

TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
June 13, 2024

Chair Champion called the meeting of the Transylvania County Board of Elections to order at 10 a.m. on Thursday, June 13, 2024, at 150 South Gaston Street, Brevard, NC 28712.

Attendance

Board Members:

Staff Members:

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

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

Visitors: Barb Jackson, Kathy Voltz.

Review and Approval of Agenda

On a motion by Member Watson, the board unanimously approved the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Jackson asked if the election budget had been funded. The director responded that the proposed election budget was approved.

Process for Early Voting Rosters

Director Storey discussed the process for appointing offsite early voting rosters based on the changes established in Session Law 2023-140 (SB 747). The local political parties can recommend early voting workers for chief judge, judge, and assistants similar to the Election Day precinct officials. Letters will be sent to the parties with a deadline for submission. The Board will appoint early voting workers at the next meeting.

DIRECTOR UPDATES

Director Storey provided updates on the county commissioner vacancy. The Republican party will meet on June 20, 2024 to consider a nominee to serve in the interim. Each local political party has been asked to provide a nominee by August 2, 2024 to ensure enough time to get the nominees on the ballot for the unexpired term.

The director was informed by the realtor holding the old Kmart property that their maintenance team needs to do another assessment to ensure the safety of the early voting site. There was a discussion by the Board on when a move to the backup location would be warranted. There was no consensus on a date but will be readdressed at the next meeting.

Director Storey stated GIS audits will be conducted over the summer to verify residential addresses within the county. The new GIS system data will be used to cross reference SEIMS street addressing to increase accuracy.

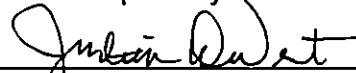
The director addressed complaints received by Carol Snow regarding absentee by mail requests and unverified voters. The complaints received were directed to the State Board of Elections but received by county election offices and were focused on alleged issues with the SEIMS software used to manage absentee by mail ballots.

The Board asked about feedback from the primaries. Director Storey deferred the "Lessons Learned" to the next meeting when the raw data can be consolidated.

BOARD COMMENTS

On a motion by Chair Champion, the meeting adjourned at 11:22 a.m. The next scheduled meeting will be at 10 a.m. on Thursday, July 11, 2024, at 150 South Gaston Street, Brevard, NC 28712.


Respectfully submitted,



Judith West, Secretary



Sara G. Champion, Chair

Sandra E. Watson, Member


Nona Walker, Member



Wendy Warwick, Member

Approved by Board on: 7/11/24