

TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
ABSENTEE MEETING MINUTES
July 2, 2020

The scheduled absentee meeting of the Transylvania County Board of Elections was called to order by Chair Champion at 10 am on Thursday, July 2, 2020 at 150 South Gaston Street, Brevard, NC 28712 and via Zoom electronic meeting.

Present

Board Members:

Staff Members:

Chair: Sara Champion	Director: Jeff Storey
Secretary: Lee McMinn	Deputy Director: Laura Owen
David Morrow	
Pam Dashiell	
Michael Wainwright*	* Remotely via Zoom

Visitors: None

Review and Consideration of Supplemental Absentee Ballots

Deputy Director Owen presented the board with the attached list of supplemental absentee applications to consider and approve. There was 1 absentee ballot received by the deadline with proper postmarks. Ms. Dashiell asked about the post mark. Secretary McMinn said it was postmarked June 22. Deputy Director Owen reminded the board that absentees postmarked by Election Day and received by Friday June 26 are eligible. **Secretary McMinn made the motion to approve 1 civilian absentee application. The motion unanimously carried.**

Review and Count of Provisional Ballots

Deputy Director Owen presented the board with 12 Provisional applications. 5 out of precinct were recommended for approval. 2 incorrect party, and 5 no record of registration applications were not recommended for approval with research and reasons provided. Chair Champion expressed emphasis on young people understanding that registering in North Carolina through DMV does not mean you are registered in all North Carolina counties. Better education during voter registration drives may help. **Ms. Dashiell made a motion to approve the 5 provisional applications as presented by staff. The motion unanimously passed.** The Board processed the 5 provisional ballots. There were 5 approved and 7 not approved for a total of 12.

DIRECTOR UPDATES

B4 Precinct Location

Director Storey informed the board that Brevard College has stated the Porter Center Scott Commons Hall will not be available in November due to COVID-19 spacing requirements. Increased floor space will be needed to hold classes. The gym was suggested as a possible alternative site. The director met with Beverly Smith and assessed the location. The main gym would be feasible, but

the auxiliary gym would be very problematic due to limitations for curbside voting and voter traffic. Ms. Smith indicated the main gym is not an option. The college also has concerns regarding COVID-19 and voting and may not be accommodating. Director Storey explained the precautions the board of elections will be taking to protect voters and staff. Secretary McMinn asked if they were concerned about street shoes on the floor of the main gym and whether the college would be fine with a cover. The director will follow up with Brevard College, but alternative sites may need to be considered.

One Stop Plan

The director reminded the board of the One Stop Early Voting meeting on July 14th and will provide one stop data for the board to consider by the end of the day. Based on factors with COVID-19 the board will need to consider multiple sites and anticipate a need for additional workers. The board agreed. Director Storey indicated the meeting will be held in the large conference room with both parties limited to 3 in-person seats. The rest of the public will be available to participate via Zoom.

Board Comments

Secretary McMinn asked about Election Day precincts in November. The director responded that the Boyd location would allow us to use the bays also which would allow additional social distancing. The school gyms are still being looked out for Brevard #3 and Rosman. The director hopes to get an update on that soon.

On a motion by Secretary McMinn, the meeting was adjourned at 10:44 am. The next scheduled meeting will be at 11 am on July 6, 2020, at 150 South Gaston Street, Brevard, NC 28712 to conduct Canvass.

Respectfully submitted,



Lee McMinn, Secretary



Sara G. Champion, Chair



David P. Morrow, Member

Pam Dashiell, Member

Michael Wainwright, Member

Approved by Board on: AUGUST 6, 2020