

# Madison County Board of Elections

## Meeting Minutes

### Regular Session – July 17, 2019

The Madison County Board of Elections met on Wednesday, July 17, 2019 in the Board of Elections Office, Room 16. In attendance: Jerry Wallin, Chair; Ray Lewis, Secretary; Dyatt Smathers, Member; Sandra Tolley, Member; Kathy Ray, Director; Wade Gahagan, Deputy Director; Keith Ray, Laurel Community Center Organization (LLCO) Chair; and 1 member of the public.

#### Call to Order:

Chair Wallin called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

#### Agenda:

**Moved, Seconded (DS, RL) and Carried (4,0) to approve the amended agenda.**

#### Minutes:

**Moved, Seconded (ST, DS) and Carried (4,0) to approve the June 19, 2019 meeting minutes.**

#### Board Member Reports:

Chair Wallin commented on the proposed legislation that includes reimbursement funds for the new voting equipment.

Member Smathers commented on the proposed legislation that delays the decertification of direct record electronic (DRE) voting equipment until December 1, 2021.

Secretary Lewis commented that he remains hopeful that counties will receive funds for new voting equipment.

#### Director's Report:

The Director provided updates as follows:

- The June 30, 2019 end-of-year and 2019-2020 budget reports
- The delivery of 25 new laptop computers for electronic pollbooks
- The 2010 Precinct Project and deadlines for change requests
- The security camera and coverage on the DSS Hallway
- The school system's response to moving the North Marshall Precinct Polling Site from Madison High School to Madison Early College High School
- The deputy director taking the NC Elections Administrators Exam on Wednesday, July 31 and his selection by the State Board staff to serve on a presentation team at the NC State Board of Elections July conference
- The NC School of Government Conference concluding at 3:30 P.M. on Tuesday, July 30

- The county political party chairs submitting their precinct judge recommendations
- The precinct officials hands-on training with the new voting equipment through mock election activities

**Motion, Seconded (RL, DS) and Carried (4,0) to table approval of Madison Early College as the North Marshall Precinct polling site.**

**Old Business:**

Discussion ensued regarding the proposed lease for storage space with the Laurel Community Center Organization Inc.

**Motion, Seconded (DS, RL) and Carried (4,0) to approve the lease agreement for 1 year at \$125.00 per month.** LCCO Board Chair Keith Ray expressed appreciation for the Board's approval of the LLCO Lease.

Discussion ensued regarding the need for and purchase of a 30 feet cargo trailer for additional storage space.

**Motion, Seconded (DS, RL) and Carried (3,0) to approve the purchase of a 30 feet cargo trailer for \$2000.00 and park it at the maintenance yard.** Member Tolley voted against the motion.

**New Business:**

**Motion, Seconded (DS, RL) and Carried (4,0) to test the AutoMark voting equipment at the Mars Hill, Hot Springs, and Marshall 2019 November Municipal Elections.**

**Motion, Seconded (DS, ST) and Carried (4,0) for Betty Dean Benfield to provide Board of Elections office coverage for the week of July 29-August 2, 2019.**

**Motion, Seconded (DS, JW) and Carried (4,0) to combine both scheduled August board meetings for Tuesday August 20, 2019 at 3:00 P.M.**

**Citizens Comments:**

A citizen informed the Board that the property surrounding the Sandy Mush Precinct site belongs to Karen Wright and Andrea Cross. Discussion ensued about needed improvements at the Sandy Mush Precinct site.

A citizen provided information regarding the Laurel Community Center Organization.

**Closed Session**

**Moved, Seconded (DS, RL) and Carried (4,0) to go into Closed Session for personnel.**

**Announcements:**

Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, August 20, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.

**Adjournment:**

**Moved, Seconded (DS, ST) and Carried (4,0) to adjourn.**

Minutes Approved: 8/20/2019

Chair Jerry Wallin

Secretary \_\_\_\_\_

Director Kathy Ray