

TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 2, 2020

The scheduled meeting of the Transylvania County Board of Elections was called to order by Chair Champion at 10:00 am on Thursday, January 2, 2020 at 150 South Gaston Street, Brevard, NC 28712.

Present

Board Members:

Sara Champion, Chair
David Morrow
Pam Dashiell
Michael Wainwright

Staff:

Jeff Storey, Director
Laura Owen, Deputy Director
Bria Bailey, Deputy Director

Visitors: Ruth Harris

Review and Approval of Previous Minutes

Mr. Wainwright made a motion to approve the minutes from December 5, 2019. Ms. Dashiell seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Absentee Meeting Schedule for 2020 Primary

The director suggested amending the absentee meeting schedule to combine the supplemental absentee meeting (currently March 6, 2020) with the Provisional board meeting so that both are on March 12, 2020 at 10 AM. **Ms. Dashiell made a motion to accept the amended schedule as presented. Mr. Morrow seconded. The motion carried unanimously.**

B4 Resolution

Director Storey presented the resolution to temporarily move the Brevard #4 precinct from the Brevard College Porter Center building to the Myers Dining Hall. Chair Champion asked about the verbiage for the mailing that will go out to voters. Director Storey indicated a letter will be sent to each voter with a map showing the new location. Mr. Morrow asked about signage for the Porter Center. The director informed the board signage will be placed at the old voting location in addition to signage around the campus directing voters to the Dining Hall. **Mr. Wainwright made a motion to accept the resolution as presented. Mr. Morrow seconded. The motion carried unanimously.**

Precinct Official Vacancies / Appointments

Director Storey provided the board with a list of workers needing appointments and the remaining needs for Election Day. **Mr. Morrow moved to appoint the precinct officials as presented in Brevard #3, Rosman Eastatoe, and TC7. Ms. Dashiell seconded. The motion unanimously carried.**

DIRECTOR UPDATES

Travel Plans and Agenda for SBOE Conference

Director Storey provided the board with the training agenda for the State Board Conference in February. It was noted the agenda may be modified in lieu of the court ruling on photo ID. Staff and board members will meet on Sunday afternoon to travel to Charlotte.

Training

The director informed the board that correspondence has been sent to the precinct workers and precinct training dates are on January 23, January 27, January 28, and January 30. Each precinct roster was assigned a date with training scheduled to be held from 2 PM to 6 PM. On January 30, the training will be 5 PM to 9 PM. Director Storey stated the training will cover setup, voting, and closing procedures for the new equipment and will have a mock precinct assembled in the large conference room.

Chair Champion asked how photo ID would be incorporated into training if the ruling changes, and the director replied photo ID is discussed in detail at the separate OVRD training which will be in February. If the ruling is appealed, staff would have time to add that back into OVRD training.

OVRD

Director Storey mentioned Deputy Director Bailey will be sending signups to the precinct workers to schedule OVRD training in February. There will be two large classes in the conference room to handle 20 people at a time followed by several training sessions in the training room for 10 people each.

Absentee

The board asked how the photo ID ruling affects absentee by mail. Director Storey said they are expecting guidance from the State Board this afternoon, but he expects labels will be generated to put over existing absentee envelopes similar to 2016.

New Voting Equipment

The director stated the contract for the ExpressVote equipment has not been received from the vendor yet. PrintElect has the equipment ready to ship once the contract has been signed.

Board Comments

The board asked if any petitions have been filed for unaffiliated county commissioner candidates. Director Storey replied there has been two inquiries from individuals, but no one had officially turned in the form to begin the process. The director mentioned 1002 verified signatures will be the total needed for an unaffiliated candidate to file a notice of candidacy.

Chair Champion indicated someone had asked about campaign finance information regarding donors to candidate campaigns. Director Storey had not heard from them yet, but that would be considered a public records request.

The board chair asked about workers for early voting. Director Storey said it was nearly staffed but having one or two more individuals would make it better. It was asked if elections staff can fill in for early voting workers and the director replied that they could. Karen Henderson will be working in the office then and can be used as an alternate as well.

The chair asked if there were any further questions. It was asked what the dates would be for a potential runoff election. The director indicated April for a state or local contest and May for a federal contest.

Public Comments

Ruth Harris asked if the photo ID ruling is being appealed. The director replied that no further direction has been given, but the Attorney General Josh Stein would have the task of appealing the ruling. Ms. Harris asked what the time frame to appeal would be. The director reiterated no further information has been given to county boards at this time.

There were no further comments.

On a motion by Chair Champion, seconded by Pam Dashiell, the meeting was adjourned at 10:35 am. The next scheduled meeting will be at 10:00 am on February 6, 2020, at 150 South Gaston Street, Brevard, NC 28712.

Respectfully submitted,



Lee McMinn, Secretary



Sara G. Champion, Chair



David P. Morrow, Member



Pam Dashiell, Member

Michael Wainwright, Member

Approved by Board on: May 7, 2020