TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES August 11, 2022

The regular meeting of the Transylvania County Board of Elections was called to order by Chair Champion at 10 a.m. on Thursday, August 11, 2022, 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		
	Judith West		

Visitors: Wally Booth, Herschel Johnson, Virginia Pendergrass

Review and Approval of Agenda

Chair Champion asked for a review of the agenda. There were no amendments to the agenda. Member Warwick made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

Review and Approval of Previous Minutes

The board reviewed the minutes from July 14, 2022. **Member Watson made a motion to** approve the board meeting minutes for July 14 2022, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Precinct Official Appointments

Director Storey presented the board with additional recommendations from the local political parties for Election Day officials. Chair Champion asked how unaffiliated workers were recommended. The director stated only previously approved and experienced unaffiliated workers are currently being recommended. Member Watson asked about the unaffiliated judges in Cedar Mountain. Director Storey said they have been vetted and approved by the party chairs. Secretary McMinn made a motion to approve the recommended precinct officials as presented for Brevard #1, Brevard #4, Cathey's Creek, Dunn's Rock, Rosman Eastatoe, and TC7. The motion unanimously carried.

Resolution to Count Absentee Ballots at 2 PM on Election Day

Director Storey asked the board to consider processing absentee ballots at 2 pm on Election Day as authorized by N.C.G.S § 163-234. Secretary McMinn made the motion to approve the resolution. The motion passed unanimously.

DIRECTOR UPDATES

Director Storey provided the board with the agenda and timetables for the state virtual conference to be held on August 30th and 31st. Sheriff Mahoney will be a guest speaker. The director gave the board the itinerary for the national conference that will satisfy the requirements needed for recertification.

The director provided the board with dates for precinct official training, OVRD (onsite voter registration database training, and early voting training. Chair Champion asked about the dates for logic and accuracy testing. Director Storey mentioned ballot proofing has started and a date will be set once we receive the coding. The director explained to the board and public the procedures involved for ballot proofing, logic and accuracy testing, and the mock election.

The board expressed a desire for clarity of expectations and communication with the observers and election officials. The director stated both political parties have been invited to attend precinct official and chief judge training to better understand the roles and responsibilities of everyone involved.

Director Storey updated the board on absentee by mail supplies and timelines for mailing ballots. Regarding the *Disability Rights NC v NC State Board of Elections* ruling that allows an absentee voter who needs assistance voting due to a disability to get assistance from any person of their choice. The ruling applies to all aspects of the absentee voting process including requesting a ballot, marking a ballot, and returning a ballot. Further information should be forthcoming in the state conference.

Director Storey reminded the board of the dates and timelines for the 2022 General Election.

BOARD AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

Member Warwick asked for clarification on the eligibility of felons ruled on by the court system. Member West emphasized that any individual not incarcerated has the same rights and ability to register to vote as non-felons under the ruling. Secretary McMinn and Member West asked for clarification on the residency requirements and home of record for felons released within 30 days of the election. The director will seek guidance from the State Board.

On a motion by Secretary McMinn, the meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m. The next scheduled meeting will be at 10 a.m. on September 8, 2022, at 150 South Gaston Street, Brevard, NC 28712.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee McMinn, Secretary

Sara G. Champion, Chair

Sandra E. Watson, Member

Wendy Warwick, Member

Judith West, Member

Approved by Board on: ____2 - 9 - 2023