

CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
ABENSETEE MEETING MINUTES
984-D Thompson St., Pittsboro, NC 27312
February 18 , 2020 – 5:00 P.M.

The Chatham County Board of Elections met at the Board of Elections office, 984-D Thompson Street, Pittsboro, NC 27312 on February 18, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. to approve absentee ballots. The following people were present, Chair Laura Heise, Secretary Charles Ramos, Member Amy Meek, Member Brian Bock, and member Mark Barroso, Director Pandora Paschal and Deputy Director Steve Simos.

Secretary Charles Ramos asked everyone to stand for a moment of silence. Afterwards, he led everyone in reciting the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Chair Laura Heise called the meeting to order, and asked for approval of the agenda as written. The board approved the agenda as written.

Deputy Director Steve Simos presented the board with the following absentee ballots; 27 CIV's and 6 OVR's to review for approval. He received 2 ballots with missing signatures. He reissued the voters another ballot. The beginning count on the Verity Scan was 82. The board ran the 33 ballots through the scanner, and the ending count was 115.

The board reviewed absentee applications for each early voting site for approval. Charles Ramos made the motion to approve all absentee ballots and applications for this meeting. All were in favor.

Finalized the inclement weather plan for the possibility of inclement weather on Thursday, February 20, 2020, and Friday, February 21, 2020. Chair Laura Heise made the motion for the board to delegate the authority to the Director to decide when to close early voting, and to call for a delay in opening or closing if weather conditions were not permissible for election officials and voters to venture out. The board asked the Director to contact them by email or text for notification and approval. A three member response would be a quorum and we would move forward with closings or delays. They were all in favor.

The board discussed the voter intimidation complaints from voters, and County Commissioner Karen Howard, after protesters showed up at the early voting site at the Chatham County Agriculture and Conference Center on February 15, 2020. The protesters were not targeting the early voting site, but another event held at the center. The Board of Elections all agreed that, Chair, Laura Heise will write a letter to County Commissioners asking them to please allow the Board of Elections to review events that may be controversial before scheduling them while early voting is taking place to avoid any instances that may cause voters to feel intimidated.

Mark Barroso made the motion to go into close session for Personnel Reasons. All were in favor.

Mark Barroso made the motion to come out of closed session. All were in favor.

Charles Ramos made the motion to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor.



Charles Ramos, Secretary



Pandora Paschal, Attest