

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>

March 15, 2022 – 5:30 p.m.

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, and Election Specialist Chance Mashburn.

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

Call to Order

Chair Heise called the meeting to order stating that this is a regular meeting. Chair Heise stated there was a quorum to conduct the meeting.

Public Input

There was no public input for this meeting.

Approve Minutes

Chair Heise asked if the board was ready to approve the minutes for the February 15, 2022 regular meeting and the February 25, 2022 special meeting. Member Meek made the motion to approve the minutes. Member Dunphy II seconded the motion. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0.

Old Business

- (1) Chair Heise read a portion of a public input email sent by Nilda Ramos prior to the February 15, 2022 meeting. She requested meeting agendas and documents be issued on a timelier basis like the Chatham County Board of Commissioners standard. She also suggested posting the meeting agenda and documents with the approved meeting minutes. Member Dunphy II stated that comparing the Board of Elections office to other county departments with more employees is like comparing apples to oranges because the Board of Elections has fewer staff and it would not be fair for this office to be asked to hold the same standards. Chair Heise stated that the staff would make their best efforts to make the information available. (See full discussion on the taped meeting for the March 15, 2022 meeting at this link: <https://www.chathamcountync.gov/government/departments-programs-a-h/elections/board-of-elections-members-meetings>).

(2) Chair Heise reported that she, Member Dunphy II, Director Paschal, Deputy Director Simos, and Election Specialist Mashburn met with Assistant County Manager Carolyn Miller at the Board of Elections office to present a letter and other documentation about staff salaries. Director Paschal sent a follow up email and Carolyn Miller replied that the outcome is yet to be determined. If the proposal is not met, the Board of Elections will be at the public hearing for the budget to argue their case. (For full discussion see taped meetings for March 15, 2022 at this link:

<https://www.chathamcountync.gov/government/departments-programs-a-h/elections/board-of-elections-members-meetings>).

(3) Carla George (Republican) resigned as a MAT Team member, and Jeanne Mitchell (Republican) will be her replacement. The board voted to replace Carla George and approved Jeanne Mitchell as her replacement on the MAT team. Chair Laura Heise made the motion. Secretary Charles Ramos seconded the motion. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0.

(4) Chair Heise reported that the State Board voted 3-2 to approve the Chatham County majority early voting plan with Sunday voting.

(5) Member Meek suggested inviting Commissioner Mike Dasher to the April 19, 2022 Board of Elections meeting to talk about staff salaries, get on their calendar, and attend the budget hearing public input.

New Business

Citizens Attending in Person Meetings

The board made the decision to give citizens the option to attend meetings virtually or in person beginning with the next month's meeting which will be in April.

Resolution to move Moncure Precinct and Bonlee Precinct

In a prior meeting, the board adopted a resolution to move the voting site in the Three Rivers Precinct from Liberty Chapel Church, which is now the Moncure precinct, to Moncure Elementary School. They also voted to move the Bonlee voting site from the fire department to Bonlee Elementary School. The Board of Elections Director was notified that we would not be able to use these schools on May 17, 2022 because school would be in session due to testing, and that we would need to find alternate sites to vote.

The board adopted a resolution to move the voting site in the Moncure precinct to Liberty Chapel Church and to move the voting site in the Bonlee precinct to Chatham Central High School for the May 17, 2022 Primary only. Member Barroso made the motion to adopt the resolution. Member Dunphy II seconded the motion. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0.

Adopt Resolution to Count Absentee Ballots at 2:00 pm on Election Day

Secretary Ramos made the motion to adopt the resolution to count absentee ballots at 2:00 pm on Primary Election Day, May 17, 2022. Member Meek seconded the motion. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0.

Approve Board of Elections FY23 Budget

The FY23 budget was presented for board approval prior to being submitted to the Budget Director for approval by the County Commissioners. Member Barroso asked if money could be added to the

advertising line item for ads on county social media, such as, Facebook and Twitter. Director Pandora Paschal will ask Kara Dudley, County Public Information Officer, for the information pertaining to cost and guidelines to be used by board of elections staff. Member Barroso proposed adding \$400.00 to the advertising line in the budget for social media ads. Director Paschal stated that if election notice ads didn't cost as much we would have enough money in the line item to cover any charges for social media ads. Chair Heise made the motion to approve the FY23 budget without staff salaries. Secretary Ramos seconded the motion. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0. (See full discussion on the taped meeting for the March 15, 2022 meeting at this link: <https://www.chathamcountync.gov/government/departments-programs-a-h/elections/board-of-elections-members-meetings>).

Approve Election Day Precinct Officials

The board approved three replacement judges, one Chief Judge, and Election Day Assistants. Charlotte Hill replaced Pearl Canterbury Bonlee Republican Judge. Amanda Gaumer replaced Amy Crissman Democratic Judge for Crossroads precinct. Cathy Gilliam replaced Veronica Remy as Chief Judge in Hadley precinct. Doug Carmen replaced Cathy Gilliam Democratic Judge Hadley precinct. Chair Heise made the motion. Member Dunphy II seconded the motion. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0.

Present Early Voting Temp Staff

Election Specialist Mashburn presented the names of the temporary workers for all five early voting sites.

Certify MAT Teams

Chair Heise signed the certification certificates for the six members on the MAT teams. Each member went through training as outlined in the NC election laws. They are required to take their certificates with them to the facilities when they go out.


Directors Report

Director Paschal updated the board on the office preparations for the election. Candidate filing ended on March 4, 2022. The board was given a list of candidates that would be on the ballot for the May 17, 2022 Primary election. There will be a Democratic Primary, a Republican Primary, Siler City Municipal candidates, and Cary Municipal candidates on the ballots for this election. Someone filed a petition to get on the ballot as an unaffiliated candidate for the November election. Soil & Water candidates will file in June.

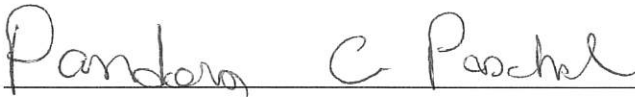
- Ballots are being prepared and absentee ballots must be ready to go out on March 28, 2022. Staff has coordinated with MIS to test the ballots, the voting equipment, and to get the laptops ready for training for early voting and Election Day.
- Training dates are set for Election Day workers and Early voting workers. The board was given a calendar with all of their meeting dates for the May and November elections.
- South Data has been contracted to do the mailings to notify voters of their precinct changes by April 15, 2022.
- Election notice and Resolutions were sent to the paper for publication.
- The website is being updated with current information. Signs will be posted at polling places to alert voters of their new polling place.

- Preparation has begun with getting supply boxes ready for early voting and Election Day, which includes PPE.
- Emergency Plans are being updated by Steve Newton, Director of Emergency Management.
- The meeting with the Provost at the CCCC Health Science building has been set.
- The issues with the National Guard Armory have been settled.
- The delivery teams and trucks are being secured to deliver to the precincts on the day before the election.
- Poll workers are still being recruited through Democracy Heroes.
- Mat team trainings are complete, and Deputy Director Simos is coordinating with the facilities in the county to arrange visits.
- Early Voting Site Manager training has been set.
- Training materials are being prepared for early voting and Election Day.
- The state did approve the Hart upgrade to 2.5. We will not upgrade for this election, but hope to have the upgrade completed by the November election.
- The Hart scanner works we are waiting for the state to incorporate it into the applications for early voting and election day (For full discussion see the March 15, 2022, recorded meeting at this link: <https://www.chathamcountync.gov/government/departments-programs-and/elections/board-of-elections-members-meetings>).

Member Barroso made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Secretary Ramos seconded the motion. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:11 pm.

 4/19/22

Charles Ramos, Secretary



Pandora Paschal Attest