

**Buncombe County Board of Elections**  
**Asheville/Buncombe County Board of Elections**

**Monitor Name:** George Elam and Cheryl Williams in person, Aiden Carson online

**Date & Time:** March 14, 2023 3:30 PM

**Names of Board Members Attending:**

Jake Quinn, Chairman

Steven Aceto, Board Member

Glen Shults, Board Member

Bo Carpenter, Board Member

Linda Block, Board Member, Secretary - virtual

**Names of Staff Attending:** Ms. Duncan was not present due to the death of her father

Neggy Fox, Program Manager

Anna Katherine Moore, Clerk to the Board

Devin Whitney, Elections Tech. Specialist

**Observers:**

A total of 8 observers; two from LWV and 6 representing conservative views

**Agenda Items**

**Minutes from 2/28/23 approved unanimously with Ms. Block voting virtually**

**Office Updates (Neggy Fox):**

- Elections staff have a total of 37 projects completed including the following.
- The ADA surveys have been sent to all 88 precincts.
- The archive project, which has been ongoing for 7 years, is complete. Elections staff have made all sample ballots, minutes, and abstracts dating back to 1920 or 1930 have been uploaded and are available to the public on the Elections Services website. Staff will keep the archives updated. **NOTE:** They did not provide a URL and I did not the site online
- In response to Mr. Aceto's question at the last meeting about certification for Board members, Ms. Fox consulted the State Board of Elections and said that Members must:
  - 1) Complete the board member training required under G.S. § 163A-889(a):
    - a. Complete all online learning objectives assigned to new board members within six months after the member's initial appointment; and
    - b. Attend conference training conducted by the State Board per G.S. § 163A-889(a) once during the six months after the member's initial appointment and at least once again during the first two years of the member's service.
  - 2) Participate as a board member in all election cycles held within a two-consecutive year period following date of appointment;
  - 3) Attend one additional State Board approved in-person training event;

- 4) Complete all other assigned online learning objectives designated for board members; and
- 5) Complete an examination administered by the State Board with a passing grade of 75. All other requirements must be met before a candidate may sit for the exam. Completion of the board member program requirements earns the title Certified Board Member

- **NOTE:** Certification programs exist for Board of Elections Members, Elections Director, and Elections Administrator. Certification is not transferable across programs. See handbook at <https://dl.ncsbe.gov/index.html?prefix=Election%20Resource%20Center/Certification%20Programs/Certification%20Handbook/>

- Mr. Aceto said he had signed up for training at the state conference in August and has already completed the other requirements.
- The Elections Office has received 33 applications for Voter Registration Coordinator, the position from which Joyce Kanavel will retire, and 19 applications for absentee voting coordinator. Elections staff will vet the applications and schedule interviews.

#### **Discussion of Emails received by the Board following the February 2023 meeting:**

- Mr. Quinn provided three handouts in response to emails the Board received from one or more observers at the February meeting regarding the list maintenance discussion and membership in the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC), a nonprofit membership organization of state elections officials.
- The content of the emails was not shared. However, Mr. Quinn restated that the decision to join ERIC made at the state level and is not within the purview of the Buncombe County Board of Elections. He reiterated that the funds have been appropriated but not authorized. He shared the following handouts to provide information on ERIC but said again, that the decision to join was not within the purview of the County Board and noted that the information in the handouts could speak for itself.
- The handouts were as follows:
  - An [open letter](#) from ERIC's Executive Director, March 2, 2023 regarding recent misinformation spreading about the organization specifically regarding security over data and fact that the DC address is not a traditional office because its employees work remotely; it is for mailing purposes.
  - Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC) [Frequently Asked Questions](#) covering basic information about the organization.
  - ERIC [Technology and Security Overview](#) that mentions the techniques ERIC uses to identify likely eligible, but unregistered voters, that state officials could then reach out to.

**Next Meeting Date: April 25 at 3:30**

**Location: 59 Woodfin Place**

**Meeting adjourned at 3:49 pm**