



SURRY COUNTY

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Members Present: Dwayne Carter - Chairman
Drew Poindexter - Secretary
Barbara Cave
Clark Comer
Jimmy Yokeley

Members Absent:

Staff Present: Michella Huff, Sydney Romine and Andrew Smith

Guests: Roger Cave

The Surry County Board of Elections met in rooms B and C of the Training Center at 915 E. Atkins Street, Dobson, NC, on Tuesday, February 6, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.

Chairman Carter opened the absentee board meeting by reading the conflict-of-interest statement.

The minutes from the January 30, 2024, meeting were approved as presented with the addition of adding a motion made by Barbara Cave and seconded by Jimmy Yokeley to certify the petition of Judith Barham. This addition was to be added to page 2, 3rd paragraph of the January 30, 2024, meeting minutes.

No speakers participated in the public forum portion of the meeting.

Absentee 2024 Primary Election – 148 Absentee ballots have been distributed to date. 17 ballots have been returned with 10 for recommended approval for today’s meeting. There are 131 outstanding absentee ballots. Director Huff sent the absentee reports for February 6, 2024, around the table for board signatures. A bipartisan team of board members checked seal numbers on the DS200 absentee tabulator. Deputy Director Sydney Romine opened the DS200 and the opening count was 7. The absentee ballot envelopes were viewed by each board member and approved for opening. The 10 ballots were scanned into the tabulator. The total count on the tabulator after scanning was 17. The DS200 lid was sealed and verified by board members.

Director Huff briefed the board on items from the NCSBE Winter Conference. Surry County Emergency Management Coordinator, Byron Isaacs attended during the Emergency TTX. A discussion about placing airtags on each ballot box before they leave our office the day before Election Day to have the ability to track the ballots until they arrive back to our office on Election Night. A motion was made by Secretary Poindexter to purchase airtags and adhesive cases to mount them inside of the ballot boxes. Member Barbara Cave seconded the motion, and it carried in a unanimous vote of the board.

The board was briefed by Director Huff on the Election Day meeting time; it will now be at 7:30pm instead of 2:00 pm. Our schedule will need to reflect that change. Additional staff will need to be hired for the multitude of activities that will need to take place at 7:30 pm. The board will meet in rooms B and C of the Service Center at 7:30 pm instead of the boardroom.

Director Huff reported the four deputies for Bryan and South Westfield precincts for Election Day have been secured. Since the Sheriff is not on the ballot, we can utilize uniformed deputies instead of local Police Departments for this election year.

Thursday, February 22, 2024, at noon will be the First Responders luncheon in rooms B and C of the Service Center. All board members were encouraged to attend. The Chairman noted the coordinated efforts that resulted from this in 2022 were comforting for the safety of our people and security of the voting machines was so beneficial.

The resolution that was adopted at the January 30, 2024, meeting will be added to the BOE website in a tab for easy access.


In other business Secretary Poindexter asked about the N0011 ballot and what party/voter that ballot style would be for. That is available for any Unaffiliated registered voter in the City of Mount Airy who wishes to not choose a party but vote a non-partisan ballot.

The board was provided with sample ballot packets for the Primary Election.

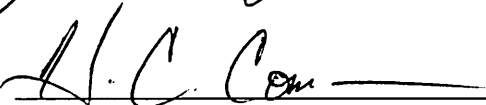
Chairman Carter thanked the board and staff for the card that was delivered to him.

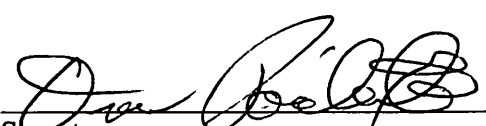
The next absentee meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 13, 2024, at 5:00 pm.

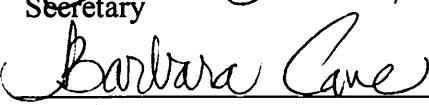
Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 5:47 pm.


Chair


Member


Member


Secretary


Member