

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 – OCTOBER 16, 2012

Call to Order

An Absentee Ballot meeting of the Forsyth County Board of Elections was held in the Second Floor Conference Room on October 16, 2012. The meeting convened at 5:11 PM, Chairman Linda Sutton presiding.

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

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

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Sutton requested that the Board review the minutes of September 12, 2012. Secretary Flatow moved and Chairman Sutton seconded the motion to approve the minutes of September 12, 2012. **Motion carried.**

Absentee Ballot Report

Mr. Chunn recommended 3,898 absentee ballots for approval and 27 for disapproval in the General Election weekly report. Board members examined the disapproved absentee ballots. Member Dills moved and Secretary Flatow seconded the motion to approve the recommendation of 3,898 approved absentee ballots and 26 disapproved absentee ballots. One disapproved ballot was held in pending status for additional research. **Motion carried.** Mr. Coffman explained the weekly pre-processing of Absentee ballots.

Precinct Official Training

Chairman Sutton requested that Mr. Wright report on Precinct Official training and staffing for Early Voting and Election Day. All officials and assistants had been assigned positions. Training for the State Board Incident Report form, the challenge process and observer rules was explained. Board members were invited to the final Precinct Official training class on October 25th.

Other Business

Mr. Coffman explained the Precinct Accessibility Survey completed in the 2012 Primary Election. All precincts were determined to have accessible entrances.

Secretary Flatow questioned the fact that security guards would be provided for the additional hours of Early Voting after the Walkertown and Rural Hall libraries close.

Rovers would be provided for assistance at the Early Voting and Election Day precinct locations.

Chairman Sutton requested a list of the Election Staff Assistants for the sites.

Chairman Sutton questioned whether there were sufficient machines for both Early Voting and Election Day. Mr. Coffman stated that additional machines had been borrowed from other counties to increase the amount.

Mr. Coffman explained a new Early Voting curbside procedure at the Government Center. A wireless electronic tablet computer would be available for the absentee application; and, a mobile i votronic device would be used for voting. Board members requested a demonstration of the process.

Chairman Sutton discussed the State Board of Elections checklist for the Election Day process. Mr. Coffman explained the administrative procedures for voter registration regarding data entry and mailing voter registration cards. Approximately 14,000 applications had been received in the last few weeks. All i votronic machine testing had been completed for Election Day voting.

Mr. Coffman discussed a permit request by an organization to close the streets in front of the Government Center on a Sunday in Early Voting. The City of Winston-Salem had determined that closing the streets during the Primary had produced traffic control issues and reduced access to the parking garage. The City did not allow a permit to close the streets during the 2012 General Election Early Voting. Mr. Coffman also reported that the County withdrew their mandate that no campaigning occur in the Government Center parking garage.

Board members discussed the practicality of using a State Board of Elections recommended university student listing as documentation for residency in voter registration. The State Board of Elections had recommended a school letter along with photo identification as verification for residency during Early Voting. Chairman Sutton suggested that a listing of students may resolve challenges and help the election run smoothly. Member Dills volunteered to draft a non-partisan letter regarding the concerns of the related emailed correspondence from the State Board of Elections General Counsel, Don Wright.

Board members convened to the Elections storage room to tabulate the pre-processed absentee ballots on the 650 ballot counter at 6:30 PM.

Adjournment

Member Dills moved and Chairman Sutton seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. **Motion carried** and the meeting was adjourned at 8:52 PM.

Approved:

Linda J. Sutton, Chair

Date

Michael Flatow, Secretary

Date

Jonathan S. Dills, Member

Date

Attachments on File: NCGS 163-85. Challenge procedure other than on day of primary or election; NCGS 163-87. Challenges allowed on day of primary or election; NCGS 163-88. Hearing on challenge made on day of primary or election; NCGS 163-88.1. Request for challenged ballot.