

TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
ABSENTEE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
October 8, 2024

Chair Champion called the meeting of the Transylvania County Board of Elections to order at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, October 8, 2024, at 150 South Gaston Street, Brevard, NC 28712.

Attendance

Board Members:		Staff Members:	
Chair:	Sara Champion	Director:	Jeff Storey
Secretary:	Judith West	Deputy Director:	Laura Owen
	Sandra Watson	Deputy Director:	Julie Dennis
	Wendy Warwick		
	Nona Walker		

Visitors: Jeff Brewer, Larry Chapman, Kelly Gee, Barb Jackson, Kathy Voltz

Review and Approval of Agenda

On a motion by Member Warwick, the Board unanimously approved the agenda.

Review and Approval of Received Absentee Ballots

Deputy Director Owen presented the board with 33 civilian (CIV), 31 overseas (OVR) and 5 military (MIL) absentee applications to consider and approve. The board split into two teams to review the absentee ballot envelopes. Teams consisted of Member Warwick (R) and Member West (D) and Member Walker (D) and Member Watson (R). **Member West made a motion to approve 5 MIL executed absentee ballots. The motion carried unanimously. Member Warwick made a motion to approve 31 OVR executed absentee ballots. Member West made a motion to approve 33 CIV executed absentee ballots.**

Approved: 5 MIL, 31 OVR, 33 CIV

PUBLIC COMMENTS : None

Review and Approval of previous minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes for September 5, 2024. **On a motion by Member Watson, the minutes were unanimously approved.**

Early Voting worker appointments

Director Storey submitted Helen Barker for board consideration to work early voting at the old Kmart site. **On a motion by Member Warwick, the Board unanimously approved the early voting assistant appointment.**

Review of the State Board emergency resolution

Director Storey provided the Board copies of the State Board of Elections' Hurricane Helene emergency resolution. The director informed the Board that early voting sites were not damaged in the storm and confirmed they would be available to use. The director explained the emergency resolution gave flexibility to modify the early voting plans for the general election and Election Day precincts. Director Storey felt modifications to the early voting plan were unwarranted based on the parameters of the resolution and coverage would be sufficient for early voting. The director indicated Election Day precinct damage assessments were ongoing, but 14 of 15 sites appeared to be available. Director Storey mentioned the Board could defer a decision on Election Day sites but asked if the Board wished to modify the early voting plan.

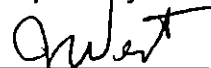
Member Warwick made a motion to keep the existing early voting plan for the 2024 General Election. The motion carried unanimously.

DIRECTOR UPDATES

Director Storey informed the Board that logic and accuracy testing was completed the day before the storm hit and the testing data was used in the statewide mock election on October 4, 2024. Despite the difficulties presented by Hurricane Helene, early voting is expected to open on October 17, 2024. OVRD training resumed, and Election Day precinct training was completed. Additional training dates will be added for those who were unable to attend.

On a motion by Chair Champion, the meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m. The next scheduled meeting will be at 3 p.m. on October 15, 2024, at 150 South Gaston Street, Brevard, NC 28712.

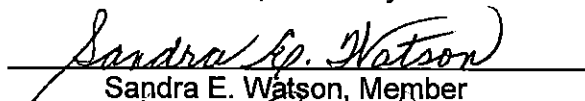
Respectfully submitted,



Judith West, Secretary



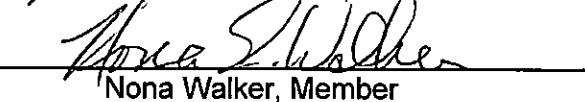
Sara G. Champion, Chair



Sandra E. Watson, Member



Wendy Warwick, Member



Nona Walker, Member

Approved by Board on: 1-9-2025