

MINUTES OF JANUARY 11, 2018
CATAWBA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Meeting called to order at 8:20 A.M. Chairman David Hood, Secretary Barry Cheney, Member Stephen Palmer, Director Amanda Duncan present.

Precinct 28, St. Stephens Lutheran, has requested that we re-locate precinct to the other side of the building. Office will inspect the site. No resolution is required as it is not actually a move to new site.

- Precinct 41, Lake Norman, has completed renovation of Rehobeth United Methodist Church's Life Center. Would like us to move precinct into new space. Board signed resolution requesting change of site.

Discussion of voting equipment updates. Duncan provided 3 quotes from ES&S for the Balotar Ballot-On-Demand system: Quotes are for 4 One-Stop sites, 2 printers at each site.

1- Rental for one election	\$18,770
2- Rental for 1 year	\$20,867
3- Purchase, with 3 yr software license	\$92,400

Board deferred making a decision until a later date as the Ballotar system has not been certified at this time. If not certified by May for testing, we will have to rent 5 Express Vote machines at a cost of approximately \$25,000.

Meeting adjourned 8:43 A.M.

Respectfully submitted;

Barry Cheney, Secretary

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 20, 2018
CATAWBA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Meeting called to order at 8:16 A.M. Chairman David Hood, Secretary Barry Cheney, Member Stephen Palmer, Director Amanda Duncan present.

Duncan presented One-Stop plan to Board. Suggested use same schedule employed for 2014 and 2016 elections. Office budgeted for 8 employees at 2 main sites, 5 at other sites. Board approved plan unanimously.

Ballot-On-Demand will be used at all 5 sites. Cost to rent is \$27,623 for 1 year. Each site will have 2 printers, and spare ballots in case of a power outage.

Discussion of regulating size of yard signs. Duncan will research topic and draw up letter for our review.

Approved minutes of January 11th, 2018.

Meeting adjourned 8:41 A.M.

Respectfully submitted;

Barry Cheney, Secretary

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 27, 2018
CATAWBA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Meeting called to order at 8:13 A.M. Chairman David Hood, Secretary Barry Cheney, Member Stephen Palmer, Director Amanda Duncan present.

Duncan presented letter to candidates re: campaign sign placement. Hood and Cheney suggested some minor changes, letter was approved by Board.

8:18 Hood moved that Board go in to closed session to discuss personnel matter per Statute 143-318.11 (a)(6). Palmer seconded. Commenced closed session.

8:37 Closed meeting ended. Discussion of office's use of moving service to deliver equipment to voting sites. Duncan expressed dissatisfaction with current vendor, AAA Moving. Suggested we consider Barringer moving. Will obtain quote.

Office will post opening for vacant position resulting from recent resignation of employee.

Meeting adjourned 8:40 A.M.

Respectfully submitted;

Barry Cheney, Secretary



Catawba County Board of Elections
PO Box 132
25 Government Dr (Government Center)
Newton, NC 28658
Telephone: 828-464-2424
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TO: All candidates campaigning in Catawba County
FROM: Amanda H. Duncan, Board of Elections Director
DATE: February 27, 2018
RE: Campaign sign placement

During the February 20th, 2018 Board of Elections meeting, the board determined that **only standard yard signs (ranging from 14"x22" to 24"x36")** mounted on stakes are to be allowed at One-Stop sites and Election Day polling locations in Catawba County. Large mobile signs such as displayed in the beds of trucks or on trailers are also banned from all polling location properties.

As a reminder, property owners may impose other restrictions on their property:

- **Newton Main Library** – signs may be placed only at two marked "Designated Sign Placement" areas. Campaign signs placed outside these areas will be removed.
- **Highland Recreation Center** – signs may be placed only between the two "Designated Sign Placement" signs. Campaign signs placed outside these areas will be removed.
- **Corinth Baptist Church (Pct 2-Banoak) and Olivet Baptist Church (Pct 21-Monogram)** – the churches do not allow any political signs on their property. All campaign signs will be removed. On election day, persons working for a candidate are allowed to hand out literature outside the 50-foot buffer zone.
- **Blackburn Baptist Church (Pct 3-Blackburn), East Maiden Baptist Church (Pct 9-East Maiden), and Abernethy Memorial UMC (Pct 25-North Newton)** – allow campaign signs only at posted "Designated Sign Placement" areas.

Other reminders about electioneering:

- All electioneering must take place outside the 50-foot election marker at all polling places and one-stop sites.
- Persons working for candidates must not obstruct the sidewalks or entrances to the buildings.
- Please remember, these buildings may be open for other business and every person entering the building may not be there to vote.
- Signs at election day polling places should not be placed until the day before the election and must be removed when the polls close at 7:30 pm on Election Day. Signs that are left up after this time will be removed and disposed of.
- Signs placed in the state highway system's right-of-way are allowed beginning on the 30th day before the beginning date of "one stop" early voting and must be removed by the 10th day after the primary or election day. NCGS § 136-32(b)

A list of Catawba County's polling locations may be found at www.catawbacountync.gov/elections

MINUTES OF MARCH 27, 2018

CATAWBA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Meeting called to order at 3:32 P.M. Chairman David Hood, Secretary Barry Cheney, Member Stephen Palmer, Director Amanda Duncan present. Purpose of meeting is to consider two candidates for open position of Elections Specialist.

3:34 Hood moved that Board go in to closed session to discuss personnel matter per Statute 143-318.11 (a)(6). Palmer seconded. Commenced closed session.

4:20 Closed meeting ended. Board decided to make offer of employment to one of the two candidates. Duncan will have Human Resources look into personal references of candidate.

Meeting adjourned 4:23 P.M.

Respectfully submitted;

Barry Cheney, Secretary

CATAWBA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Minutes of meeting held on April 2, 2018

The organizational meeting was called to order at 8:15 A.M. Present were members Barry Cheney, Jason White, and J. David Abernethy. Director Amanda Duncan was present. Member Kevin McIntosh could not be present, and was sworn in previously.

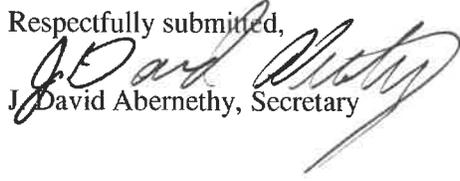
Judge Nathaniel Poovey administered the oath of office to the members present.

Elected were Cheney, as Chairman; McIntosh, as Vice-Chairman; and Abernethy, as Secretary.

The Director distributed copies of the previously approved schedule for this year's board meetings, as well as the schedule for the five early voting stations for this year's primary election.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,


J. David Abernethy, Secretary

CATAWBA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Minutes of meeting held on April 17, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 8:15 A.M. Present were all members and the Director. The minutes from March 27 and April 2, 2018, were approved.

The Board approved the seventeen absentee ballot applications CIV-3, 4, 6, 10, 11, 17, 21-26, 28-30, 36, and 80. One application, CIV-78, which had no witness, was disapproved, and a new envelope and ballot will be mailed to the voter.

New staff member Sarah Emery will begin work on Monday of next week.

Only three precincts will have a Democratic primary. Per prior Board policy, after an unaffiliated voter has selected and received a primary ballot and that selection is logged into the precinct computer, the voter will not be allowed to receive a ballot including candidates of another party.

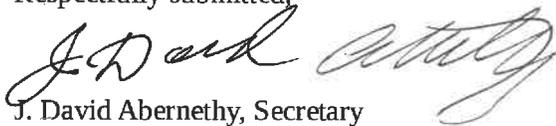
Multi-partisan teams recruited from poll workers will go to the larger nursing and rest homes to assist residents with witnessing absentee ballot applications. Each team must include both a Democrat and a Republican.

A moving company is delivering the voting equipment to the early voting election sites. Both the ballot printers and the tabulators are supplied by ES&S. This is the only equipment currently approved for use by the State Board. The county's voting equipment having been decertified by the State as of November 2017, the county is renting the ES&S equipment for one year at a cost of \$26,000.00. The printers print ballots on demand. Ballots marked using a normal pen are counted by these tabulators.

The Director distributed a listing of the current forty precincts and voting locations. (Precinct No. 18, formerly used for a Long View precinct, is no longer used.)

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,


J. David Abernethy, Secretary

CATAWBA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Minutes of meeting held on April 24, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 8:15 A.M. Present were all members and the Director. The minutes from April 17, 2018, were approved.

The Board approved the twenty-two absentee ballot applications CIV-14, 32, 35, 40, 57, 63-67, 77, 79, 83, 84, 94, 95, 97, 98, 102, 111, 120, and 121. The Board also approved a printout of the 2568 voters that have voted one-stop so far in the primary election.

The State Board has advised the counties that if an absentee application is disapproved, a new envelope and ballot may be mailed to the voter even the day prior to the date of the election. (The State Board uses the term "reissue" for this practice.) This county practice is voluntary, not directed by statute.

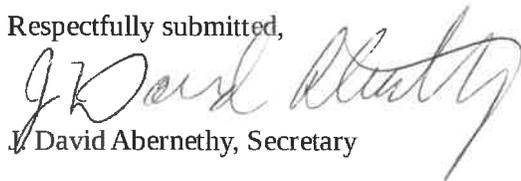
The ballot printers are working well. In only one instance it was necessary to press a reprint button.

Two verbal complaints have been received from a campaign worker outside the Newton Main Library one-stop voting location. In one instance, another campaign worker was said to be escorting voters to the door under his umbrella during the rain. In the other instance, a driver was said to be entering the polling place with voters. The chief judge at the location was instructed to stop both practices if they were observed, and instruct drivers and campaign workers to stay outside the fifty-foot boundary. (In neither alleged case was a voter handicap reported.)

The Board welcomed new staff member Sarah Emery, who began work yesterday.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



David Abernethy, Secretary

CATAWBA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Minutes of meeting held on May 1, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 8:15 A.M. Present were all members and the Director. The minutes from April 24, 2018, were approved.

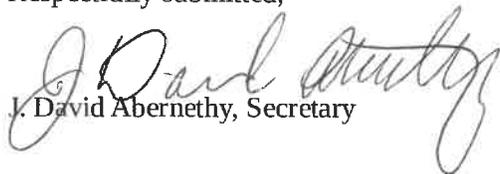
The Board approved the twenty-two absentee ballot applications CIV- 8, 12, 49 to 51, 56, 58, 60, 62, 81, 88, 89, 93, 99, 118, 119, 134, 138, 146 to 148, and 156. The Board also approved 3075 new one-stop applications. All members abstained from votes concerning themselves and their spouses.

Absentee applications CIV-20, 61, 124, and 145 were disapproved, as they lacked either a voter signature or witnesses. These will be reissued to the voter using new ballot and contain return-envelopes. CIV-132 was disapproved for the second time for the same reason, and therefore will not be reissued.

When one-stop voting closes at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, a staff employee will remove the USB at each site, and ballots will be delivered to the office. Barringer Moving and Storage will reload and return the equipment. The Chief Judges will pick up the printers during the weekend. Delivery trucks will transport the tabulators and voting booths and tabulators to the polling places. Each precinct will have two return tapes printed when the polls close on the date of the primary election; the officials will be instructed to place one in an envelope marked for Board use, and those envelopes will be opened at the county canvass.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



J. David Abernethy, Secretary

CATAWBA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Minutes of meeting held on May 7, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 P.M. Present were all members and the Director. The Board welcomed two members from the League of Women Voters who attended. The minutes from May 1, 2018, were approved.

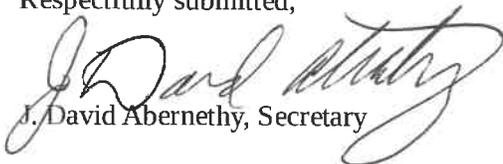
The Board approved the forty-eight absentee ballot applications CIV- 5, 7, 18, 31, 47, 82, 85, 103-105, 108, 109, 112, 114, 115, 117, 122, 125-127, 129, 135-137, 140-144, 150-155, 157, 158, 160, 162, 164-168, and 170-173. The Board approved MIL-3, and marked a ballot in accordance with the voter's marked ballot copy in the voter's email. The Board also approved 3124 new one-stop applications. This gives a total of 8767 one-stop votes for the primary election.

Absentee applications CIV-48, 86, 101, and 161 were disapproved, as they lacked either a voter signature, two witnesses, or both. These will be reissued to the voter using new ballot and container return-envelopes.

The Board members and staff will deliver the precinct absentee voter lists to the precincts tomorrow morning prior to 10:00 a.m. The Board will meet again at 5:00 tomorrow afternoon to count the absentee votes, the result of the count to be released to the public at the time of the closing of the polls.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


J. David Abernethy, Secretary

CATAWBA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Minutes of meeting held on May 8, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 P.M. Present were all members and the Director.

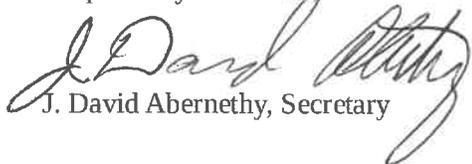
The tabulators from each of the one-stop voting locations were brought to the Board office during the preceding weekend after the one-stop polls were closed. Board member Abernethy observed the preparatory step of removal of the USB memory sticks from these tabulators and electronically inputting the data for the 8,767 one-stop absentee ballots into the Board computer, which took place between 2:00 and 5:00 p.m.

The 109 civilian (CIV) and one military (MIL) absentee ballots were counted by opening the container-return envelopes and feeding the ballots into a tabulator, removing the USB memory stick from that tabulator, and electronically inputting that data as well.

The printouts of the total of 8,877 votes (8,767 + 109 + 1) were used to prepare the absentee abstracts. The printouts and the abstracts were signed by all Board members at its meeting. These results were released to the public at 7:30 p.m. The absentee abstract is incorporated herein by reference.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:30 p.m. That evening, the precinct equipment, ballots, and return abstracts were delivered to the Board office. Results were released to the public as the information was inputted into the office computer. The members reconvened at around 7:30 p.m. to observe the return of the abstracts and the entry of precinct data. The last precinct returned its materials shortly after 9:00 p.m. The results were sent electronically to the State Board, which posted the county complete unofficial results on its website at 9:11 p.m. that evening.

Respectfully submitted,


J. David Abernethy, Secretary

CATAWBA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Minutes of County Canvass held on May 18, 2018

The meeting to canvass the results of the primary election held May 8, 2018, was called to order at 11:00 A.M. Present were all members and the Director; staff members Sarah Emery and Sue Laney, who opened envelopes and inserted ballots into the tabulator under the Board's direction; and two representatives of the League of Women Voters.

SUPPLEMENTAL ABSENTEE BALLOTS:

Ten supplemental applications, MIL-1 and CIV-13, 19, 53, 59, 76, 116, 133, 175, and 176, were approved. CIV-178 was disapproved as it had no postmark. CIV-178 was disapproved, as its postmark of May 9, 2018, was untimely as it was later than the date of the May 8, 2018, primary election.

PROVISIONAL BALLOTS:

One hundred nineteen provisional ballots were considered. Of these, eighty-two were not approved. Reasons for disapproval were incorrect party, sixty-four (Democrats could not vote in a Republican primary); no record of registration, fourteen; prior removal or jurisdiction dispute, three (Catawba county is not the current domicile of the voter); and one, voter already voted (the voter had already inserted a ballot into the tabulator; no illegal double vote was attempted, as the precinct officials were aware of the facts and properly acceded to the voter's request to mark a provisional ballot). Thirty were fully approved. Seven were partially approved; these voters received the wrong ballot style for their domicile, and their votes were counted for every race for which they were qualified to vote. Thus, thirty-seven provisional ballots were tabulated.

REVIEW OF PRECINCT RESULTS:

The Board checked the tabulator printout tapes from each precinct. Each tape was signed by each of three precinct officials, and for each precinct the total number of ballots stated on the tape matched the number on the precinct report sheet.

SUM OF BALLOTS CAST:

Nineteen thousand seventy-nine ballots were cast. Of these, 10,155 were cast on election day; 8,767 were by one-stop absentee ballots; 120 were mailed absentee ballots (including the 10 supplemental absentee ballots shown above); and 37 were provisional ballots. Of the total, 200 were Democratic and 18,879 were Republican, as only three precincts had a Democratic primary contest available. The sum of the updated voter histories, 19,079, matched the number of ballots cast. The staff was congratulated for the accuracy of their work in updating the voter histories.

FINAL ELECTION RESULTS: (The official abstract controls over these minutes.)

Democratic: 5th Congressional District: Marshall 135, Adams 56.

All that follow are Republican.

5th Congressional District: Foxx 1,123; Gentry 284; Meader 91.

10th Congressional District: Gregory 1,354; McHenry 11,315; Roberts 870; Wiley 299; Blankenship 431; Collias 2,185.

42nd State Senate District: Hollo 5,458; Huffman 2,178; Long 1,211; Wells 8,530.

96th NC House District: Huffman 2,615; Adams 6,013.

District Attorney 36th Prosecutorial District: Learner 6,420; Reilly 12,030.

County Commissioners: Isenhower 13,847; Barnes 11,498; Butler 11,301; Colson 8,044.

Clerk of Superior Court: Sigmon 10,556; Starnes 7,777.

Sheriff: Reid 5,692; Brown 13,053.

The Board signed tabulator tapes and executed the official abstracts provided by the State Board.

AUDIT RESULTS:

This county was chosen to audit the results of the one-stop votes cast at Highland Recreation Center and the election day votes cast at Conover East. The Director was pleased to report that the results of the hand recounts exactly matched the machine tabulated results in each audit. The Board congratulated the Director and the staff for these excellent results.

The minutes of May 7 and 8, 2018, were approved and signed.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


J. David Abernethy, Secretary

CATAWBA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Minutes of meeting held June 20, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 8:15 a.m. Present were members Chairman Cheney, members White and Abernethy, and the Director, Duncan; member McIntosh participated by telephone, with a speaker phone used by the board members such that all board members could hear statements made by the others; and three members of the public, including candidate Ric Vandett.

The meeting was held at the request of the State Board to recommend plans for sites and hours for one-stop voting in the 2018 general election. The State Board recommends that each county recommend one plan assuming 2017 S.B.325 to be in effect, and another assuming that prior law remains in effect.

The Director provided board members with copies of G.S. 163A-1303, Senate Bill 325, payroll estimates for wages paid to workers manning one-stop sites, and a voting totals record at one-stop sites from general elections in 2010, 2012, 2014, and 2016, and the 2018 primary election. Copies of these materials had been emailed to board members previously.

Sites which have been used in the 2014 and 2016 general elections and the 2018 primary election are the Newton library, Highland Recreation Center, the Southwest library, the Sherrills Ford-Terrell library, and Conover Station. In these elections, hours of operation have been 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on weekdays, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Saturdays, and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Sundays. Except in presidential elections, voters have not had to stand in line at these sites for over thirty minutes,.

The Director stated that although the Sherills Ford library had the fewest number of one-stop voters in these 2016 and 2018 elections, it would be an approximately 25 minute drive from there to the Newton main library. The range of one-stop votes made on weekends in the 2016 election was 17 to 21 percent.

For discussion purposes, the Director gave members a chart including hours of operation at one-stop voting sites in the 2018 general election, assuming S.B. 325 to be in effect. Although the number of total hours would increase, the labor expense could be covered within the current county budget because two shifts would be used due to the mandated long hours (7 am to 7 pm), thereby avoiding paying overtime wages, and the number of site workers could be reduced slightly.

Cheney stated that having one-stop voting open for seventeen days was longer than needed, and proposed beginning on October 22 rather than October 17, resulting in a period of twelve days. McIntosh also stated that seventeen days was too long. White stated he would rather begin on October 17, as the use of one-stop voting is increasing. The difference in labor expense by starting on October 22 rather than October 17 would be \$8500.00.

Cheney asked if any members of the public wished to comment. Mr. Vandett said that because the Saturday November 3 date the weekend immediately prior to the election would be eliminated under S.B. 325, he would like the Saturday October 20 to be retained in order to keep two Saturdays of one-stop voting.

Cheney stated he could support the schedule beginning October 17, as sufficient funds had already been budgeted. Abernethy stated he thought a 17-day period may well be too long, but he agreed with Mr. Vandett's

wishes concerning a second Saturday, so in future elections we may consider beginning on the Saturday of the second weekend prior to the election if the Saturday of the weekend immediately prior to the election is eliminated. Mr. White stated he could support that time period.

For the 2018 general election, assuming S.B. 325 to be in effect, Cheney moved to recommend beginning one-stop voting on October 17 and continuing daily thereafter to end on November 2, with hours of operation to be 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on weekdays, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays, and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sundays. The motion was seconded by Mr. White and passed unanimously.

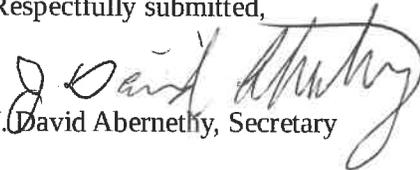
Assuming S.B. 325 not to be in effect, Cheney moved to recommend beginning one-stop voting on October 18 and continuing daily thereafter to end on November 3, with the same hours of operation as in the first motion except that on weekdays, the current hours of 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. would remain in effect. The motion was seconded by Mr. White and passed unanimously.

The minutes of May 18, 2018, were approved and signed.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 17, 2018 at 12:00 p.m., as the annual organizational meeting mandated by current law.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



J. David Abernethy, Secretary

CATAWBA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Minutes of meeting held July 17, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 noon. Present were members McIntosh, White and Abernethy, and the Director, Duncan; Chairman Cheney participated by telephone, with a speaker phone used by the board members such that all board members could hear statements made by the others.

This is the annual reorganizational meeting required by current state law. This year the chair must be a Republican and the vice-chair must be a Democrat. McIntosh moved to elect Abernethy as Chairman, seconded by Cheney; White moved to elect Cheney as Vice-Chair, seconded by McIntosh; and Abernethy moved to elect White as Secretary, seconded by Cheney. All motions were approved unanimously.

The minutes from June 20, 2018, were approved.

The Board approved a plan for one-stop voting in the general election, as follows. The one-stop period will begin on Wednesday, October 17, 2018, and continue daily thereafter to conclude on Saturday, November 3, 2018. Voting sites will be open on weekdays from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.; on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.; and on Sundays from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. It is noted that the dates and the weekday hours are mandated by the state. The same five one-stop sites used in the primary will also be used in the general election.

The Town of Long View has voted to hold a mixed beverage election along with the general election. Burke County must hold the voting for town residents who live in Burke County.

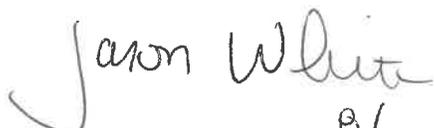
The current rented voting equipment will be used in the November general election, with the exception that the Board approved using Express Vote equipment at the Conover Station one-stop site as a free test. This equipment accepts a receipt from the voter, who votes by touch screen; the equipment prints the ballot as selected by the voter, who deposits the printed ballot into the tabulator. Abernethy moved, seconded by White, and approved, to use this arrangement.

All members hope to attend the State Board instruction seminar in Winston-Salem on August 6-7

The next meeting is scheduled for October 16, 2018 at 8:15 a.m.. The members agreed on the 8:15 a.m. meeting time except for meetings which must by law be held at other times.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


8/27/2018

CATAWBA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Minutes of meeting held August 27, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. Members Cheney, McIntosh, White and Chairman Abernethy were present along with Director Duncan.

The minutes for July 17, 2018 were approved.

The Board discussed the statutory requirements for counting absentee ballots. The Board considered a resolution setting forth the procedures to be implemented as to the counting of absentee ballots in order to comply with statutory requirements. The Board reviewed N.C. Gen. Stat. 163A-1315 before adopting unanimously adopting its resolution regarding the counting of absentee ballots. In addition, the resolution established the canvas of the November 6, 2018 election as November 16, 2018 at 11:00 a.m.

Upon motion of Abernethy and second of White, the Board entered into closed session to consider candidates recommended for employment as provided for in N. C. Gen. Stat. §143.318.11.

The Board returned to open session. One stop voting will begin on October 17, 2018.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 16, 2018 at 8:15 a.m.

The meeting adjourned.

Jason White, Secretary

CATAWBA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Minutes of meeting held on October 16, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 8:15 A.M. Present were all members and the Director.

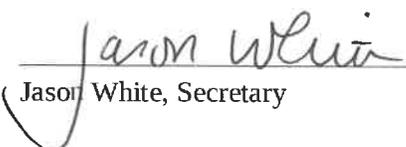
The Board approved one-hundred thirty eight (138) absentee ballot applications (CIV- 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 16, 17, 18, 22, 23, 27, 34, 35, 39, 50, 51, 53, 54, 59, 60, 61, 63, 66, 67, 68, 69, 71, 72, 73, 81, 82, 84, 86, 87, 88, 89, 96, 97, 100, 104, 105, 109, 114, 117, 119, 120, 121, 129, 130, 135, 140, 141, 146, 147, 151, 153, 154, 155, 163, 168, 171, 172, 177, 180, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 190, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 200, 201, 204, 208, 209, 213, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 229, 232, 237, 238, 239, 240, 242, 243, 244, 246, 248, 255, 256, 257, 260, 265, 269, 270, 272, 282, 286, 287, 290, 301, 303, 311, 319, 322, 323, 325, 326, 328, 336, 337, 342, 346, 348, 355, 362, 371, 391, 392, 394, 395, 398, 399, 400 and 409).

The Board approved four (4) military absentee ballots (MIL-11, 13, 14 and 15).

The Board approved nine (9) overseas absentee ballots (OVR-1, 5, 6, 10, 12, 13, 14, 20 and 27).

The Board also considered replacement of five site judges. The Precinct 12 (Kenworth) Chief Judge was removed for failure to adequately perform the required duties and replaced with James Scott. One Precinct 38 (Falling Creek) judge passed away and was replaced by Delores Steele. One Precinct 14 (Oakwood) judge relocated to Precinct 38, and was replaced by Jerry Haberle. One Precinct 4 (Brookford) judge was unavailable due to employment commitments and was replaced with Brandy Mitchell. One Precinct 19 (Long View) Chief Judge was removed due to being unavailable on election day and replaced with Dennis Weaver. All such changes were made upon the Motion of Chairman Abernethy, seconded by Cheney and unanimously approved by the Board.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 23, 2018 at 8:15 a.m. The meeting adjourned.



Jason White, Secretary

CATAWBA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Minutes of meeting held on October 23, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 8:15 A.M. Present were all members and the Director.

The Board approved the minutes of the meetings held on August 27, 2018 and October 16, 2018.

The Board approved one-hundred and one (101) civilian absentee ballot applications.

The Board approved one (1) military absentee ballot.

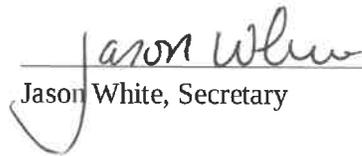
The Board approved six (6) overseas absentee ballots.

The Board discussed the one stop voting. The Balotar system has worked well with one small exception. Staff worked diligently to address the Balotar laptop and printing issue. The Board also discussed the current lease of the Balotar system. The lease expires in March, 2019. Currently, the State Board has not certified another system other than Balotar. The State Board's certification testing was apparently delayed by Hurricane Florence. The Board will need to consider the action to be taken regarding the Balotar lease and option to purchase prior to March, 2019.

One issue pertaining to a voter's qualification has arisen. The Director explained the issue and has sought guidance from the State Board as to how to address the issue. The Board unanimously agreed to defer action with respect to the voter's ballot until the State Board has responded to the Director's inquiry.

There have been 9,300 ballots cast at one stop locations (including the ballot with which an issue has arisen). The Board approved 9,299 ballots and agreed to defer action on the one stated above until State Board has responded to the Director's inquiry.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 30, 2018 at 8:15 a.m. The meeting adjourned at 8:55 a.m.



Jason White, Secretary

CATAWBA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Minutes of meeting held on October 30, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 8:15 A.M. Present were all members and the Director.

The Board approved the minutes of the meeting held on October 23, 2018.

The Board approved one-hundred and seventy-six (176) civilian absentee ballot applications.

The Board approved five (5) military absentee ballots.

The Board approved thirteen (13) overseas absentee ballots.

The Board approved 10, 342 ballots cast at one stop locations.

The Board revisited the voter qualification issue regarding residency which was discussed at the October 23, 2018 meeting. The State Board's guidance (reference Numbered Memo 2018-07) was that no voter challenge could be brought nor should any action be taken regarding the voter's ballot. One issue pertaining to a voter's qualification has arisen. The Board discussed that other ground existed which would preclude taking action upon the voter's ballot. Chairmen Abernethy moved to approve the voter's ballot in light of the fact that no voter challenge had been filed nor was there any evidence regarding residency other than hearsay statements. Vice Chairmen Cheney seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved the voter's application.

A second issue regarding voter qualification arose. A voter's ballot was set aside by the State Board of Elections due to the voter's ineligibility to vote due to a felony conviction. The voter was notified by certified mail. The Director submitted an incident report to the State Board as required by law. The voter's ballot will be ^{reviewed} ~~removed~~ during the canvass.

One candidate raised a complaint about the Conover one stop location. Candidate Yang complained regarding the one stop location supervisor's handling of voter assistance. The Director addressed the candidate's complaint by speaking with all supervisors and instructing them regarding a voter's right to assistance in the event specific criteria are present. Examples of the criteria include when voters do not speak or read English or when voters rely upon family members for assistance. Going forward, supervisors will be required to provide voter assistance approval. The candidate was advised that she could formally file a complaint, but did not do so.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 5, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 8:55 a.m.


Jason White, Secretary

CATAWBA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Minutes of meeting held on November 5, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 P.M. Present were all members and the Director.

The Board approved the minutes of the meeting held on October 30, 2018.

The Board approved one-hundred and two-hundred forty-six (246) civilian absentee ballot applications.

The Board approved seven (7) military absentee ballots.

The Board approved fourteen (14) overseas absentee ballots.

The Board approved 10,741 ballots cast at one stop locations.

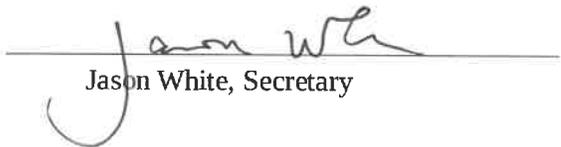
The Director informed the board that one blank ballot was inadvertently inserted at a one stop location. As a result, the final ballot count will contain 30,384 one stop votes. The actual number of votes (less the inadvertently inserted blank ballot) cast is 30,383 at one stop locations. This blank ballot will be addressed and removed during the canvas of the election.

The Board approved two replacement judges (one for Precinct 39 and the other for Precinct 37). Precinct 39 Judge Gloria Huffman experienced a family medical issue and was replaced by Donna Trado. Precinct 37 judge Janice Thompson experienced a family emergency and was replaced by Michelle Canipe.

The Board reviewed and approved the submitted at large party observers. Eight democratic at large observers were submitted and approved. Three republican observers were submitted and approved.

With respect to the felon who attempted to register to vote, the Director informed the Board that the State Board advised that the Ridgeview Precinct Chief Judge issue a challenge to the voter on election day. A denial of voter's registration was sent to him by certified mail. He will also receive written notice that a challenge to his registration will be heard at the November 16, 2018 canvas.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 6, 2018 at 4:30 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.


Jason White, Secretary

CATAWBA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Minutes of meeting held on November 6, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 P.M. Present were all members and the Director.

The Board completed the tabulation of votes contained on all previously approved civilian absentee ballot applications, military absentee ballots, overseas absentee ballots and ballots cast at one stop locations. The Board also certified all abstracts of absentee and one stop votes.

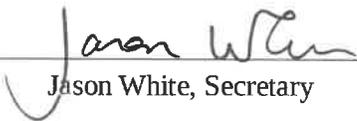
The Director informed the Board that candidate Scott Cranford made a written complaint that the previous Friday an electioneer campaigning on behalf of his opponent told voters that Cranford had dropped out of the race when he had not.

The Director informed the Board that candidate Mitchell Setzer called to report that an electioneer working on behalf of his campaign witnessed an electioneer working on behalf of his opponent physically remove a campaign sign. The Director advised the candidate that he could submit a written complaint and could also notify law enforcement of the activity.

The Director also informed the Board that a voter posted a photograph of his completed ballot onto social media. The Director was able to discover the voter's identity and made contact with a member of the voter's family (the voter was unavailable) and advised that that the posting was a criminal offense and must be removed immediately.

The Director and staff diligently continued work to tabulate and report election results.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 15, 2018 at 8:15 a.m. The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.



Jason White, Secretary

CATAWBA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Minutes of meeting held on November 15, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 8:15 A.M. Present were David Abernethy, Barry Cheney, Kevin McIntosh and Amanda Duncan, the Director. Jason White was absent.

The Board approved one-hundred three (103) civilian absentee ballots.

The Board approved two (2) military absentee ballots.

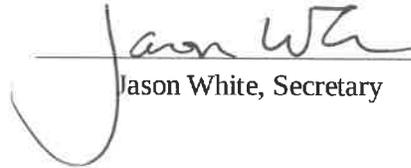
The Board approved six (6) overseas absentee ballots.

There were thirty three (33) absentee ballots that were not accepted because they were not received timely, and six (6) absentee ballots were not accepted because they either had no signatures or no postmarks.

The Board approved one hundred forty two (142) provisional ballots, and there were also thirty nine (39) were partial approvals. The State will audit these provisional ballots on November 15, 2018, prior to the canvass.

The Director reported that the random, sample audit was completed on the Monogram and Blackburn precincts on November 9, 2018, as required by the State, and both precincts were exactly correct.

The next meeting is the canvass meeting scheduled for November 16, 2018 at 11:00 A.M. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 A.M.



Jason White, Secretary

CATAWBA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Minutes of canvas meeting held on November 16, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 A.M. Present were all members and the Director.

The Board approved the minutes of the November 5 and November 6 meetings.

The Board proceeded to close the supplemental absentee ballots.

The Board proceeded to close out the approval of provisional ballots. The Board reviewed and approved the provisional poll book. Upon approval, the Board signed the provisional poll book.

One blank ballot was submitted at the Sherrills Ford location. The Board moved to amend the total ballot cast total to reflect the erroneous submission of the blank ballot.

The Chairman then called for hearing the challenge of the ballot cast by Brantley Blackburn. The challenge alleged that Mr. Blackburn registered at the Hickory one stop location during early voting but was ineligible to vote due to disqualification as a result of a felony conviction. The challenge was filed on November 6, 2018. Brantley Blackburn was properly noticed of the hearing upon the challenge, yet failed to appear.

The Board received evidence that Mr. Blackburn was ineligible to vote due to a felony conviction on May 9, 2012 and failure to complete the sentence/probation/parole imposed as a result thereof. Mr. Blackburn executed the conditions of post release supervision on September 19, 2018. Probation officer Ashley Harrison reported that Mr. Blackburn has not completed the terms of his post release supervision.

Barry Cheney moved to sustain the challenge. Kevin McIntosh seconded the challenge. The Board unanimously sustained the challenge to the ballot cast by Brantley Blackburn. The Board further approved a report to the State Board of changes to voting data as a result of the sustained challenge.

The Board next addressed write in candidates receiving five or more votes. The Board approved the reporting of the following write in candidates receiving five or more votes:

Catawba County Board of Education:

Jeanine Wallace Lynch (6 votes)
Tracey Stracener (8 votes)

Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor:

Paul Deyo (5 votes)
Scott Lapoint (5 votes)

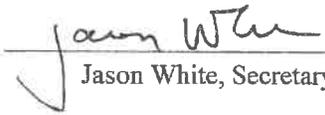
The Director reported on the voter history records and the correlation of the record of ballots cast. With the blank ballot submission at Sherrills Ford addressed, the one stop voter history is an exact match with the record of ballots cast. The election day totals will reflect one more voter than ballots cast. One ballot from Precinct 29 is missing, presumably due to a voter receiving a ballot and leaving without casting the same.

The Board approved and signed the supplemental absentee abstract. The Board approved and certified the final election results as well as the final abstract of votes.

The Director then informed the Board regarding the status of election equipment. The lease with Ballotar ends in March. The cost to purchase the equipment would be approximately \$50,000.00 but a credit in the approximate amount of \$11,000.00 should be applied. The cost of purchasing ballots only for one election would likely approach \$40,000.00.

The recent Court order issued in the litigation challenging the composition of local and State Boards of Election establishes that the last date local boards can meet would be December 3, 2018. The Board, upon motion, unanimously voted to vest the Director with the authority to purchase the Ballotar equipment conditioned only upon a change of circumstances which would cause the County Commissioners to directly provide different direction during the period in which the Board is not authorized to meet.

As no further meeting is scheduled at this time, the Board authorized the Secretary to execute the minutes of this meeting. The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.



Jason White, Secretary