

TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

April 9, 2026

Chair Cruickshank called the meeting of the Transylvania County Board of Elections to order at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 9, 2026, at 150 South Gaston Street, Brevard, NC 28712.

Attendance

Board Members:	Staff Members:
Chair: Jim Cruickshank	Director: Jeff Storey
Secretary: Judith West	Deputy Director: Laura Owen
Nona Walker	Deputy Director: Julie Dennis

Public: none

Review and approval of agenda

On a motion by Member West, the Board approved the agenda 3-0.

Review and approval of previous minutes

February 10, 2026: Member Walker made a motion to approve: Passed: 3-0

February 17, 2026: Secretary West made a motion to approve: Passed: 3-0

February 24, 2026: Member Walker made a motion to approve: Passed: 3-0

March 2, 2026: Secretary West made a motion to approve: Passed: 3-0

March 3, 2026: Member Walker made a motion to approve: Passed: 3-0

March 6, 2026: Secretary West made a motion to approve: Passed: 3-0

March 12, 2026: Member Walker made a motion to approve: Passed: 3-0

March 13, 2026: Secretary West made a motion to approve: Passed: 3-0

TC1-TC7 precinct line (Preliminary Evaluation)

Director Storey mentioned there were comments made on social media regarding a TC1 voter with an address closer to TC7. The director had made a cursory review and felt the point was valid for that street range. The process for altering precinct lines was explained to the board with final approval authority being the State Board of Elections. The director offered to start a preliminary collection of data for the board to review at a future meeting, if desired. The Board agreed. No further action was taken.

Director updates

The Board was informed the budget meeting with the director, Chair Cruickshank, and county administration went well. There were no issues of concern.

Director Storey discussed the costs of the poll worker software were higher than originally budgeted, but the current fiscal year's budget would cover the difference for this year. The recurring cost would be \$2,000 higher than anticipated and would need to be shared with county administration. The Board reviewed the modified purchase agreement and gave the director approval to proceed.

The director relayed to the Board an additional request from the state auditor's office regarding cost data for the 2022 and 2024 general elections with a deadline to submit by April 27.

Director Storey informed the Board of the July deadline to submit the early voting plan for the 2026 General Election. The board agreed to review the data and decide on a plan at the regular June board meeting.

The director has received renewed interest from local political parties in using the Election Center conference room. The current policy does not prohibit such use and clearly states the Board of Elections does not endorse said activities at the Election Center. The board was invited to review the current policy. After discussion, the Board felt no modifications to the policy were needed.

Director Storey informed the Board of an advocacy request regarding North Carolina HB958, which deals with several election law changes. The Board reviewed the request and took no further action.

The director indicated he has two speaking engagements for the month of April. One regarding photo ID and the second will be an overview of elections operations with a voting equipment demonstration.

There was no further discussion. **On a motion by Chair Cruickshank, the meeting was adjourned at 10:58 a.m.** The next scheduled meeting will be at 10 a.m. on May 14, 2026, at 150 South Gaston Street, Brevard, NC 28712.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith West, Secretary

Jim Cruickshank, Chair

Nona Walker, Member

Phyllis Owen, Member

Thomas A. Smith III, Member

Approved by Board on: _____