

Madison County Board of Elections

Meeting Minutes

Regular – February 14, 2018

The Madison County Board of Elections met on Wednesday, February 14, 2018 at 3:00 P.M. in the Board of Elections Conference Room. In attendance: Jerry Wallin, Chair; Ray Lewis, Secretary; Dyatt Smathers, Member; Kathy Ray, Director; and four (4) members of the public.

Call to Order

Chair Wallin called the meeting to order at 3:00 P.M.

Agenda

Member Smathers made a motion: *To approve the agenda as amended to add meeting schedule changes for the months of April and May, 2018.* Secretary Lewis seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Secretary Lewis made a motion: *To approve the January 10, 2018 meeting minutes as presented.* Member Smathers seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Chair's and Members' Reports

Chair Wallin commented that there will be no judicial primary contests and that candidate filing has begun. He added that there has been legislation (HB 90) proposed to add a ninth member to the North Carolina State Board of Elections and Ethics Enforcement, and the proposed bill does not address local board composition.

Member Smathers gave his interpretation of proposed HB 90. He commented that the courts are driving decisions regarding redistricting and the composition of boards of elections. He further commented that recent School of Government Durham Conference session indicated that decisions may be forthcoming on February 15th. He added the Primary election will be held in May.

Director's Report

The Director reported on:

1. the January 31, 2018 budget revenues and expenditures;
2. activities underway to prepare polling sites for the May primary election;
3. the DS200 voting equipment training schedule plans with *Printelect*;
4. the storage of election equipment in Room 15;

5. the Emergency Phone Tree updates and provided copies to the board;
6. the need for student poll worker assistants and process for selection;
7. the election equipment that has been sent to the vendor for repairs (two iVotronic machines and PEBs);
8. the poll worker training schedule and provided the board with a copy; and
9. the need to declare certain voting and office equipment as surplus items for dispensation.

Old Business

Member Smathers underscored the need for the board to develop a unanimous one stop plan. Discussion ensued. Secretary Lewis made a motion: ***To provide three one-stop sites, one in each municipality.*** Member Smathers seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Member Smathers made a motion: ***To open the Board of Elections one-stop site during regular business hours from 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. and only the final Saturday from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.*** Secretary Lewis seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

Member Smathers made a motion: ***To open the Mars Hill one-stop site during regular business hours from 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. and only the final Saturday from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.*** Motion died for lack of a second. Discussion ensued. Member Smathers amended his former motion: ***To open both satellite one stop sites during regular business hours from 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. and only the final Saturday from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.*** Secretary Lewis seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Member Smathers made a motion: ***To add Jacob Ray to the list of temporary office staff.*** Secretary Lewis seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Member Smathers made a motion: ***To approve the number of poll worker assistants, the temporary jobs as listed by the Director, and the personnel for the temporary office staff with Jacob Ray's name added.*** Secretary Lewis seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Member Smathers made a motion: ***To approve the number of machines that will be used in the election.*** Secretary Lewis seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Member Smathers made a motion: ***To approve the Resolution to Count Absentee Ballots on May 8, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. at the Board of Elections.*** Secretary Lewis seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Member Smathers made a motion: ***To approve the Absentee Meetings as presented by the Director.*** Secretary Lewis seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

The Director reported the destruction of documents by Shred-it on January 24, 2018 (see attached) and requested the Board approve a contract with Shred-it for regularly scheduled destruction services.

Member Smathers made a motion: *To approve the agreement with Shred-it for document destruction services.* Chair Wallin seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Other Matters

Member Smathers made a motion: *To change the regularly scheduled April board meeting from April 11th to April 17th and to commence immediately following the 9:00 a.m. absentee meeting.* Secretary Lewis seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Member Smathers made a motion: *To change the regularly scheduled May board meeting from May 9th to May 17th and to commence immediately following the 3:00 p.m. absentee meeting.* Secretary Lewis seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Citizens Comments

A citizen asked for clarification regarding the partisan or otherwise affiliation of the proposed ninth board member to the North Carolina State Board of Elections and Ethics Enforcement.

A citizen commented that HB90 is more notable as a class size exception bill. He inquired as to how the education and elections issues came to be conflated. He indicated that the school superintendent has touched on the issue in social media comments. He further provided information that the school superintendent said the school system would consider using Saturdays to make up instructional time.

A citizen commented that a friend of his had recommended to the county commissioners that they allow for citizens comments both at the beginning and as the last item on meeting agendas.

Announcements

Next meeting: March 14, 2018

Adjournment

With no further business, Member Smathers made a motion: *To adjourn the meeting.* Chair Wallin seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Minutes Approved 3 / 14 / 2018

Kathy Ray
Kathy Ray, Director

Jerry Wallin
Jerry Wallin, Chairman

Ray Lewis
Ray Lewis, Secretary RL
~~Sandra Tolley~~