0) to adjourn the meeting at 10:40 p.m.**

  
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Kathy Ray, Director

  
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Dyatt Smathers, Chair

  
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Ray Lewis, Secretary