

**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>

May 10, 2022 – 5:00 p.m.

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

Call to Order

After a moment of silence and pledge of allegiance, Chair Heise opened the meeting by stating that this is the fifth absentee meeting to count and process returned absentee ballots and approve early voting applications. She stated there was a quorum to conduct the meeting. There was no public input emailed or from the GoToMeeting chat box.

New Business

Approve Early Voting Absentee Applications

Chair Heise stated that the board will review the early voting absentee applications to ensure that the voter has signed, and the election officials initialed the absentee application as the witness. She stated that the staff had already reviewed them so it would not be necessary for board members to look at each application and instead a quick flip through would be sufficient. Member Dunphy said he found two deficiencies during the board's review process at the last meeting. Member Dunphy objected to a quick review. Secretary Ramos made a motion to pick a random pack of applications from each site to review signatures for accuracy. Member Barroso seconded the motion. Secretary Ramos, Member Barroso, and Member Dunphy were in favor. Chair Heise and Member Meek opposed. The vote was 3-2. Motion carried. After reviewing one random pack of applications from each early voting site, Secretary Ramos made

the motion to approve the applications for May 3, 2022 – May 9, 2022. Member Barroso seconded the motion. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0.

Approve Absentee Ballots

Chair Heise asked Deputy Director Simos to present the absentee by mail ballots for approval. Deputy Director Simos presented the board with 189 civilian ballots for review and 3 overseas ballots for review and duplication. The board verified the beginning count tabulated on the Verity scanner, which was 106 votes. Member Meek made the motion to approve the 189 civilian ballots presented for counting. Member Barroso seconded the motion, and all were in favor. The vote was 5-0. The board fed the 189 ballots into the Verity scanner. The board duplicated and verified the overseas ballots that were presented. Member Meek made the motion to approve the ballots. Secretary Ramos seconded the motion, and all were in favor. The vote was 5-0. The 3 overseas ballots were fed into the tabulator. The ending count on the Verity scanner for this meeting was 298.

Chair Heise asked if there were any discussion about May 3, 2022 meeting minutes. Member Dunphy stated that he would like a discussion. Chair Heise moved the minutes to after Closed Session on the agenda.

Closed Session – Personnel Matter

Member Barroso made the motion for the board go into closed session pursuant to G.S. 143 318.11 (a) (6) to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character fitness, and conditions of employment of an individual public officer or employee. Member Meek seconded the motion. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0.

Member Dunphy made the motion to come out of closed session. Member Meek seconded the motion. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0. The regular meeting open session was resumed.

Member Meek made a motion to replace a Democratic Judge for the Manns Chapel Precinct who is also a temporary early voting poll worker. Member Dunphy seconded the motion. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0.

Approve Minutes May 3, 2022

Member Dunphy asked to add the following statement to the May 3, 2022 meeting minutes under the header Approve Early Voting Absentee Applications “Two witness signature deficiencies were discovered”. Secretary Ramos moved to approve the minutes as amended. Member Meek seconded the motion. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0.

Other Election Business

Chair Heise clarified that at the 6:00 p.m., May 16, 2022, Chatham County Board of Commissioners budget public hearing only one member from a group would be allowed to speak if talking about the same topic. As there is bipartisan board of elections agreement regarding elections staff compensation, Members Barroso and Dunphy will attend the budget hearing.

Chair Heise made the motion to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0. The meeting was adjourned.

Charles Ramos 5/16/22

Charles Ramos, Secretary

Pandora Paschal 5/16/2022

Pandora Paschal, Attest