

# 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>

December 12, 2023 – 2:00 P.M.

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#### **ATTENDEES:**

Chair Laura Heise, Member Frank Dunphy, Member Mark Barroso, Member Bob Tyson, Member Erika Lindemann, Director of Elections Pandora Paschal, Deputy Director Steve Simos, Elections Specialist Chance Mashburn and Elections Voting Equipment Technician Marvin Caracol.

#### **Moment of Silence and Pledge**

Member Bob Tyson led a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

#### **Call to Order**

Chair Heise called the meeting to order stating that a quorum was present to conduct the meeting, and the first order of business is to approve the agenda.

#### **Approval of Agenda**

Chair Heise asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Director Paschal asked Chair Heise to add Public Comment as item number 5 on the agenda. Member Tyson made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. . Member Lindemann seconded the motion. All were in favor. Vote 5-0.

#### **Approve Draft Minutes**

Chair Heise asked for motion to approve the draft minutes for November 16, 2023. Member Lindemann asked to correct a typo in the second paragraph of the minutes. Member Lindemann made the motion to approve the November 16, 2023, minutes as amended. Member Dunphy seconded the motion. All were in favor. Vote 5-0. Secretary Dunphy made a motion to approve the November 17, 2023, Canvass minutes. Member Lindemann seconded the motion. All were in favor. Vote 5-0.

#### **Public Comments**

Democratic Party Chair, Sue Blalock, read a letter to the board pertaining to safety at some of the polling places due to inadequate lighting that could create potentially dangerous conditions for voters entering and exiting the polls. Director Paschal suggested asking Emergency Management,

or the Sheriff's Department if they could provide lighting for use at these polling places. She also suggested that maybe the Town of Siler City would be willing to turn the lights on at Bray Park to assist with lighting at the National Guard Armory. Another solution would be to rent lighting.

### **Set Date to Appoint Early Voting Judges**

The board set the date for the appointment of early voting judges to January 16, 2023, as directed in the resolution adopted by the North Carolina State Board of Elections on November 28, 2023. Director Paschal will obtain solid guidance to appoint judges for the in lieu of site. Member Barroso made the motion. Member Lindemann seconded the motion. All were in favor. Vote 5-0. For full discussion click on this link to the livestreamed meeting.

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

### **Discuss Use of Social Media for Dissemination of Election Information & Advertising**

The board revisited the use of social media to disseminate election information using the following platforms: Face Book, Twitter, Instagram, and Next Door. The board concurred to move forward by allowing board of election staff to confer with the counties PIO (Public information Officer) about pricing and guidelines. Staff will follow up with their findings at the January 16, 2023, meeting. For full discussion click this link to the live streamed meeting.

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### **Election Virtual Training Presentation**

Election Staff presented the Articulate virtual training for election officials to the board. Staff will be using this platform to train election officials virtually. The board will be given the opportunity to take the training and give feedback for enhancements. To hear the presentation click the link to the live streamed meeting. <https://www.chathamcountync.gov/government/departments-programs-a-h/elections/board-of-elections-members-meetings>

### **Other Elections Business**

Director Paschal gave the board updates on legislative changes, board member appointments, availability of absentee ballots, early voting hearings, candidate filing, state election training, precinct split approval, and the office holiday party.

Director Paschal shared with the board that the Emergency Operations Director assisted staff with developing Emergency plans for Suspicious Letters and packages, and Inclement weather plan for early voting and Election Day. The board voted to adopt the Inclement Weather Plan for Early Voting and Election Day. Member Lindemann made the motion to adopt the Inclement Weather Plan for Early Voting and Election Day. Member Tyson seconded the motion. All were in favor. Vote 5-0. For full discussion on this matter click the link to the live streamed meeting.

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Deputy Director Simos asked the board to revisit scheduling board meetings earlier in the day at 2:00 pm because meetings tend to run longer into the night which could be a safety hazard for board members and staff driving in the dark. Member Barroso stated he would like more time to think about Deputy Dir. Simos proposal. Chair Heise stated that the January 16, 2024, meeting will be scheduled at 2:00 pm and decisions about future times for meetings will be discussed at this time. The board agreed to continue this conversation at the January 16, 2024, meeting.

**Adjourn**

Member Lindemann made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Member Tyson seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 3:59 pm.

*Frank Dunphy* 01/16/2024  
Frank Dunphy, Secretary  
*Pandora Paschal*  
Pandora Paschal, Attest  
FD 1/16/24