CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS CANVASS

Chatham County Board of Elections Office 984 Thompson Street, Suite D Pittsboro, NC 27312

GoToMeeting

Recorded meeting is available here: https://www.chathamcountync.gov/government/departments-programs-a-h/elections/board-of-elections-members-meetings

November 18, 2022 – 11:00 a.m.

ATTENDEES:

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

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 a quorum was present to Canvass the votes for the November 8, 2022 General Election.

Approval of Agenda

Chair Heise asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Member Meek made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Secretary Ramos seconded the motion. All were in favor (vote 5-0).

Mail In Absentee Ballot Challenge

Chair Heise explained the circumstances of why a ballot was challenged. The voter requested the ballot, voted the ballot, and returned it to the Board of Elections office. The ballot was approved and counted during a scheduled absentee meeting. The board of elections received the deceased voter list from the Register of Deeds office with the voter's name on it showing that the voter passed away before Election Day. Under North Carolina election law when this happens the ballot should be challenged.

The board followed guidance from the North Carolina State Board of Elections to determine that the voter was deceased. The challenge was sustained.

Member Meek made the motion to remove the ineligible vote from the unofficial results. Member Dunphy seconded the motion. All were in favor (vote 5-0). The vote was deducted from the unofficial results in the presence of a bipartisan team of board members.

Examine Election Returns

The board of elections examined all the returns from each voting site, and the incident reports. They determined that all returns were in and there were no issues.

Certification of Official Results

After the challenged ballot was deducted, the official results were uploaded to Verity Count, and then uploaded to the North Carolina State Board of Elections election reporting system. The board verified the totals and certified the November 8, 2022 General Election.

After Acton Review of the Election

The board discussed what went well, what went wrong, and what could be done better.

They agreed the Chatham County, NC board of elections needs a dedicated tech person who reports to the Director of Elections.

The board also agreed that the Chatham County, NC board of elections office is understaffed and is deficient in resources for a county that has the highest voter turnout in the state.

For the full discussion, see the recorded meeting at this link:

 $\underline{https://www.chathamcountync.gov/government/departments-programs-a-h/elections/board-of-elections-members-meetings}$

Adjourn

Member Meek made the motion to adjourn. Secretary Ramos seconded the motion. All were in favor (vote $\underline{5}$ -0). The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 pm.

Charles Ramos, Secretary

Pándora Paschal, Attest