

CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

ELECTION ABSENTEE 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>

November 2, 2021 – 5:00 p.m.

The following people were present: Chair Laura Heise, Secretary Charles Ramos, Member Amy Meek, Member Frank Dunphy II, Director Pandora Paschal, Deputy Director Steve Simos, Election Specialist Chance Mashburn, MIS Technician Austin Conklin, MIS Technician Sarah Gitt, Machine Technician Carla Daniels, Director of elections Terry Meyers from Chowan County, and News reporter Taylor Heeden from The Chatham News+ Record. Member Mark Barroso joined the meeting remotely.

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 and stated there was a quorum to conduct the meeting. Four members were present in person and one member joined remotely. She stated the main business for the meeting was to close the polls and obtain vote totals on the absentee mail machine and the One-Stop early voting machine. Deputy Director Steve Simos explained the supplemental absentee process for ballots received after 5:00 pm on the day before the election. Any ballots received three days after the election with the postmark date on or before November 2, 2021 will be approved by the board and counted at the provisional/supplemental absentee meeting on Monday, November 8, 2021, at 4:00 pm.

Close Polls on Absentee Mail and Absentee One-Stop Machine

Machine Technician Carla Daniel opened the Hart Verity scanner and prepared it to close the polls for this election. Deputy Director Steve Simos removed the absentee by mail ballot container from the ballot box under the observation of the board. The ballots were transferred to a locked ballot box and stored in a secure area in the office. The total on the tape after closing the polls for absentee mail was 37 votes, which was the ending total at the close of the meeting on Monday, November 1, 2021. The board verified the totals and signed the tape. Chair Laura Heise explained to citizens who tuned in via livestream that the board would be tallying the votes for absentee by mail ballots and absentee One Stop ballots. She stated the livestream would be muted because vote totals are not to be released until 7:30 pm, but they

would still be able to witness the process. After the completed tallying the votes for absentee by mail the same closing process was followed for the Absentee One-Stop machine. The board verified the count on the tape to the daily total sheet prepared by the Director. The total votes for Absentee One Stop were 460 votes cast, which was the same as it was at the close of the meeting on Monday, November 1, 2021.


Complete Absentee Abstracts

The board completed the Abstract of Absentee ballots for the November 2, 2021, election certifying that they met at the time specified in G.S. 163A-1173 and did count the Absentee Ballots returned to the board no later than 5:00 pm on 11/1/2021, and certified that the totals are true and correct tabulation of said absentee ballots. These votes will be added to the official abstracts on canvass day by the board.

The board witnessed the removal of the seals from the tabulator before counting. They also verified the new seals placed on the sealed box which contained the voted ballots before they were stored in a secure area in the office.

Adjourned

Chair Laura Heise stated that the board would be at the office to observe the return of results and supplies from the precincts. They will also observe uploading results to the Verity Count, and uploads made in the Election Night Reporting system to the North Carolina State Board of Elections. Secretary Charles Ramos made the motion to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. The board adjourned the meeting at 5:34 p.m.

 "11/9/21

Charles Ramos, Secretary

 "11/9/21

Pandora Paschal, Attest