

**TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**APRIL 4, 2019**

The scheduled meeting of the Transylvania County Board of Elections was called to order at 10:00 am on April 4, 2019 at 150 South Gaston Street, Brevard, NC 28712.

**Present**

**Board Members:**

Sara Champion, Chair  
Lee McMinn, Secretary  
David Morrow  
Pam Dashiell  
Michael Wainwright

**Staff:**

Jeff Storey, Director  
Laura Owen, Deputy Director  
Bria Bailey, Deputy Director

Visitors: Kathleen Barnes

**Approval and Review of Previous Minutes**

**Chair Champion made a motion to approve the minutes from March 7, 2019. Mr. Morrow seconded. The motion carried.**

**DIRECTOR UPDATES**

**Policies**

Director Storey provided the final copy of the conference room policy with one amendment that added language for county approval authority in addition to the elections office. Mr. Storey informed the board the petty cash policy is still in development.

**Voter ID Equipment**

Director Storey updated the board on the Voter ID implementation. The badge printer has been received and Deputy Director Bailey has been testing it. Mr. Storey indicated the State will provide a template to use on the badge. The State Board will meet this afternoon to approve temporary rules for Voter ID. Training is expected the last week of April. Director Storey also informed the board the State will be onsite to provide Voter ID public information seminars on August 1st and 3rd as required by the legislature. Mr. Storey is checking on availability of the Rogow room and has blocked off the Election Center conference rooms. There were additional questions and speculation on the process of issuing voter ID badges, but Director Storey indicated it is unknown until the State approves the temporary rules and the counties receive the training. The director mentioned the Governor has delayed asking for Voter ID until 2020, but implementation is still effective May 1, 2019 to provide Voter ID cards.

### **Precinct Lines**

Director Storey informed the board the State will release the proposed precinct lines by April 16, 2019 and give the county boards six weeks to review and make suggestions. On May 31, 2019, the State Board will submit changes to the US Census Bureau.

### **Staff Training**

The board was briefed that Director Storey and Deputy Director Owen will be attending a CERA workshop April 24, 2019 through April 28, 2019. The workshop and courses will allow Mr. Storey to be recertified and fulfill a certification requirement for Ms. Owen. Director Storey informed the Board that Ms. Owen will also be travelling to Auburn University in May to complete her coursework to become certified this year.

### **NCADE Notes**

Director Storey gave the board an update on the Director's Conference in Hickory. Topics included cyber and physical security, election law, training and certification, and legislative updates. Mr. Storey provided information from conference notes that HB294 was unlikely to pass and that a new congressional bill to give county boards flexibility with setting early voting hours was being introduced. The director went over duties and responsibilities with the board that was presented by State Board Deputy General Counsel Katlyn Love. Mr. Storey also briefed the board on the new certification programs the State Board is developing.

### **New Voting Equipment**

The board was presented information on the ExpressVote printer that could be used during early voting to ensure the correct ballot style is issued to the voter. A demo ballot was displayed, and the procedure explained on its usage. Director Storey indicated this equipment must still be certified by the State Board of Elections before it can be utilized. Secretary McMinn asked about the status of purchasing the certified DS200 equipment and supplies this fiscal year. Director Storey stated it is on hold until the proposed precinct changes are revealed. There was further discussion on which fiscal year the equipment will be purchased. Mr. Storey reiterated to the board that county administration is aware that a partial purchase will take place this fiscal year and the remaining amount in FY19-20. The ADA equipment will have to be state certified and tested locally in an election prior to purchase.

### **Other Business**

Mr. Morrow suggested updating the board on the budget meeting attended by Director Storey, Chair Champion, and David Morrow with the county manager and finance director. Chair Champion indicated it went very well and that we are fortunate to have a supportive county administration.

Ms. Champion informed the board that Nick Pearl is now the Transylvania County Democrat Party Chair. Mr. Morrow confirmed Sammy Kicklighter remains chair of the Republican Party in Transylvania County. Mr. Storey will contact the chairs and review policies and procedures with them.

Director Storey gave an update on the upcoming State Conference in July and confirmed reservations for all board and staff. Voter ID will be a main topic.

### Public Comment


Kathleen Barnes asked if the voter ID equipment will be available at the public information seminars. Director Storey indicated the State will be conducting the seminar and he will look into it.

Kathleen Barnes asked about the status of the Williamson Creek Community Center. The board informed Ms. Barnes there are upcoming community meetings to discuss it led by Leslie Chepenik where the community will need to decide whether to invest resources in keeping it open.

Ms. Barnes shared a concern that only having early voting during business hours for the Municipal Election would be a hindrance to voters who work. The board indicated extended hours is a financial cost that would need to be addressed with the City of Brevard and Town of Rosman. Director Storey restated a bill is forthcoming to address flexibility in early voting hours during odd years.

**On a motion by Chair Champion, seconded by Secretary McMinn, the meeting was adjourned at 11:39 am.** The next scheduled meeting will be at 10:00 am on May 2, 2019, at 150 South Gaston Street, Brevard, NC 28712.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Lee McMinn, Secretary

  
Sara G. Champion, Chair

  
David P. Morrow, Member

*Pam Dashiell*

Pam Dashiell, Member

*Michael Wainwright*

Michael Wainwright, Member

Approved by Board on: 5/2/2019