

**CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
REGULAR MEETING – VIRTUAL GoToMeeting
984-D Thompson St., Pittsboro, NC 27312
June 16, 2020–5:30 P.M.**

The Chatham County Board of Elections met at the Board of Elections office 984-D Thompson Street, Pittsboro, NC 27312 on June 16, 2020, at 5:30 p.m. via GoToMeeting for the regular scheduled meeting. Citizens were given the opportunity to listen only. Prior to the meeting citizens were instructed to email the Director of elections with comments or concerns to be addressed during the citizens input section on the agenda. The following people were present, Chair Laura Heise, Secretary Charles Ramos, Member Amy Meek, Member Brian Bock, Member Mark Barroso (Via teleconference), Director Pandora Paschal, and Deputy Director Steve Simos.

Secretary Charles Ramos led everyone in 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 by welcoming citizens via GoToMeeting. The emailed citizen's comments were addressed by the Director prior to the meeting to their satisfaction.

The board approved minutes from the May 19, 2020 meeting. Amy Meek made the motion to approve the minutes, and Charles Ramos seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Director Pandora Paschal presented the board with an update on HB 1169 – Bipartisan elections Act of 2020. Below is a list of items covered in the bill. (See link to bill summary here).

- Absentee by Mail Witness Requirement
- Precinct Official residency
- MAT Teams, (Mutipartisan assistance team) and assistance
- Tracking absentee ballots
- Absentee meetings
- Blank absentee request forms
- Absentee request portal
- New felony
- Certain prohibitions
- Provisional reporting
- Reporting of under votes and over votes with precinct sort
- DMV – Allow individuals to renew special ID cards in person and online
- Public assistance IDs added to the list of acceptable IDs for photo ID purposes when the injunction is lifted.
- CARES Act funds
- 2020 HAVA funds

The board discussed early voting sites for the November 3, 2020 election. Chatham County normally has the highest or second highest voter turnout in the state during General Elections. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, and CDC guidelines for social distancing the board is considering adding an additional site in the Northeastern part of the county, and to look at moving from the Earl B. Fitts Community Center, and also moving into the center section of the Chatham County Agricultural and Conference Center. Since turnout in Goldston is not as high this site will remain in place. Staff will do more research before the board take a final vote on early voting plans at the July 21, 2020 meeting. These plans will include locations, dates and times.

The Board of Elections contacted the Board of Education to request a calendar change that would close schools on Election Day in order to use school gymnasiums for temporary polling places to allow for proper social distancing. The Board of Education made the calendar change and November 3, 2020 is an optional teacher workday. Director Paschal presented the board with a spreadsheet suggesting which schools would be used for temporary polling places. The board will vote on this issue at the July 21, 2020 meeting.

Deputy Director Steve Simos discussed with the board procedures for tabulating an increased number of absentee ballots by mail for the upcoming November 3, 2020. He will provide these procedures in written format at the next meeting.

Director Paschal stated Poll Workers will be trained for the November 3, 2020 election beginning in August. For this election extra people will be needed to be greeters, persons to wipe down voting booths, and persons to look up voters standing in line to ensure they are in the correct precinct. Director Paschal asked for the public's assistance in recruiting workers.

The Director, and the Deputy Director gave a special thanks to board member Mark Barroso for assisting them with creating a series of videos to aid in the training of poll workers.

This concluded the Board of Elections meeting. Amy Meek made the motion to adjourn the meeting, and Charles Ramos seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for July 21, 2020 at 5:30 pm.



Charles Ramos, Secretary



Pandora Paschal, Attest