

**TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
October 26, 2021

The scheduled meeting of the Transylvania County Board of Elections was called to order by Chair Champion at 5 PM on Tuesday, October 26, 2021, at 150 South Gaston Street, Brevard, NC 28712.

**Present**

Board Members:	Staff Members:
Chair: Sara Champion	Director: Jeff Storey
Secretary: Lee McMinn	Deputy Director: Laura Owen
Sandra Watson	Deputy Director: Julie Dennis
Wendy Warwick	

Visitors: Judith West

**Review and Approval of Agenda**

Chair Champion asked for review of the agenda. **Member Warwick made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Review and Approval of Previous Minutes**

The board was presented with minutes from previous meetings. **Member Watson made a motion to approve the board meeting minutes for October 12, 2021, and October 19, 2021. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Review and Approval of One Stop Applications**

Director Storey informed the board there are 521 absentee one stop applications that have processed between October 19 and October 25, 2021. **Secretary McMinn made a motion to approve the applications as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Review and Approval of Received Absentee Ballots**

Deputy Director Owen presented the board with 16 CIV absentee applications to consider and approve. The board split into two teams to review the absentee ballot envelopes. Teams consisted of Chair Champion (D) and Member Watson (R) and the other team consisted of Secretary McMinn (D) and Member Warwick (R).

The pages were reviewed by the board. **Member Watson made the motion to approve the absentee ballots. The motion unanimously carried.**

Upon opening, 2 CIV ballots were spoiled due to the CIV number not matching the CIV envelope. Deputy Director Owen will contact the voters.

Approved: 14 CIV  
Spoiled: 2 CIV

Approved: 521 OS Applications (October 19, 2021 - October 25, 2021)

## **DIRECTOR UPDATES**

The director stated that early voting is going well and voter turnout is averaging around 100 per day (not including weekends). There have been some provisional ballots due to jurisdictional disputes over city limits along Ecusta Rd. Staff will research those and present to the board at the designated provisional board meeting.

Director Storey explained the process for the November 1<sup>st</sup> board meeting at 5 PM. The board will review and approve the remaining one stop applications, received absentee ballots, and pick up the absentee lists to be distributed to the precincts on Election Day.

An overview of the schedule and expectations for Election Day and the Canvass period was given to the board

### Risk Limiting Audits

The director stated that Transylvania County is one of 20 counties in North Carolina that will participate in a pilot program to evaluate using risk limiting audits. This will take place following Canvass and is unofficial. Director Storey indicated the State Board will hold a virtual meeting with the pilot counties this week and provide further details.

## **BOARD COMMENTS**

The board asked how risk limiting audits differ from the currently used sample audit. The director explained that sample audits are full hand to eye counts by a bi-partisan team where the State Board has randomly selected two precincts for each county. This method is used to validate that the machine count is accurate. The risk limiting audit is also a hand to eye count that takes a subset of ballots from every batch of category (i.e. Absentee by Mail, Early Voting, Election Day, Provisional) to evaluate the confidence in the results. A percentage of ballots are pulled from each batch rather than a full audit of two random precincts.

The board asked what the date was for our sample audit. The director responded it would be on November 5, 2021 at 9 AM and was optional for the board. A bi-partisan team will conduct the sample audit.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

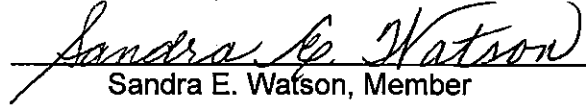
There were no public comments.

**On a motion by Secretary McMinn, the meeting adjourned at 5:47 PM.** The next scheduled meeting will be at 5 pm on Monday, November 1, 2021, at 150 South Gaston Street, Brevard, NC 28712.

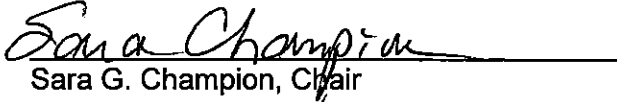
Respectfully submitted,



Lee McMinn, Secretary



Sandra E. Watson, Member



Sara G. Champion, Chair



Wendy Warwick, Member

vacant

Approved by Board on: 12/9/2021