

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Linda J. Sutton
Chair

Michael Flatow
Secretary

Jonathan S. Dills
Member



Robert H. Coffman
Director of Elections

Lamar Joyner
Deputy Director

FORSYTH COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS BOARD MEETING MINUTES – JUNE 26, 2012

Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Forsyth County Board of Elections was held in the Cooper Cardwell Elections Room on June 26, 2012. The meeting convened at 5:45 PM, Chairman Linda Sutton presiding.

Board Members in attendance: Chairman Linda Sutton, Member Jonathan Dills

Board Members absent: Secretary Michael Flatow

Staff Members in attendance: Director Robert Coffman, Deputy Director Lamar Joyner, Judy Speas, Joshua Chunn

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Sutton requested that the Board review the minutes of May 31, 2012. Member Dills moved and Chairman Sutton seconded the motion to approve the minutes of May 31, 2012. Motion carried.

Approval of Absentee Ballots

Mr. Chunn recommended 208 absentee ballots for approval and three for disapproval in the Second Primary Election weekly report. Rejection reasons were explained for the three disapproved ballots. A second absentee ballot was mailed to these voters. Member Dills moved and Chairman Sutton seconded the motion to approve the recommendation of absentee ballots. Motion carried.

Precinct 504 Relocation

Mr. Coffman explained that Hill Middle School is closed and no longer available as Precinct 504. Sprague Street Community Recreation Center, a convenient public facility in the precinct, was planned as the new polling place. A voter letter would be mailed this week to explain that the school is closed and that Precinct 504 would be located at the recreation center. Board members discussed the expense of also mailing new voter cards to announce the location change. Member Dills moved and Chairman Sutton seconded the motion to mail updated voter cards to the Precinct 504 voters. Motion carried.

Chairman Sutton requested that a newspaper advertisement be printed to remind voters of the Second Primary Election. Mr. Coffman agreed that funds would be available after the beginning of the new fiscal year. Chairman Sutton suggested that the article include information about registration and ballot eligibility.

Other Business

Mr. Coffman explained that precinct workers would receive no further training prior to the Second Primary Election. However, a 'Frequently Asked Questions' document would be provided to explain several election issues.

The State Board of Elections has requested that a Polling Place Accessibility Survey be performed. Mr. Coffman stated that the Election Staff Assistants would conduct the survey on July 17th, Second Primary Election day.

Mr. Coffman notified Board members of the Vote and Vax clinic program, a Public Health agency program administering annual influenza vaccinations near polling places. The State Board of Elections had advised that the group would set up outside the buffer zone on General Election Day. The organization should request permission from the precinct locations.

Mr. Coffman stated that a recommendation for the 2012 General Election Early Voting locations would be completed for the next meeting. An Early Voting plan should be submitted to the State Board of Elections by early August. Board members reviewed a One Stop Voting 11/4/2008 document outlining the statistics per day, per location. Mr. Coffman explained that the fourteen 2008 Early Voting locations operated with a very sparse number of Ivotronic voting machines. There would be no funding from the State Board of Elections to operate the Early Voting locations as in past elections. The recommendation for the number of 2012 General Election Early Voting locations would be based on the available budget amount and proposed hours of operation per site. The number of open sites could be decreased and hours of operation could be increased to give voters an advantage. Multiple locations with long lines are more of a deterrent to voters than fewer locations with more available voting equipment.

Adjournment

Member Dills moved and Chairman Sutton seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:08 PM.

Approved:

Linda J. Sutton, Chair

Date

Michael Flatow, Secretary

Date

Jonathan S. Dills, Member

Date

Attachments on File: One Stop Voting 11/4/2008