

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

Monitor Name: George and Elaine Elam, Aiden Carson

Date & Time: November 16, 2023 5:30 PM

Names of Board Members Attending:

Jake Quinn, Chairman

Steven Aceto, Board Member

Glen Shults, Secretary

Mary Ann Braine, Board Member

Sally Stein: Board Member

Names of Buncombe Co Staff Attending: Corrine Duncan, Director;
Anna Katherine Moore, Administrative Coordinator and Clerk to the Board;
Shannon Cole, Voter Registration Coordinator

Location of Meeting: 59 Woodfin Place, Asheville NC

Observers:

There were 7 observers. 3 LWV, 1 Common Cause, 2 Democrats

Agenda Items

I. Minutes

Minutes from 11/6, 11/7, and 11/13 were approved 5/0.

II. Office Updates:

- There are no UOCAVA ballots so agenda item III will not be needed.
- There are 8 provisional ballots.
- There will be a meeting December 12 for budget.
- Devin is working on district changes. They are expected to be complete in time for candidate filing.

III. Supplemental CIV & UOCAVA Absentee Ballot Review (GS §163.231(b)(2))

- No UOCAVA ballots.

IV. Provisional Ballots: Shannon Cole

- 5 provisional ballots were recommended by staff to be approved and 3 to be disapproved.

- Provisional ballots are a federal requirement and considered a failsafe mechanism to ensure voters have the opportunity to vote.
- Bipartisan teams examined the provisional ballots that Shannon handed out.
- Rejected ballots are never opened.
- Approved ballots are opened and scanned.
- 2 of the rejected ballots were not registered in Buncombe; 1 had a wrong address.
- Mr. Aceto questioned the level of information needed by Board members to support their conclusions. Devin described the procedures that staff carry out in arriving at their recommendations.

V. Director Delegations Resolution

- Corinne presented the latest proposed resolution for director delegations.
- Mr. Shults questioned the section in which disciplinary actions, including removal of full time staff. He thought the Board should have to approve removal of full time staff rather than fully delegating that to the Director.
- Mr. Quinn pointed out that the Board does not control day-to-day operations, and if the Board disagrees with her actions the appropriate action would be to address it in her performance review.
- Corinne said the county is currently changing grievance procedures. In general county employees take grievances to Avril Pindar, but Elections Services employees, while still county employees, take grievances to Ms. Duncan. This is covered in the Memo of Understanding between the County and Elections Services.
- Corinne will contact the County Attorney Mr. Uhler and ask him to attend the Dec. 12 meeting to help address some of these issues.
- Mr. Aceto had a detailed list of changes he would like to address in the resolution and in the Director's job description, and Mr. Quinn asked that he and Ms. Duncan get together to make revisions and have them ready for the Dec. 12 meeting.
- Ms. Stein said that the orientation that the Director provided for the Board had been extremely helpful and suggested that that be included in the job description.

IV. Next Meeting

Friday, November 17 at 11:00 AM (Canvass)

Location: 59 Woodfin Place