

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

Monitor Name: Elaine and George Elam

Date & Time: November 6, 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; Justin Tate, Absentee Coordinator; Devin Whitney, Elections Technical Specialist; Anna Katherine Moore, Administrative Coordinator and Clerk to the Board; Bria Bailey, Elections Tech Specialist

Location of Meeting: 59 Woodfin Place, Asheville NC

Observers:

Nine people in audience. 2 LWV. 4 Democratic Party, 2 Republican Party, 1 other. One person virtual.

Agenda Items

I. Minutes from October 31 meeting approved unanimously

II. Office Updates: Corrine Duncan

- Early voting ended Saturday . There were 618 early voters. In 2020 there were 839. In 2019 there were 62. Absentee ballots thus far 44. In 2021 there were 76. In 2019 there were 439. Early Voting for the municipal elections is finished.
- Director Duncan provided the Board with emergency manuals for Election Day. They will have the command center on Election Day at the new # 13 AVL fire station. She stated there were no issues with the ExpressVote machines or photo ID.
- Emergency bus has been preloaded for E-Day in case there's any issue getting into a polling place; Express vote is perfect for mobile van as it can print ballots.
- The Board needs to certify Absentee ballot lists tonight to go out to precincts by sheriff's deputy in a.m.
- On Election Day office staff arrives at 5:30 a.m. The Board should be here at 2 p.m. There will be two staff members at 59 Woodfin .

- Board meeting schedules ready for canvassing period. They have enough staff to close on Veterans' Day.
- The Sample audit and supplemental list are scheduled for next Monday at 10am. Thursday UOCAVA and provisional ballots will be reviewed. Canvass will be at 11 am on the 17th.
- No challenges are expected this election, but we may see them in general. Any hearings will be on canvass day.

III. Absentee Ballot Review: Justin Tate

- Justin Tate provided the Board with the overseas and absentee ballots to review.
- There were two overseas/military. Two bipartisan teams reviewed absentees: Stein-Aceto; Shults-Braine.
- 15 absentees reviewed tonight were approved unanimously.
- 2 military ballots were approved unanimously.

IV. Certified List of Approved Absentees

- There were two lists so two oaths required by statute, Chair Quinn noted; one from one-stops and one from military-overseas.
- There was a motion to accept 618 absentees during early voting, which passed unanimously.
- Bria Bailey administered the oaths to Chairman Quinn.
- Chairman Quinn took the specified oath to certify the early votes approved by county Board.
- Chairman Quinn took the specified oath to certify the overseas/military ballots approved by county Board.

V. Mismatched Absentee Ballot Number Resolution

- An updated simplified resolution dealing with mismatched absentee ballots/envelopes was given to the Board.
- Any ballot that arrives in a numbered envelope that does not match the ballot must be matched with the corresponding ballot/envelope at the same Board meeting or the ballot will be rejected. The voter will be notified to try to give the voter every opportunity to correct or to vote in person.
- The Resolution (2023-07) was approved unanimously.