

**TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

**ABSENTEE MEETING MINUTES**

April 23, 2024

Chair Champion called the absentee meeting of the Transylvania County Board of Elections to order at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at 150 South Gaston Street, Brevard, NC 28712.

**Attendance**

**Board Members:**

**Staff Members:**

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Chair: Sara Champion  
Secretary: Judith West  
Sandra Watson  
Wendy Warwick  
Nona Walker

Director: Jeff Storey  
Deputy Director: Laura Owen  
Deputy Director: Julie Dennis

Visitors: David Alff, Barb Jackson

**Review and Approval of Agenda**

The director asked the Board to add an agenda item to appoint recently confirmed precinct officials. **On a motion by Member Warwick, the Board unanimously approved the agenda.**

**Public Comments**

Mr. Alff felt Saturdays were important days to be open for early voting and asked the Board to consider three Saturdays for the 2024 general election early voting period.

**Review and Approval of Previous Minutes**

The Board reviewed minutes for previous board meetings. **On a motion by Member Watson, the Board unanimously approved the minutes for February 6, February 13, February 20, February 27, March 4, March 5, March 13, March 14, and April 16, 2024.**

**Review and Approval of Received Absentee Ballots**

Deputy Director Owen presented the Board with 1 MIL absentee application to consider and approve. **Member Watson made the motion to approve 1 executed absentee ballot. The motion carried unanimously.**

Approved: 1 MIL

**Precinct official appointments**

Director Storey provided recommendations to fill temporary vacancies for the May 14, 2024 2<sup>nd</sup> primary in Dunn's Rock and TC1 precincts (attached). **On a motion by Member Walker, the Board unanimously approved the recommended temporary judge assignments.**

**2024 General Early Voting Implementation Plan**

The director provided the Board with historical data for previous presidential election early voting plans. The recommended dates / times were consistent with the 2020 early voting plan. Chair Champion addressed previous concerns with road construction and provided the Board with a copy of the DOT (Department of Transportation) plans for roundabouts along US 64 and Asheville Highway. DOT supervisors stated to the chair that there will be no lane closures during the month of October and Election Day due to anticipated increases in vehicle traffic for leaf season and election related activities. Chair Champion stated DOT will also not have a detour on Deaver Rd. until 2025. The Board was satisfied with the DOT response to traffic concerns. The Board's plan includes the old Kmart and Rosman Town Hall locations with the Library Rogow Room secured as a backup. Hours for the first two Saturdays are from 8:00 a.m. to 6 p.m. **On a motion by Member Watson, the Board unanimously approved the early voting plan for the 2024 General Election.**

**Director Updates**


Director Storey informed the Board that logic and accuracy testing for the 2<sup>nd</sup> primary has been completed including the mock election. Early voting will start on April 25, 2024.

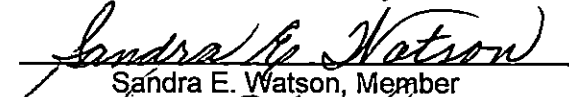
**Election Security**

Member Watson asked for a briefing to review security concerns for Election Day. **Chair Champion made a motion for the Board to enter into closed session per NCGS 143-318.11(a)(9) to discuss security measures for Election Day precincts. The motion carried unanimously.** After meeting in closed session, Chair Champion reconvened the meeting in open session. There was no additional business for the Board's consideration.

**On a motion by Chair Champion, the meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.** The next scheduled meeting will be at 4 p.m. on April 30, 2024, at 150 South Gaston Street, Brevard, NC 28712.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Judith West, Secretary

  
Sandra E. Watson, Member

  
Nona Walker, Member

  
Sara G. Champion, Chair

  
Wendy Warwick, Member

Approved by Board on: 5/24/24