

CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS MEETING MINUTES

984-D Thompson St., Pittsboro, NC 27312

August 20, 2019 – 5:30 P.M.

The Chatham County Board of Elections met at the Board of Elections office, 984-D Thompson Street, Pittsboro, NC 27312 for their Regular Scheduled Meeting. The following people were present, Laura Heise, Chair, Charles Ramos, Secretary, Amy Robena Meek, member, Brian Bock, member, Mark Barroso, member, and Deputy Director Steve Simos. See attached sign in sheet for citizens where present.

Chair, Laura Heise called meeting to order.

Two new board members Brian Bock and Mark Barroso were given the Oath of Office by Chatham County Clerk of Court Dana Hackney and were sworn in as new members of the Chatham County Board of Elections.

The floor was opened to give citizens who were present the opportunity to speak. There were no citizen comments.

The board approved minutes from July 16, 2019 meeting. Amy Robena Meek made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Charles Ramos seconded the motion. The vote was 3-0 as Laurie Heise, Amy Robena Meek, and Charles Ramos were the only three of the current board members who were present at the last meeting.

The Deputy Director informed the Board of two vacancies for judges. In Albright Precinct we need a Republican Judge and in Three Rivers Precinct we need a Chief Judge. All other spots for Chief Judges and Judges have been filled and the persons awaiting appointment for those positions have been informed and submitted by the respected parties. Amy Robena Meek made the motion to approve the list provided to the board of Chief Judges and Judges for appointment to serve a two year term. Charles Ramos seconded the motion. All were in favor.

A list of election workers to work for the October Municipal Election and the November Municipal Election in 2019 was provided for the board. Amy Robena Meek made a motion to approve Election Day Poll Workers for October 2019 election. Charles Ramos seconded the motion. All were in favor. Amy Robena Meek made a motion to approve Election Day Workers for the November 2019 election. Charles Ramos seconded the motion. All were in favor.

The Deputy Director presented a list of workers that were willing to work for the Board of Elections that came from the Election Official recruitment effort. Questions were asked about if these individuals understood what it meant work as an election worker (YES). Another question was asked about why the need to be computer literate to work in elections. There was also a question of if another recruitment would be held and if this was an ongoing process for the public walking in and requesting to work (YES). Also, a question was asked if our office

would be recruiting student assistants again for the elections (YES). All questions were answered to everyone's satisfaction.

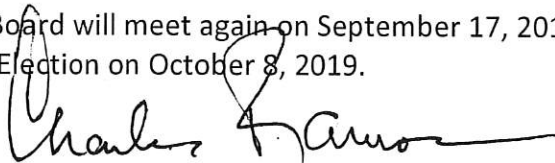
A suggested set of rules for Board members to use to respond to emails from citizens was presented to the Board after previous questions on how to handle this matter so everyone was on the same page. The Board had some input on this matter and changes will be made to reflect the Board's input. A final revised copy will be presented at the next board meeting. The Board was given an explanation of use of emails and those being subject to public record. As per Chatham County policy the Board signed a NC Public Records Law Acknowledgement with the email address they will be using for Board of Elections business.

The Deputy Director went over the process of acquiring new voting equipment. A decision on what voting equipment to test or show the public in a demonstration will not be made until the NC State Board of Elections meets to certify or not certify new voting equipment. Once we receive guidance from the NC State Board of Elections the Board will be informed on what processes we will be taking to implement new voting equipment in Chatham County should they be approved.

In other business the Deputy Director informed the Board of an email received from Veronica Degraffenreid-Director of Election Operations about Board members visiting polling locations on Election Day and delivering the Absentee List. Although there is nothing in the law that would prohibit Board members from visiting the polling locations the NC State Board of Elections would prefer they not do so in case something were to occur which would require the Board to deal with a protest or challenge. The Deputy Director informed the Board that a solution has been made on the Absentee Lists. They will accompany the trucks that go out at 5pm on Monday nights, so there will be no need to have them delivered early in the morning anymore. As for visiting precincts on Election Day, as long as there is not more than one Board member at a time visiting a polling location then it should not be a problem for Board members to continue to visit precincts on Election Day and help the Board of Elections office if needed.

Amy Robena Meek made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Charles Ramos seconded the motion. All in were in favor.

The Board will meet again on September 17, 2019 at 5:00pm for an Absentee Meeting for the Cary Election on October 8, 2019.



Charles Ramos, Secretary



Steve Simos, Attest