

**MADISON COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
REGULAR SESSION
Board of Elections Conference Room
Wednesday, September 14, 2016
3:00 PM**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Smathers called the meeting of the Madison County Board of Elections to order at 3:00 p.m. at the Board of Elections Conference Room. In attendance were 3 members of the public; 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 set the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved, Seconded (RL, JW) and Carried (3,0) to approve the August 10, 2016 minutes.

CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair was complimentary of State Board of Elections Member Jim Baker's decisions regarding non-unanimous one-stop plans. He also addressed the Asheville Citizen Times article *Who Will Get Stuck in Line on Election Day*. Madison County statistics revealed that Madison County voters have more actual voting time at the machines than surrounding counties. He added that Madison County is well prepared for the upcoming election with a unanimously approved one-stop plan.

MEMBERS' REPORTS

Secretary Lewis and Member Wallin validated the Chair's comment regarding SBOE Member Jim Baker's decisions regarding the need for one stop sites across the state.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The July 31, 2016 and August 31, 2016 budget and expenditure reports were presented. The Director reported that Barcodes Inc. has refunded the Board of Elections \$4920 for the return of the 2D barcode scanners. The Director is working with the finance department to determine if the funds can be used for December NC School of Government conference and changing phone services for the current budget year. The scanners were purchased from last fiscal year's funds.

Election Officials training is scheduled for Saturdays, October 8th and 15th at AB Tech Madison Campus. One Stop staff training will be held in the Board of Elections Room 26 on Monday, October 17th. The State Board of Elections is providing weekly webinars and updated training materials.

The State Board of Elections is mandating that iVotronic counties purchase paper ballots at 40 percent of the voter registration. Madison County has complied and authorized the ballot printer Printelect to notify the State Board of Elections accordingly.

Logic & Accuracy testing will begin on Monday, September 19th and continue until completed. The mock election files must be ready to upload to the State Board on Thursday, October 6th.

Moved, Seconded (RL, JW) and Carried (3,0) to approve David Olvera (R) and Jacob Ray (D) to conduct the Logic and Accuracy Testing for the upcoming General election and to authorize the Director to contact Judy Ball (R) and Shirley Ponder (D) if needed.

The Director presented the number of voting machines assigned per precinct and one-stop sites for the November 8, 2016 General Election. Serial numbers of precinct and one-stop voting machines, laptop computers, and PEBs will be approved and spread in the upcoming October 12th meeting minutes.

The Director reported that the school system has responded that Laurel Elementary School will have utilities on Election Day. The Chair will follow up with the school superintendent to determine readiness and needs.

The Director will contact county maintenance to gravel and smooth the drainage gully in the parking lot at Sandy Mush Precinct. Parking will not be an issue.

The Director reported that the local board of elections staff has worked with the State Board of Elections to edit and correct some of the updated SBOE election documents that are going out across the state.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion ensued about the need for additional poll workers at all one stop sites. The Director presented one stop data, the decision to code ballots by precinct rather than style, and the need for political balance as reasons for increasing one stop staff.

Moved, Seconded (RL, JW) and Carried (3,0) to approve one stop site worker site assignments, to increase one stop workers from 4 to 6 at both the Board of Elections Room 26 and Mars Hill Public Library sites, and to increase from 3 to 4 workers at the Hot Springs Community site.

Moved, Seconded (JW, RL) and Carried (3,0) to approve Jane Briggs as the Mars Hill Precinct Republican Judge.

Moved, Seconded (RL, JW) and Carried (3,0) to change the regularly scheduled absentee meeting time on Tuesdays October 18th, October 25th, and November 1st from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 a.m.

Moved, Seconded (RL, JW) and Carried (3,0) to approve Frontier VOiP Phone Service for the Board of Elections office.

Moved, Seconded (RL, JW) and Carried (3,0) to approve the One Stop Plan and Security Procedures.

OTHER MATTERS

Moved, Seconded (RL, JW) and Carried (3,0) to move the regularly scheduled November 9th board meeting to November 17th at 9:00 a.m. The regular meeting will be held concurrent with the November 17th supplemental absentee meeting.

WART Radio will air an updated interview with the Director that will highlight the recent voter law changes for the upcoming General election.

The Director and Chair will attend a Rotary Club meeting at Mars Hill College Cafeteria on Thursday, September 15th to provide election law updates.

Moved, Seconded (RL, JW) and Carried (3,0) to destroy 2012, 2014, and 2016 election materials and documents that have lost administrative value as per the 2012 North Carolina Records Retention and Disposition Schedule.

American Security Shredding will be at the Board of Elections to destroy the election materials on Tuesday, September 27th.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

A citizen inquired about VOiP phone services if internet service is disrupted.

A citizen complimented the board of elections office staff and expressed her appreciation.

A citizen requested information about the logic and accuracy testing of the voting equipment.

A voter inquired about voter registration forms and needed changes that comply with recent election law changes.

A voter inquired about the use of paper ballots and how many are typically used.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The North Carolina School of Government Conference is December 5th and 6th in Durham.

The next Board meeting is **Wednesday, October 12, 2016.**

ADJOURNMENT


Moved, Seconded (RL, JW) and Carried (3,0) to adjourn at 4:26 P.M.



Kathy Ray, Director



Dyatt Smathers, Chairman



Ray Lewis, Secretary