

Buncombe County Board of Elections

Asheville/Buncombe County League of Women Voters

Monitor Name: Aiden Carson & George Elam

Meeting Date & Time: August 16, 2022 5:30 pm

Names of Board Members Attending:

Jake Quinn, Chairman

Linda Block, Secretary

Steven Aceto, Board Member

Robert (Bo) Carpenter, Board Member

Names of Staff Attending:

Corinne Duncan, Director

Neggy Fox (Deputy Director)

Jaqueline Austin (Absentee Program Coordinator)

The meeting was called to order at 5:33 by Chairman, Jake Quinn

Chairman Quinn welcomed the attendees in the room and the virtual attendees. He asked the attendees in the room to sign the guest register as per procedure.

There were 4 or 5 virtual attendees and 15+ observers in person.

Agenda Item: Minutes

Minutes for meeting of 7/26/22 were approved.

Agenda Item: Office Updates given by Director Corrine Duncan

- The new Republican candidate for sheriff has fulfilled all requirements to be placed on the upcoming ballot.
- Sample ballots may be out by next week. Absentee ballots will go out September 9th.
- The 4 staff jobs listed now have candidates and interviews will start soon. Mr. Aceto asked if the job postings had been sent to the political parties (yes) and suggested they be sent to the Libertarian and Green parties in addition to Reps & Dems. Director Duncan said that was a good suggestion and will do so.
- They are still seeking temporary workers. Poll Worker positions for Early Voting have been 50% filled.
- There is a contest for an "I VOTED" sticker. Any young person 13-18 who is a Buncombe County resident can participate. See the [BOE website](#) for details.

- The Green party is now officially recognized.
- There have been approximately 1200 absentee ballots requested thus far.

Agenda Item: Early Voting Plan Update given by Neggy Fox

- Buncombe County & Asheville City IT depts. have agreed to work together to fix connectivity issues at the Wesley Grant Center so they definitely plan to use that location for Early Voting.
- The North Asheville site is still not determined. Staff has been trying hard to find adequate facilities. A couple of suggestions were provided by the audience and staff will follow up. If all else fails they will have to use the North Asheville Library again, with its known parking problems. Chairman Quinn emphasized that if that site is used, volunteers (I think he meant party volunteers) will not be allowed to park there, only voters.
- A second South Asheville site has not been nailed down. If anyone has ideas for North Asheville or second South Asheville site, call 250-4200.
- Black Wallstreet event center site was investigated but will not be used since Wesley Grant has worked out. The fee for Black Wallstreet was \$9500, steep for the BOE.
- The proposed final Early Voting plan with 11 sites will be voted on at the next meeting. Previously the plan had been approved with the two undetermined sites.

Agenda Item: Multi-party Assistance Team Appointments given by Jaqueline Austin

- 13 new team members were approved by a unanimous vote by all board members present (6 Democrats, 3 Republicans, and 4 Unaffiliated)
- Chairman Quinn noted that actually the Democratic nominees should be voted on & approved by the Democratic BOE members, the Republicans by the Republican members, and the Unaffiliateds by the entire board. They will make sure the nomination paperwork will show the appropriate signatures for the process.
- A discussion ensued as to the specifics of when MAT Team members as well as election officials can and cannot participate in partisan activities. The SBOE voted on Tuesday to approve proposed temporary rule amendments governing the conduct of precinct officials and election observers at polling places, subject to review by the Rules Review Commission. The text of the temporary rules can be found [here](#) and [here](#). The text doesn't seem to be adequate and Jake will reach out to the SBOE for clarification.

Agenda Item: Continuation of Board-County Memorandum of Understanding

- The MOU was passed in its final form
- This concerns a formal adoption of the county's personnel rules regarding BOE employees. The BOE has been following county policies in the past so this was a

formality. State statutes regarding BOE employees supersede county policies in certain instances.

- Chairman Quinn thanked Mr. Carpenter for all his work with Buncombe County attorney Euler to forge the final document.

Agenda Item: Resolution for Director Salary

The Chairman announced, and the board approved, a resolution for a pay raise for Director Corrine Duncan to \$101,801.03. This includes a cost of living increase.

The meeting adjourned at about 7:30.