

COUNTY OF CARTERET BOARD OF ELECTIONS
1702 Live Oak Street, Beaufort, NC 28516
Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes, April 7, 2021
9:00 AM

I. Meeting Called to Order

Chair Susan Cuthrell called the meeting to order at 9:00AM.

Board Members Present: Chair Susan Cuthrell, Vice Chair Jeanette Deese, Secretary Gillikin, Member Marjorie Holland, and Member Gerald Godette

Staff Members Present: Director Caitlin Sabadish and Deputy Director Margot Burke

II. Approval of Agenda

Secretary Gillikin made a motion to approve the April 7, 2021 regular meeting agenda. Member Godette seconded the motion and the motion was passed unanimously.

III. Public Comment

No public comment.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Director Sabadish presented the minutes from the March 3, 2021 Regular Meeting for approval. Member Holland recommended that the language be included in the minutes for clarification that the Board needed to also witness a demonstration of another voting equipment vendor, per the State Board of Elections requirements as outlined in numbered memo 2021-01. Vice Chair Deese made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Member Holland seconded the motion and the motion was passed unanimously.

V. Director's Report

a. Express Vote Update

As outlined in numbered memo 2021-01, the Board was required to witness a demonstration of the recommended voting system plus at least one other certified voting system not currently used in the county. Since the last meeting, all five Board members attended a live virtual demonstration of the Hart InterCivic Verity voting equipment held on March 10, 2021. Based on the voting equipment acquisition requirements, the next steps in the process are to make a preliminary recommendation to the Board of Commissioners as to which voting system should be acquired by the county, and then to test the proposed voting system in a simulated election. Member Godette made a motion to approve the preliminary consideration resolution as amended to eliminate the word "may" and replace it with "must" in paragraph one (1) of the resolution. Vice Chair Deese seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Director Sabadish briefed the

Board on the processes of the simulated election to test the ExpressVotes and informed the Board that the simulated Election is scheduled for April 9, 2021 at 9:00AM. Vice Chair Deese suggested that in the future, any item requiring formal Board action should stand alone as a separate line item.

b. Appointment of Precinct Officials Update

Director Sabadish presented the results of the precinct official survey that was sent out on March 11, 2021. The precinct official survey was sent out to two hundred fifty-four (254) precinct officials; ninety-two (92) Democrats, ninety-three (93) Republicans, and sixty-five (65) Unaffiliates. As of March 29, 2021, one hundred sixty-nine (169) have been returned; sixty-three (63) Democrats, sixty (60) Republicans, and thirty-nine (39) Unaffiliates. Seven (7) additional cards were returned with resignations. The Board asked that staff keep them informed as more responses come in. No formal action was required by the Board.

c. State Board of Elections Conference Dates

Director Sabadish informed the Board that the State Board of Elections plans to hold their conference from August 1, 2021 through August 3, 2021. The State Board has yet to decide if the conference will be held virtually, or in person. Director Sabadish agreed to keep the Board informed as more information gets released. No formal action was required by the Board.

VI. Board Comments

Chair Cuthrell opened the floor for Board comments. No action was required by the Board.

Member Godette

Member Godette noted that he appreciates the Board's diligence and articulation when reviewing documents.

Secretary Gillikin

Secretary Gillikin thanked the Board and staff for their input in the discussions and collaboration.

VII. Closed session in accordance with GS 143-318.11 (1) for the purpose of discussing personnel

Vice Chair Deese made a motion to move to closed session in accordance with GS 143-318.11 (1) for the purpose of discussing personnel. Member Holland seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Return to open session

Vice Chair Deese made a motion to return to open session. Chair Cuthrell seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

IX. Adjournment

Secretary Gillikin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion to adjourn was seconded by Member Godette and the motion was passed unanimously.

Susan Cuthrell, Chair

Jeanette Deese, Vice Chair

Dale Gillikin, Secretary

Marjorie Holland, Member

Gerald Godette, Member