

# Madison County Board of Elections

## Meeting Minutes – Monthly Meeting

June 18, 2025

The Madison County Board of Elections held a regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, June 18, 2025, at Suite E, Room 16, 5707 US 25-70 Hwy, Marshall, 28753. In attendance: Jerry Wallin, Chair; Dyatt Smathers, Secretary; Brian Ball, Member; Ray Lewis, Member; Debbie Ponder, Member; Honorable Larry Leake, Retired District Court Judge; John Noce, NCSBE Election Field Specialist; Jacob Ray, Director; Kathy Ray, Election Specialist; and four members of the public.

### Call to Order:

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

### Agenda:

- **Motion (DS, RL) to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).**

### Minutes:

- **Motion (DS, BB) to approve May 23, 2025, meeting minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).**

### Board Chair Recognition:

- **Motion (DS, BB) to recess the meeting. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).**

During the recess, former North Carolina State Board of Elections Chair Honorable Larry Leake commented on Chair Wallin's many years of public service and presented him with an appreciation plaque for his eighteen years of service to the Madison County Board of Elections. All present were given the opportunity to express their gratitude and appreciation for Chair Wallin's tenure. Comments highlighted Chair Wallin's leadership skills and his commitment to teamwork and fairness.

- **Motion (DS, BB) to reconvene the meeting. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).**

### Director's Report:

- The Director presented a letter of appreciation to The Frisbee Family of Addison Farms Vineyard for donating the Sandy Mush Precinct polling place over the past 4 years. Secretary Smathers read aloud the contents of the letter and stated the letter will be signed by the Chair and Board Members.
- The Director provided an updated budget report. He noted the most current report does not reflect the ES&S Hardware and Maintenance Agreement payment as the invoice was not received in time to be included. He also reported that the overall yearly expenditure stayed under budget, and the July 2025 summer conference expenses had been paid.

### Other Matters:

- Secretary Smathers reported that the county commissioners approved the 2025-2026 county budget at the June 16<sup>th</sup> meeting and had accepted the Board of Elections budget proposal in total as presented by the Elections Director.
- Chair Wallin thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and for the thoughtful expressions of appreciation.

**Public Comment:**

- Cheryl Williams told the Chair that he would be missed and added that the demonstration of teamwork was a result of his good work and leadership.
- Chair Wallin commented that this board's goal was to let the public know that they held fair and honest elections. Paula Dempsey commented she felt it had met that goal.
- Secretary Smathers informed those present that the current board members' term expires Tuesday, June 24<sup>th</sup>. The new board will be appointed on Wednesday, June 25<sup>th</sup> and sworn in on Tuesday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> at Noon.

**Adjournment:**

- **Motion (DS, JW) to adjourn at 4:15 p.m. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).**

Chair



Secretary

