

# CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS REGULAR MEETING

Chatham County Board of Elections Office

984 Thompson Street, Suite D

Pittsboro, NC 27312

GoToMeeting

**Recorded meeting is available at** <https://www.chathamcountync.gov/government/departments-programs/board-of-elections/board-of-elections-members-meetings>

August 17, 2021 – 5:30 p.m.

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The Chatham County Board of Elections met for their regular meeting at the Chatham County Board of Elections office at 984 Thompson Street Suite D, Pittsboro, NC 27312 on August 17, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. via GoToMeeting. Citizens were given the opportunity to submit comments or concerns relating to elections via email to the Director by 5:00 p.m. Monday August 16, 2021.

The following people were present: Chair Laura Heise, Secretary Charles Ramos, Member Amy Meek, Member Frank Dunphy II, Member Mark Barroso, Director Pandora Paschal, Deputy Director Steve Simos, Election Specialist Chance Mashburn, temp employee Donald Lyerly, and Clerk to the Chatham County Board of Commissioners Lindsay Ray.

Secretary Charles Ramos led everyone in a moment of silence and the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

## **Call to Order**

Chair Laura Heise called the meeting to order by stating a quorum was present. She congratulated Election Specialist Chance Mashburn for obtaining his North Carolina Elections Administrator Certification.

## **Public Input**

There were three emails from the public. Comments were addressed during Old Business. They were pertaining to item number one of that section.

## **Approve Minutes**

Chair Heise asked the board if they were ready to approve minutes from June 22, 2021, July 16, 2021, and July 20, 2021, as they are written and edited by Secretary Charles Ramos. Chair Heise stated she would like for her comment about the late Gloria Davis who served as Chief Judge in New Hope precinct to remain in the minutes for June 22, 2021.

Amy Meek made the motion to approve the minutes with edits for June 22, 2021, keeping the statement Chair Heise made about the Chief Judge. Member Frank Dunphy II seconded the motion. All were in favor. Vote 5-0.

Chair Laura Heise made the motion to approve the minutes from the Emergency Meeting held on July 16, 2021. Member Frank Dunphy II seconded the motion. All were in favor. Vote 5-0.

Secretary Charles Ramos made the motion to approve the minutes from July 20, 2021. Member Frank Dunphy II seconded the motion. All were in favor. Vote 5-0.

### Old Business

Chair Heise explained that at the July 20, 2021, meeting the board delegated duties and responsibilities to the Director of Elections. The board made a unanimous decision to adopt the updated duties and responsibilities. Member Frank Dunphy II asked that the board take a more in depth look at the last bullet point under the section labeled Public Relations which reads as follows: the Director will serve as public speaker for civic organizations, school classes, or any bi-partisan group requesting a speaker on voter registration or elections. Member Frank Dunphy II advocated to the board in an email distributed to all board members by the Director that "voting members should be included as speakers and that any incoming requests should be offered to voting members. We as voting members should discuss ideas regarding how to distribute speaker requests for the Department Board of Elections. Board members should not grant *carte blanche* for public speaking requests to the Director of Elections."

Chair Heise asked Member Frank Dunphy II to state his proposal as a motion. Member Frank Dunphy II stated that the board had inadequate deliberation about the sixth bullet point at the previous meeting. Member Mark Barroso stated any debate should be attached to a motion. Member Frank Dunphy II made the motion to reconsider bullet point six on the delegation of the Duties and Responsibilities of the Director of Elections and to rescind it. Member Amy Meek stated that the North Carolina State Board of Elections had given directives to the sixth bullet point. She stated we can discuss it, but she will do what the state board directed. She stated it should not be opened for discussion. Member Mark Barroso asked to hear the public input that was received pertaining to the matter. Chair Heise asked for a second to the motion that Member Frank Dunphy II made. Secretary Charles Ramos seconded the motion. Two members voted in favor to open the discussion (Secretary Charles Ramos and Member Frank Dunphy II), and three members voted against opening the discussion (Chair Laura Heise, Member Robena Meek, and Member Mark Barroso). Vote 3-2. There was no further discussion about the matter. Chair Heise read the comments submitted for Public Input.

Lindsay Ray Clerk to the Chatham County Board of Commissioners spoke to the board about information pertaining to their newly assigned county email addresses. Lindsay stated that she will email the Board of Elections staff the policies for the board to read and sign pertaining to email, technology, and public records. Lindsay also gave input about how the Board of Commissioners handle speaking engagements.

## **New Business**

### **Appoint of Precinct Officials**

Chance Mashburn presented to the board the list of names for the two-year appointment of Chief Judges and Party Judges. These names were chosen from the list of names submitted by the Democratic Party Chair and the Republican Party Chairman. Peter Zelechowski's name was not submitted by the Republican Party Chairman as the Chief Judge for the Albright Precinct.

After some discussion the floor was open for motion to approve Peter Zelechowski as the Chief Judge for Albright Precinct. Member Amy Meek made the motion for approval. Member Frank Dunphy II seconded the motion. All were in favor. Vote 5-0.

The board accepted the list of names for a two-year appointment to serve as Judges of election for the Chatham County Board of Elections. The names will be published in the Chatham News + Record. Member Amy Meek made the motion. Member Frank Dunphy II seconded the motion. All were in favor. Vote 5-0.

The board approved the names of Precinct Officials for the non-partisan Municipal Election to be held on November 2, 2021. Secretary Charles Ramos made the motion. Member Mark Barroso seconded the motion. All were in favor. Vote 5-0.

The schedule of early voting workers was presented to the board. Twelve people were hired as temporary workers to conduct early voting at the in lieu of site (Chatham County Agriculture and Conference Center) for the upcoming election.

### **Director's Report**

The Director presented the board with the list of the candidate's names who filed to run for office for the non-partisan Municipal Election on November 2, 2021.

Only one MAT team that was certified in 2020 will be used for the November 2, 2021, election. Their appointment was for two years.

Training dates for Precinct Officials, Early voting workers, and Judges were given to the board. Chair Heise reminded the board that it would be beneficial for them to attend one of the trainings.

SEIMS (State Election Information Management System) was migrated to cloud storage for security purposes. These modules are used for everyday administrative task by the staff and has nothing to do with the Hart InterCivic voting system, which is never connected to the internet.

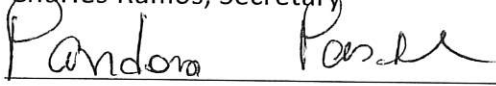
### **Adjournment**

Chair Laura Heise made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Secretary Charles Ramos seconded the motion. All were in favor. Vote 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 6:48 pm.



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Charles Ramos, Secretary



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Pandora Paschal, Attest