

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

February 21, 2023 – 5:30 p.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, Election Assistant Barbara Polk, and Election Assistant Donald Lyerly.

Guests: County Manager Dan LaMontagne, and County Commissioner Liaison David Delaney.

Secretary Ramos led a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Call to Order

Chair Heise called the meeting to order. There was a quorum to conduct board business. She acknowledged the County Manager and the County Commissioner Liaison and thanked them for coming.

Approval of Agenda

Chair Heise said renaming the split Manns Chapel precincts would be discussed at the March 21, 2023 meeting. She encouraged precinct voters to submit their suggestions to the elections email address. Member Meek made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Member Dunphy seconded the motion. All were in favor. Vote 5-0.

Approve Minutes

Secretary Ramos made the motion to approve the January 17, 2023 meeting minutes. Member Meek seconded the motion. All were in favor. Vote 5-0.

Public Input

Chair Heise read an email from Terry Landers advocating for the board of elections staff to be compensated fairly in the 2024 county budget.

Vicky Shea, Chatham County League of Women Voters, and Robert Waldrop advocated for the elections staff to be compensated fairly in the 2024 county budget.

To view comments click on the recorded meeting at this link:

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

Old Business

Final Draft Municipal Contract

Chair Heise asked if the board was ready to vote on the final draft of the Municipal Contract. Members Dunphy and Meek suggested adding 'administrative and' in items 'K' and 'Q' of the contract. The board will vote on the revised draft at the March 21, 2023 board meeting.

Pittsboro Precinct Split

Chair Heise stated the board looked at three options to split the Pittsboro precinct at the January 17, 2023 meeting and there was another option to review at this meeting. The board approved option **PIT113 E/W3**. Voters on the west side of the split will vote at the Chatham County Agricultural and Conference Center (5,136 voters), and voters on the east side of the split will vote at Northwood High School (2,876 voters). Member Meek made the motion to approve. Member Barroso seconded it. All were in favor. Vote 5-0. The names of the precincts will be discussed at the March 21, 2023, meeting. To see the full discussion click on the recorded meeting at this link:

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

New Business

List Maintenance Report

Secretary Ramos requested the staff give the board and citizens feedback on the January 2023 voter list maintenance, and county stats before and after the maintenance.

After each statewide general election, the remove inactive voters task involves removing all voters who have remained in an inactive status for two consecutive general elections.

- Registered voter totals before inactive voters removed: 60,320.
- Registered voter totals after inactive voters removed: 58,844.
- Total removed inactive voters: 1,476.

After each statewide general election "No Contact" mailings are sent to all Active voters who had no contact with the board of elections for two consecutive general elections.

- Total mailings to Active voters who had no contact with the Chatham BOE office for two consecutive general elections: 2,001.

The NCOA (National Change of Address) mailings will be sent February 27, 2023 as directed by the North Carolina State Board of Elections to confirm the new addresses provided by the USPS.

Concerns Presented to County Manager and County Commissioner Liaison to the Board of Elections

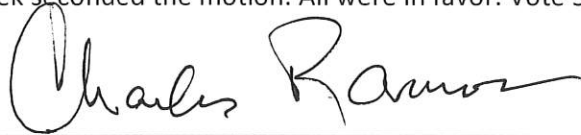
After the staff presentation, "Managing Election Administration - Takes More Than Two Days A Year", the board discussed the elections staff compensation and size with County Manager LaMontagne and County Commissioner Liaison Delaney.

Chair Heise, who has served on the board since 2007, said the board is now more involved in the budget process. She requested the County Manager and Commissioner Delaney ask the County Board of Commissioners to reconsider the elections staff reclassifications for the 2024 budget cycle. Member Barroso added he wanted to ensure the Board of Commissioners recognized the Board of Election's authority in the process and that evaluations are done in accordance with current legal opinions. For comments and full discussion click on this link to the recorded meeting:

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

On February 20, 2023, the staff met with the space designer for the Performance Building, the future elections office. The goal is to move in by December 1, 2023. In case the new facility is not ready by this date, the county has secured suite F adjacent to the current office for use in 2024.

As there was no further business, Member Barroso made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Member Meek seconded the motion. All were in favor. Vote 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:43 pm.



Charles Ramos, Secretary



Pandora Paschal, Attest