

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Ken Raymond
Chairman

Stuart Russell
Secretary

Fleming El-Amin
Member



Robert H. Coffman
Director of Elections

Lamar Joyner
Deputy Director

FORSYTH COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS BOARD MEETING MINUTES – NOVEMBER 5, 2013 MUNICIPAL GENERAL ELECTION DAY

Meeting Called to Order

The 2013 Municipal General Election Day meeting of the Forsyth County Board of Elections was held in the elections storage room on November 5, 2013. The meeting convened at 5:02 PM, Chairman Ken Raymond presiding.

Board Members in attendance: Chairman Ken Raymond, Secretary Stuart Russell,
Member Fleming El-Amin

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

Public Comment Session

Chairman Raymond welcomed speakers to participate in the public comment session. Instructions for the session were that speakers would have three minutes for comments; the time could not be shared with another speaker; and, that speakers should state their name and address for the record. Questions to the Board members should be included during the allotted time and answers would be given after the speakers conclude. The public comment session included the following speakers:

Jo Anne Allen – PO Box 284, Winston-Salem, NC

Gardenia Henley – 4920 Old Walkertown Road, Winston-Salem, NC 27105

Discussion:

In discussing Ms. Allen's comments, Chairman Raymond stated that he had reviewed the packet information and would address the documents after receiving a response to his emailed questions of October 27th.

In regards to Ms. Henley's statements, Chairman Raymond confirmed that a public information request had been submitted. Mr. Coffman stated that Assistant County Attorney Albright had received the request and that the documents would be fulfilled after the current election. Secretary Russell agreed to follow up and arrange for the submission of the information by a certain date. After additional information requests were stated during the meeting, Chairman Raymond agreed that public records information would be made available as quickly as possible after the submission of a written request.

Member El-Amin moved and Secretary Russell seconded a motion to close the public comment session. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Approval of Minutes

Forsyth County Government Center, 201 North Chestnut Street, Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27101-4120

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Chairman Raymond requested that the Board members review the minutes of October 29, 2013. Member El-Amin moved and Secretary Russell seconded a motion to approve the Board minutes of October 29, 2013. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Approval of Absentee Ballots Returned

Mr. Chunn recommended 166 absentee ballots for approval and three absentee ballots for disapproval because of missing witness information. Mr. Chunn explained the reports of executed absentee ballots that were sent to the precincts on Election Day morning. Member El-Amin moved and Secretary Russell seconded a motion to accept the staff recommendation of 166 absentee ballots for approval and three absentee ballots for disapproval. **Motion carried unanimously.** Mr. Coffman stated that supplemental returned absentee ballots would be received and accepted provided that they are postmarked by Election Day. Board members checked the electronically submitted absentee ballots for duplication errors and signed the Absentee Abstract Report to be sent to the State Board of Elections.

Other Business

Chairman Raymond discussed a few problems encountered on Election Day. One concern was that Precinct 101 - Bethania Moravian Church ran out of ballots for the Winston-Salem race around lunch time. Chairman Raymond received a message from the party chairman about the problem and alerted Mr. Coffman who said that additional ballots had been taken to the precinct. Chairman Raymond then went to Bethania Moravian Church about 12:30 PM to investigate and to speak to the precinct judges. More ballots arrived for the Winston-Salem race within fifteen minutes after running out. Chairman Raymond had been concerned that voters would become discouraged during this heavy voting time. However, all precinct judges responded that no one got angry or upset. The voters waited patiently until the additional ballots arrived. No candidates in the Winston-Salem race lost votes because of this incident. Mr. Coffman explained that an incorrect quantity of the particular ballot style was stocked with the supplies.

The Town of Rural Hall also had an issue that involved the two assigned precincts for the voters in the municipality. The Town Hall was under the misconception that Rural Hall Elementary School would be temporarily closed in the municipal election and had advertised the information. Precinct workers were advised to instruct those voters to travel to their assigned precinct when arriving at the incorrect precinct.

The Board members supervised the tabulation procedure of the pre-processed absentee ballots on the M650 ballot counter in order to tally the results for Election night. Member El-Amin moved and Secretary Russell seconded a motion to recess the meeting to a time certain at 7:30 PM in the elections storage room. **Motion carried unanimously** and the board recessed at 5:35 PM.

Call to Reconvene

The meeting reconvened at 7:30 PM in the elections storage room on Election night. Board members viewed the process as precinct election results were returned and uploaded to the website. Board members examined and signed the Municipal General Election Unofficial Results document.

Adjournment

Board members moved to adjourn the meeting. **Motion carried** and the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM.

Approved:

Ken Raymond, Chair

Date

Stuart Russell, Secretary

Date

Fleming El-Amin, Member

Date

Attachments on File: Municipal General Election Unofficial Results