

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

Monitor Name: Elaine Elam, George Elam, and Aiden Carson in person

Date & Time: November 5, 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; Joyce Kanavel; extra staff and MAT team members

Location of Meeting: 59 Woodfin Place, Asheville NC

Observers:

7 in person including 3 LWVAB, 1 Democrat. Kentucky and Texas congressional observers, brief visit from NYT. Several film crews.

Agenda Items

I. Agenda for this meeting approved without objection

II. Office Updates – Corrine Duncan, Director

- Comparison of today's turnout with 2020:

| | 10 AM | 2 PM | 4 PM |
|------|--------|--------|--------|
| 2020 | 6380 | 12,498 | 15,101 |
| 2024 | 11,157 | 21,154 | 25,412 |

- Staff arrived at 5:30 this morning at the office and the warehouse.
- 500 poll workers and 71 voting sites opened on time.
- There was a power outage at one site but power returned quickly. All machines have battery backup for two hours.
- At 6:30 AM sheriff's deputies arrived picked up the absentee list for the polling sites.
- At 5 PM today the Board meets to process Absentee Ballots so far. The totals cannot be posted until 7:30 PM.
- Chairman Quinn asked Ms. Duncan to report on a phone system problem. The Call Center Line was not working properly and there were problems for poll workers getting in touch with the office. Connections were hit and miss. They started to use the main line for contacting the office. IT worked with the vendor to implement a workaround. Chairman Quinn noted that we need to

work with the vendor to ensure this doesn't happen again. Might need to switch companies going forward.

- Today's plan is to post Early Voting results at 7:30.
- Election Day flash drives will start arriving after the polls close at 7:30.

III. Preliminary Absentee Results (G.S. § 163-234) Bria Bailey

- Bria briefly presented the preliminary absentee results to the Board. 3 copies shared to Board members.
- Bria presented 3 copies of the Absentee Ballot abstract to the Board members to compare the computer count with the abstract. Board members signed off on the abstract and Chairman Quinn asked for a motion to approve the abstract. Passed 5-0. AK notarized them. Results will be posted at 7:30.

Chairman Quinn recessed the meeting for dinner from about 5:30 to 7:00.

IV. Close Early Voting Polls (G.S. § 163-182.2) Bria Bailey

- The flash drives from the Early Voting results were transferred to 6 DS-200 tabulators to create an abstract. There were 14 flash drives, as 4 of the 10 locations had swapped out the original flash drive for a larger capacity one.
- The DS-200s created long paper tapes which were reviewed and signed by the board members. Some machines needed new paper rolls. After being verified & signed the tapes were rolled up and bagged.
- Bria then took the Early Voting flash drives into a soundproof room with a viewing window to up load them to the SBOE. The DS-200s are not connected to the internet, and the flash drives never go back to them, a process called an "air gap".
- While that was going on, Mr. Shults asked Ms. Duncan if there were any observer issues during ED voting. She said she had not heard of any.

By about 9:30 PM the Early Voting review was finished and all Election Day flash drives had been delivered to the office. The Board moved to the warehouse to await delivery of equipment from the polls. Monitors did not go to the warehouse.

VII. Next Meeting: Friday, November 8, at 3:30 PM.

Location: 59 Woodfin Place