

MINUTES
TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

May 4, 2017

The Transylvania County Board of Elections met in regular session on Thursday, May 4, 2017, at 10:00 AM in the Election Center, 150 South Gaston Street, Brevard. Chairman David P. Morrow presided. Others present were Member Sara G. Champion, Director Tracie Fisher, Deputy Director Jeff Storey, Deputy Director Laura Owen, Lee McMinn, and Kathleen Barnes.

Chairman Morrow called the meeting to order. Board members considered the minutes from the April 6, 2017 meeting. Ms. Champion moved to approve the minutes. The motion carried.

The next item on the agenda was other business. Mrs. Fisher updated the board on pending legislation that may affect statutes related to elections. Mrs. Fisher shared with the board items that were discussed at the North Carolina Association of Directors of Elections conference that she and the staff attended in April. In the Director's report Mrs. Fisher discussed meeting with RBM Consulting regarding services the company can offer the Election Center. Mrs. Fisher informed the board that she is now the president for the District 1 Directors of Elections. The first meeting will be held on June 12, 2017 at the Transylvania County Election Center to focus on voting equipment demonstrations from the various companies either certified by the state of North Carolina or are currently in the certification process. Mrs. Fisher reviewed reports from Democracy North Carolina and the State Board of Elections regarding protests and discrepancies during the 2016 General Election. Transylvania County was not included in either report as having any protests or discrepancies. The Director noted that Transylvania County might be the host for campaign finance training provided by the State Board of Elections this summer. Mrs. Fisher shared a new form that is available on the website for voters interested in becoming precinct officials. The Director updated the FY 18 budget to include a fourth board member in the event the legislation becomes law. The board was informed of the hardware maintenance and software maintenance contract renewal with ES&S that will be coming up in July 2017.

The chairman asked for comment from the other board member. Ms. Champion recommended that the District 1 representatives be invited to the June 12th meeting so the concerns of the district regarding pending legislation can be shared. The Chairman opened the floor for public comment. Mrs. Barnes questioned the reasoning behind changing the State Board of Elections from a 4-year term to a 2-year term under the new legislation. Mrs. Fisher responded that no explanation has been given for that change. Mrs. Barnes also informed the board that she has been working with various groups at Brevard College concerning voter registration and becoming precinct officials. She noted that several of the students are interested in working at the precinct level. Mr. McMinn asked if it was permitted to have state representatives attend a meeting or if it would be considered lobbying. Mrs. Fisher answered that the directors are encouraged to reach out to their representatives concerning election related legislation.

There was no additional business for the Board's consideration. Mr. Morrow moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM. The next meeting of the Board will be held on May 4, 2017 at 10:00 AM in the Election Center located at, 150 South Gaston Street, Brevard.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracie Fisher

Tracie Fisher, Director

Approved by Board on: 06-01-2017

David P. Morrow

David P. Morrow, Chairman

Sara G. Champion

Sara G. Champion, Member