

Buncombe County Board of Elections
Asheville/Buncombe County Board of Elections

Monitor Name: Elaine Elam and George Elam in person

Date & Time: November 4, 2024 3:30 PM

Names of Board Members Attending:

Jake Quinn, Chairman

Mary Ann Braine, Board Member

Steven Aceto, Board Member

Glen Shults, Secretary

Sally Stein, Board Member

Names of Buncombe Co Staff Attending: Corrine Duncan, Director; Anna Katherine Moore, Administrative Coordinator and Clerk to the Board; Justin Tate, Absentee Coordinator; Devin Whitney, Elections Technical Specialist; Bria Bailey, Elections Technical Specialist; Nathaniel Speier, Candidate Coordinator; Joyce Kanavel; extra staff and MAT team members

Location of Meeting: 59 Woodfin Place, Asheville NC

Observers:

6 in person including 2 LWVAB, 1 Common Cause, 1 Republican, 1 Democrat. And a New York Times reporter; 2 online. 2 Sheriff's deputies were there but did not stay for the whole meeting.

Agenda Items

I. Agenda for this meeting approved without objection

II. Office Updates – Corrine Duncan, Director

- 116,000 ballots have been cast so far, surpassing 2020. That's over 50% of Buncombe registered voters. Early voting numbers surpassed 2020 overall.
- Tomorrows voting is from 6:30 am to 7:30 pm. If in line at 7:30 you can vote.
- There was one mistake on the Election Day location information. The polling site for 66.1 was correct, but the address was not. There will be persons at the incorrect address to direct voters to the right place. There are fewer than 2,000 voters for 66.1.
- A new law went into effect on October 4th allowing congressional observers from other states. We have two: one from Texas, one from Kentucky.
- Schedule for tomorrow:
 - The Board must be available at 6 am tomorrow. The staff at the office by 5:30 am.
 - Ms. Duncan will be giving media updates at 10:30 am, 2:30 pm, 4:30 pm, and 8 pm.
 - At 5 pm there will be a process meeting for absentee by mail.
 - At 7:30 they begin closing out the polls. Staff will move to the warehouse to collect the flash drives and equipment from the precincts.

- Ms. Duncan will leave for two hours to work on her media address. Neggy Fox will sit in for her at the Board.

III. Absentee Ballot Review (G.S. § 163-230.1(f)) Justin Tate

- Justin presented 83 pending ballots to 5 bipartisan teams made up of Board members and MAT team members. One ballot was disapproved 5/0 for no photo ID and one was disapproved 5/0 for not having two witnesses (cures will be attempted). 81 Pending Absentee Ballots were approved 5/0.
- Justin presented 5 Military and 36 Overseas ballots to be reviewed concurrently. The Board approved them all 5/0.
- Justin presented 546 ID Exception ballots.
 - 2 ballots with notary date issues will be held and voters notified. These were not disapproved.
 - There was 1 ballot with a CID number matching a previously reissued ballot. After discussion, Jake moved to approve. Passed 5-0
 - 1 ballot had no photo ID . Wrote that his driver's license was 15 months out of date. Mr. Aceto moved to disapprove. In a 4-1 vote Ms. Braine voted no. Ballot is approved.
 - 2 additional ballots were disapproved. Could not get a clear reason for the disapproval.
 - Out of the 546 ID exception ballots, 543 were approved 5-0
- Justin presented 2067 Civilian Ballots.
 - 2 ballots were disapproved for mismatched ID's. No corresponding ballots.
 - 1 ballot disapproved for lack of signatures.
 - 1 ballot disapproved for lack of witnesses.
 - Mr. Quinn moved to disapprove all four above. Passed 5/0.
 - 2063 Civilian Ballots were approved 5-0.
- 2259 Absentee Ballots were approved tonight.

IV. Certified List of Approved Absentees (G.S. § 163-232) Justin Tate

Monitors left the meeting a little after midnight, before final processing of the security envelopes and boxes.

VII. Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 5, at 5:00 PM.

Location: 59 Woodfin Place