

COUNTY OF CARTERET BOARD OF ELECTIONS
1702 Live Oak Street, Beaufort, NC 28516
Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes, May 3, 2022
4:30PM

I. Meeting Called to Order

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

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

Staff Members Present: Director Caitlin Sabadish

Others Present: Lynn Caraway; Carteret County Votes County Committee

II. Approval of Agenda

Secretary Deese made a motion to approve the May 3, 2022 regular meeting agenda as presented. Member Godette seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

III. Public Comment

No comments were made by the public.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Director Sabadish presented the minutes from the April 6, 2022 Regular Meeting, April 12, 2022 Absentee Meeting, April 19, 2022 Absentee Meeting, and the April 26, 2022 Absentee Meeting for approval. Member Gillikin made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Member Godette seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

V. Director's Report

a. Precinct Official Election Day Schedule

Director Sabadish explained that staff was working on finalizing the Election Day precinct official schedule by the end of the week and would provide them with a final copy.

b. Hand-to-Eye Audit; Schedule and Staffing

Director Sabadish recommended that the Hand-to-Eye audit meeting be held May 24, 2022 at 10:00AM. Director Sabadish recommended six (6) experienced precinct officials to be members of the three (3) bipartisan teams to conduct the audit. The Board agreed and supported the recommendations put forth by staff.

c. Provisional Meeting; Schedule

Director Sabadish recommended that the Provisional Ballot meeting be held May 26, 2022 at 4:30PM. The Board agreed to schedule the meeting as recommended by staff.

d. Supplemental Absentee Meeting; Schedule

Director Sabadish recommended that the Supplemental Absentee meeting be held May 26, 2022 at 5:00PM. The Board agreed to schedule the meeting as recommended by staff.

VI. Board Comments

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

Member Godette

Member Godette noted that the election seemed to be running smoothly so far and complimented staff on their hard work.

Member Gillikin

Member Gillikin noted the incident regarding a precinct official not wearing shoes while working One-Stop Early Voting. Member Gillikin recognized that the precinct officials are a direct reflection of the Board of Elections office and should represent the Board of Elections in a professional manner while working for the Board of Elections. Precinct officials not willing to uphold these standards should not be permitted to work. The other Board members concurred with Member Gillikin's comments and asked Director Sabadish to work with the Human Resources Department to remedy the issue.

Member Gillikin also asked about Same-Day Registration and the verification process that goes along with that during One-Stop Early Voting. Director Sabadish explained that if there are any address changes during One-Stop Early Voting, the address is verified through the mailing system, just like a normal voter registration. Same-Day Registrations can be denied if addresses cannot be confirmed and Board action may be required.

Secretary Deese

Secretary Deese asked if the Democratic Party has submitted any observer lists to the Board of Elections. Director Sabadish explained that she has only received a list of observers from the republican party at this time.

Secretary Deese asked Director Sabadish if there were any updates on the FY22-23 budget and whether or not she knew if there was a COLA increase included for staff. Director Sabadish explained that she has not received any further updates on the budget and did not hear of any COLA increases for staff. She also reiterated that she would keep the Board updated if she heard anything more concerning the budget.

Chair Cuthrell

Chair Cuthrell asked about the provisional ballot process and what the processes were if the precinct officials were to encounter a voter wanting to vote that has been removed due to list maintenance, such as moving out of county or state. Director Sabadish explained that the precinct officials can see the registration

status when they search the voter's name and also the reason for removal. Precinct officials are instructed to never turn a voter away and to vote them provisionally if they have a removed record of registration. Provisional voters that have been removed due to list maintenance by moving out of county or out of state can provide the Board of Elections with proof that they have been wrongfully removed and have not moved out of county or state by 5:00PM the day before the County Canvass. The burden of proof is on the voter and can be provided to the Board to consider the approval or disapproval of the provisional ballot at the provisional ballot meeting. Director Sabadish also agreed to send the Board Numbered Memo 2018-05 which explains the provisional review processes.

VII. Adjournment

Secretary Deese 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

Vacant, Vice Chair

Jeanette Deese, Secretary

Dale Gillikin, Member

Gerald Godette, Member