

Madison County Board of Elections

Meeting Minutes

Regular Session – July 13, 2016

The Madison County Board of Elections met on Wednesday, July 13, 2016 in the Board of Elections Conference Room, Room 16. In attendance: Dyatt Smathers, Board Chair; Ray Lewis, Board Secretary; Jerry Wallin, Board Member; Kathy Ray, Director of Elections; Wade Gahagan, Deputy Director.

Call to Order:

Chair Smathers called the meeting to order at 3:00pm.

Agenda:

Director Ray requested adding the following items under “Other Matters:” Update on Election Mail, Update on the 2020 Census Redistricting Project, and Updates on Voting Equipment Status.

Chair Smathers set the meeting agenda as amended by Director Ray. Motion passed with no objection.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes were read from the Canvass/Regular Session meeting on June 14, 2016.

Secretary Lewis made a motion: *To Approve the Minutes from the June 14, 2016 meeting.* Member Wallin seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Chair’s Report:

Chair Smathers reported to the board that State Court District Judge Morgan has begun hearings on North Carolina’s Voter Identification Verification Act (VIVA), and will issue a ruling on the law prior to the November 8th general election.

Chair Smathers reported that George McCue will shortly leave his position as Agency Council at the State Board of Elections to take a position in the Durham County Board of Elections.

Chair Smathers reported that the State Board of Elections shall meet on July 18th, 2016. During this meeting, the State Board will consider Madison County’s request to reduce One-Stop Early Voting hours for the November 8th general election.

Members' Reports:

Member Wallin reported to the Board that the US Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals reinstated Same Day Registration and Out of Precinct Voting while the court deliberates the law.

Director's Report:

Director Ray presented the final Budget Report from the 2015-2016 fiscal year. The Director stated that enough funds still remained to cover any unexpected final expenses.

Director Ray presented the approved budget for the 2016-2017 fiscal year. The Director also stated that no monthly report will be available for June until all final expenses and budget items are reconciled.

Director Ray reported that PrintElect completed their preventive maintenance visit on June 24, 2016. Director Ray reported that only minor repairs needed to be done to certain iVotronic and M100 units.

A discussion ensued over the capabilities and technical capacity of the iVotronic's batteries.

Deputy Director Gahagan reported on the omnibus elections bill, which provides that all Elections' canvass date will be set ten days after Election Day.

New Business:

A discussion ensued over non-exempt employee overtime, office staff, and the hours of operation of the Board of Elections office.

Secretary Lewis made a motion: ***Effective immediately, the Madison County Board of Elections will open for daily business at 8:30am and continue operations until 5:00pm.*** Member Wallin seconded and motion carried unanimously.

A discussion ensued over the placement and orientation of iVotronic machines on Election Day. The Board requested the Director to explore options at Sandy Mush Precinct.

Chair Smathers made a motion: ***To hire Jacob Ray as a temporary office assistant for the November 8th, 2016 General Election cycle.*** Secretary Lewis seconded and motion carried unanimously.

A discussion ensued over the public's use of the office for Notary Acts. Chair Smather's made note that Public Notary Acts will be suspended temporarily on August 1, 2016.

Other Matters:

Director Ray reported to the board that the US Postal Service is reaching out to County Board of Elections, providing a liaison for complaints and issues that may arise during the General Election cycle.

A discussion ensued over the 2020 Census Redistricting Project.

Announcements:

Chair Smathers announced that the August 10, 2016 Regular Session Meeting will begin at 9:00am.

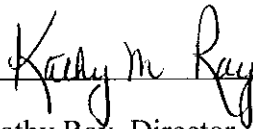
Chair Smathers also announced that the State Board of Elections' Annual Training Conference will begin on August 8, 2016 in Concord.

Chair Smathers also announced that the Election Center's CERA Certification Conference would begin on July 16, 2016 and go through July 23, 2016 in Ft. Myers, Florida. Director Ray will be attending.

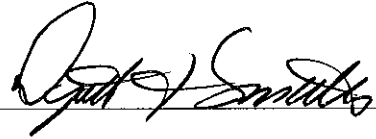
Adjournment:

With no further business, Member Wallin **moved to adjourn the meeting.** Secretary Lewis seconded and motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 4:03pm.


Minutes Approved 8-10-16



Kathy Ray, Director



Dyatt Smathers, Chair



Ray Lewis, Secretary