TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

August 19, 2025

Chair Cruickshank called the meeting of the Transylvania County Board of Elections to order at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, August 19, 2025, at 150 South Gaston Street, Brevard, NC 28712.

Attendance

Board Members: Staff Members:

Chair: Jim Cruickshank Director: Jeff Storey
Secretary: Judith West
Nona Walker Deputy Director: Julie Dennis
Phyllis Owen

Visitors: Herschel Johnson, Alice Wellborn

Review and approval of agenda

On a motion by Secretary West the Board approved the agenda 4-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

Review and approval of previous minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes for July 22, 2025. On a motion by Member Walker, the minutes for July 22, 2025 were approved 4-0.

Appointment of chief judges / judges

Per N.C.G.S. § 163-41, county boards of elections appoint Election Day chief judges and judges for a two-year term. Director Storey provided the Board with the nominations submitted for chief judge and judge from the local Democratic and Republican Parties. The director identified the changes from previous rosters. The Board discussed the recommendations and had no objection to the names provided. On a motion by Member Walker, the Board approved 4-0 to approve the chief judge / judge appointments for August 2025 - 2027.

Appointment of precinct assistants

The director presented nominations for Election Day assistants from the local democratic and republican parties for board approval. The Board discussed the nominees and asked about out-of-precinct workers. The director indicated there are some out of precinct workers, but no precinct had a majority of individuals serving who did not reside within the precinct per N.C.G.S. § 163-42(b) On a motion by Member West, the Board approved 4-0 to approve the recommendations for assistants for August 2025 to August 2027. Director Storey stated that the number of workers is sufficient for the upcoming municipal election, but remaining vacancies should be filled prior to the primary election training in January 2026.

Director Updates

The director stated preventative maintenance and the upgrade of voting equipment to EVS 6.3.0.0. has been completed.

The registration repair list for Transylvania County has been reviewed and staff were able to fix 20 of the 103 identified on the list. The 83 remaining registrants will receive a mailing from the State Board of Elections indicating the steps needed to correct their registration record.

The director indicated he was invited to the Freedom Fest on Saturday, August 23rd. from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Silversteen Park. The office will have a booth for registration and photo ID.

Director Storey mentioned he has received questions from new board members regarding various election processes and suggested a workshop to provide an overview and answer questions. Chair Cruickshank gaged the Board's interest and suggested the workshop follow the next regular board meeting. The Board agreed. An agenda will be developed with topics of interest.

The director provided an update on the third revision of H958 and highlighted potential changes to election processes. Highlights included the counting of early voting and absentee ballots, campaign finance thresholds, voter challenges, and other canvassing methods.

There were no further updates.

Jim Cruickshank, Chair

Phyllis Owen, Member

On a motion by Chair Cruickshank, the meeting was adjourned at 10:46 a.m. The next scheduled meeting will be at 10 a.m. on September 11, 2025, at 150 South Gaston Street, Brevard, NC 28712.

Nona Walker, Member

Thomas A. Smith III, Member

Approved by Board on: 9 11 2025

Respectfully submitted,