

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

**Monitor Name:** George Elam and Aiden Carson in person

**Date & Time:** March 15, 2024 11:00 AM

**Names of Board Members Attending:**

Jake Quinn, Chairman

Mary Ann Braine, Board Member

Steven Aceto, Board Member

Glen Shults, Secretary

Sally Stein: Board Member

**Names of Buncombe Co Staff Attending:** Corrine Duncan, Director; Devin Whitney, Elections Technical Specialist; Justin Tate, Absentee Coordinator; Anna Katherine Moore, Administrative Coordinator and Clerk to the Board; Bria Bailey, Elections Technical Specialist; Neggy Fox, Deputy Director; Shannon Cole, Voter Registration Specialist

**Location of Meeting:** 59 Woodfin Place, Asheville NC

**Observers:**

8 observers as follows: 4 Democrats, 2 Republicans, 2 LWVAB, 1 unknown.

**Agenda Items**

**I. Agenda** for this meeting approved by acclamation

**II. Minutes** – No minutes

**III. Office Updates – Corrine Duncan**

- Today, Canvass Day, we certify the primary election.
- A handout was distributed to the board with a breakdown of the budget as requested by Braine at a previous meeting.
- After today's meeting we will finalize voter history so voters can check their voting history online.
- Handed out a physical copy of the abstract to all entities including the State Board.
- On the 21st we will send out the certificate of nominations.
- The state canvass will be on the 26th.
- Next meeting will be on April 9th.
- A deadline is coming up for election protests on Tuesday the 19<sup>th</sup>, but we don't have any. For the general election if we have some, the last time to request a protest is 5pm. the Monday after the election.

#### **IV. Finalize Early Voting Plan for the 2nd Primary (G.S. § 163-277.6) - Neggy Fox**

- Neggy presented slides showing the voter turnout of two previous 2nd. primaries. In 2020 for a Republican primary there were 1,424 voters, 66 of which voted between the hours of 5-6pm. One site was open from 8-6pm at the warehouse. In 2016 the 2nd primary for both parties was held at 59 Woodfin for ten days 10-6pm. There were 1,715 voters, of which 99 voted between 5-6 pm.
- Neggy emphasized that to open the primary site past normal business hours would trigger the mandated uniform hours of 8-7:30pm Monday through Friday.
- Neggy recommended opening from 8-5 Monday through Friday and 8-3 the last Saturday at 59 Woodfin.
- The Republican chair has sent an email to Election Services requesting no Early Voting for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Primary, but it is mandated.
- Mr. Aceto made a motion to approve staff recommendation. Passed 5-0

#### **V. Verification of Addresses (SDR returned undeliverable) (G.S. § 163-82.7(c)) – Devin Whitney**

- Devin noted that SBOE numbered memo 2023-05 gives guidance on dealing with this issue.
- Four same day registrants did not respond to correspondence.
- Staff recommends removal of those four ballots from vote totals.
- Jake made a motion to remove from primary totals. Passed 5-0

#### **VI. Administrative Challenges (G.S. § 163-89) – Devin Whitney**

- There were two challenges due to voters passing away before Election Day.
- Jake made a motion to remove deceased voters' ballots from the primary totals. The motion passed 5-0
- There was a voter from Black Mountain precinct 28.1, who requested one style ballot then changed his mind. He was given a provisional ballot and did not select any races. The blank ballot was spoiled. The blank ballot had to be duplicated and voted on. Jake made a motion to duplicate. Passed 5-0
- The duplication team assembled and processed the ballots.
- Devin stated there would be no change in vote totals.

#### **VII. Presentation of Audit (G.S. § 163-182.5) – Corinne Duncan**

- Corrine presented the sample audit to the Board. The State selected one Early Voting location and one Election Day precinct.

- There were no differences between the hand counts and the machine counts.

**VIII. Presentation of Reports & Certification of Election  
(G.S. § 163-182, G.S. § 163-182.5) – Corinne Duncan**

- Corrine handed out last night's provisional summary totaling 130 approved ballots out of 314 reviewed.
- That made 0.22% of the 59,648 ballots cast in the primary.
- Justin presented the Absentee summary. There were 2,833 absentee requests. 1589 were received. 323 had ID affidavits. Numbers matched.
- Devin presented the Early Voting summary. The total was 26,145 and the numbers matched.
- Bria presented the Election Day summary and the audit summary. Pct. 1.1 had one voting discrepancy causing the numbers to be one off. Of 59,648 votes there was one error.
- Bria printed out the final numbers of the primary, in triplicate , for the State Board, the Clerk's office , and one copy for our BOE. All Board members signed the three reports.
- Jake then made a motion to certify the primary. The motion passed 5-0 and the election was certified.
- The reports will be notarized.

**IX. Next Meeting Date will be  
Tuesday, April 9, 3:30 PM at 59 Woodfin Place, Asheville**