

**CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS  
ABSENTEE /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>

April 19, 2022 – 5:00 p.m.

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**Attendees:**

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  
MIS/Machine Techs Sarah Gitt/Austin Conklin/Carla Daniel

**Call to Order**

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

Chair Heise called the meeting to order stating that this was an absentee meeting and regular meeting, but absentee processing will be completed first. A quorum is present to conduct the meeting. The first item on the agenda is to approve the draft agenda. She asked the board if anyone had any additions or deletions. If an addition was needed, it would be added in the other elections business on the agenda. Chair Heise made the motion to approve the draft agenda. All were in favor. Vote 5-0.

**Process Absentee Ballots**

Deputy Director Simos stated there were 18 civilian ballots for approval at this meeting. He verified the number of ballots with the report generated from Report Manager. The board reviewed the envelopes to ensure all required signatures were provided before approval.

The board verified the count on the Verity Scan from the last meetings ending count, which was 2. The beginning count on the Verity Scanner for this meeting is 2. The board put the 18 ballots into the scanner. Member Mark Barroso made the motion to approve the 18 ballots for

counting. Charles Ramos seconded the motion. All were in favor. Vote 5-0. The board verified the ending count on the scanner was 20 total ballots cast.

Director Paschal explained that the Omni Portal is where Military and Overseas voters returned their emailed ballots electronically. Deputy Director Simos explained a transmission issue that occurred when a Chatham County overseas voter submitted their ballot. When the voter marked their ballot and reviewed the ballot before submitting, the ballot was marked with different choices than what the voter marked. The voter contacted the office to alert staff of the problem. Deputy Director Simos asked the voter to send screenshots of the ballot. The screenshots showed that the ballot was marked incorrectly. The voter's ballot was suspended, and Deputy Director Simos contacted the North Carolina State Board of Elections to alert them of the problem. The ballot problem was fixed, and the portal is working like it should. For full explanation see the taped meeting for April 19, 2022 meeting at <https://www.chathamcountync.gov/government/departments-programs-a-h/elections/board-of-elections-members-meetings>

There was no public input for this meeting.

### **Approve Minutes**

Chair Heise presented the March 15, 2022 meeting minutes for approval. She asked if there were any changes to make. Member Frank Dunphy stated that he would like to add five words to the minutes, after the statement "apples and oranges" he wanted to clarify. He added "because BOE has fewer staff" so people wouldn't think he was talking about fruit. Director Pandora Paschal made the correction to the minutes. Member Mark Barroso made the motion to approve the minutes. Secretary Ramos seconded the motion. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0. Chair Heise presented the minutes for the April 12, 2022, meeting for approval. There were no adjustments made to the minutes. Member Dunphy II made the motion to approve the minutes. Member Meek seconded the motion. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0.

### **New Business**

#### **Logic & Accuracy Testing**

The purpose of Logic & Accuracy testing is to ensure that the voting equipment is reading the ballots correctly and giving the correct results. Testing is open to the public. The board tested the following machines: Albright Verity Writer and OKI printer, East Williams Verity Scan, and East Siler City Verity Print and Oki printer. The board participated by inserting ballots and verifying the results from the printed tally tape.

### **Approve Replacement Judges**

Election Specialist Mashburn stated that Republican Party Chairman Terry Schmidt recommended Mia Munn to serve as Republican Judge at the Bynum Precinct for the May 17, 2022 Primary Election. Democratic Party Chair Liz Guinan recommended Kim Warren to be the Democratic Judge in the Albright Precinct for the May 17, 2022 Primary Election. Member Meek

made the motion to approve their appointments for the May 17, 2022 Primary Election. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0. The list of Election Day Assistants was presented for approval by the board. Secretary Ramos made the motion to approve the assistants for Election Day. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0.

### **Early Voting Workers**

Secretary Ramos requested the total number of early voting workers by party. Election Specialist Mashburn reported there are 57 Democrats, 41 Republicans, and 32 Unaffiliated.

### **Other Election Matters**

Director Paschal stated that an early voting ad will run in the Chatham News & Record on Thursday, April 21, 2022, and Thursday, April 28, 2022.

The Board of Elections office received a certificate from the North Carolina Board of Elections for the Wellness Check in 2021. Chatham County has a healthy elections office.

The board was updated on the date of the budget presentation. It will be held on May 2, 2022 at 6:00 pm. The public hearing will be on May 16, 2022. The work session will be May 23<sup>rd</sup> 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The Chatham Board of Elections decided to wait to see if their request to raise staff salaries will be presented at the May 2, 2022 commissioner meeting to determine if they will attend the budget public hearing on May 16, 2022. This will be determined at the May 3, 2022 Board of Elections meeting.

Members Barroso and Meek will do some research to determine the cost of running an ad on Facebook to advertise voting for the May 17, 2022 Primary. Member Dunphy II thought doing this was a good thing. He asked who were we trying to reach? Are we trying to reach those voters in Chatham County that look at Facebook and participate on Facebook? He stated there may be some voters in Chatham County like him who don't look at Facebook. Election Specialist Mashburn stated that this is the reason we use the newspaper. Member Dunphy II asked if they were going after the Facebook literate in Chatham County? He stated that we don't know how many that is. Director Paschal stated that this would assist with getting voting information out to Chatham County citizens as well as Chatham County voters because some may not be registered. For full discussion see the taped meeting for April 19, 2022 meeting at <https://www.chathamcountync.gov/government/departments-programs-a-h/elections/board-of-elections-members-meetings>

### **Adjourn**

Chair Heise made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 pm. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0.

Charles Ramos

MAY 3, 2022

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Charles Ramos, Secretary

Pandora Paschal

5/3/2022

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Pandora Paschal, Attest