

CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS 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-a-h/elections/board-of-elections-members-meetings>

November 1, 2022 – 5:00 p.m.

ATTENDEES:

Chair Laura Heise, Secretary Charles Ramos, Member Frank Dunphy, Member Amy Meek, Director Pandora Paschal, Deputy Director Steve Simos, Election Specialist Chance Mashburn, and Election Assistant Donald Lyerly. [Absent: Member Mark Barroso.]

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 and stated this was the fifth absentee meeting for the November 8, 2022 election. There was a quorum to conduct board business.

Approval of Agenda

Chair Heise stated that approval of the October 25, 2022 minutes would be moved to the next meeting, and that the order of item number one and two on the agenda would be switched. Secretary Ramos made the motion to approve the amended agenda. Member Meek seconded the motion. All were in favor. Vote 4-0 (Heise, Ramos, Dunphy, and Meek).

Approval of Absentee Ballots

Deputy Director/Absentee Coordinator Simos stated 3,946 cumulative ballots were mailed out. For this meeting, there were a total of **588** completed ballots for board approval: **567** civilian, **7** military, and **14** overseas. There was one cure letter returned for this meeting where the signature of the voter was missing.

Deputy Director Simos asked the board to verify the count on the Verity Scanner to ensure the count was the same as it was at the end of the last absentee meeting before any ballots were inserted. The beginning count on the scanner for this meeting was **1,555**.

The board looked at the envelopes of the returned ballots to ensure they had all required signatures and initialed them for confirmation. The board checked the CIV (civilian) numbers against the list of voters to ensure none were missing.

Member Meek made the motion to approve **567** civilian ballots for counting. Secretary Ramos seconded the motion. All were in favor. The vote was 4-0 (Heise, Ramos, Meek, and Dunphy). The board and the staff opened the ballots to insert into the tabulator.

In addition, 3 ballots were not approved because of missing witness information. All three ballots were spoiled. The voters were contacted, and they were mailed new ballots. Member Meek made the motion to not approve the ballots with the missing witness information. Secretary Ramos seconded the motion. All were in favor. The vote was 4-0 (Heise, Ramos, Meek, and Dunphy).

Deputy Director Simos presented the board with seven (7) military ballots and fourteen (14) overseas ballots to be duplicated. Member Meek made the motion to approve the **7** military ballots. Secretary Ramos seconded the motion. All were in favor. The vote was 4-0 (Heise, Ramos, Meek, and Dunphy). Member Meek made the motion to approve the **14** overseas ballots. Secretary Ramos seconded the motion. All were in favor. The vote was 4-0 (Heise, Ramos, Meek, and Dunphy).

After the ballots were duplicated, the staff inserted them into the Verity scanner.

At the October 18, 2022, Member Barroso identified a CIV number on the ballot that didn't match the envelope. It was discovered that the wife's ballot was in the husband's envelope. The husband's ballot had not been returned. Deputy Director/Absentee Coordinator Steve Simos moved the returned ballot from accepted to pending. It was established that the voter would be contacted to see if the wife's ballot had been mailed.

Member Meek made the amended motion to count **566** civilian ballots with one in pending status. Secretary Ramos seconded the motion. All were in favor. The vote was 4-0 (Heise, Ramos, Meek, and Dunphy). For the full discussion, see the recorded meeting at this link:

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

The final vote count on the Absentee by Mail Verity Scan after all ballots were inserted was **2,142** for this meeting.

Approval of One Stop Applications

Chair Heise stated that the board would be approving applications for October 25-31, 2022.

Member Dunphy noted there was an application that was missing the initials of an election official. The board decided if there was an incidental omission of the election official's initials, no action would be taken. If egregious omissions were made, corrective action would be taken.

Member Meek made the motion to approve the One Stop applications for October 25-31, 2022. Secretary Ramos seconded the motion. All were in favor. The vote was 4-0 (Heise, Ramos, Meek, and Dunphy).

Approve Election Day Election Officials

Election Specialist Mashburn presented the board with the full list of Election Day Precinct Officials for the November 8, 2022 Midterm Election.

He stated two Democratic judges dropped out from the Albright and West Siler City precincts, and that he had found replacements that need to be approved for this election. Democratic Judge for the Albright precinct would be Kim Warren, and Democratic Judge for the West Siler City precinct would be Caroline Mclester. Member Dunphy made the motion to approve them to serve for this election. Secretary Ramos seconded the motion. All were in favor. The vote was 4-0 (Heise, Ramos, Meek, and Dunphy).

Member Meek made the motion to approve the full list of precinct officials to serve for this election. Secretary Ramos seconded the motion. The vote was 4-0 (Heise, Ramos, Meek, and Dunphy).

Adjourn Meeting

Member Meek made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Secretary Ramos seconded the motion. All were in favor. The vote was 4-0 (Heise, Ramos, Meek, and Dunphy).The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Charles Ramos 11/15/22

Charles Ramos, Secretary

Pandora Paschal

Pandora Paschal, Attest