

Madison County Board of Elections

Meeting Minutes

Regular Session – May 15, 2019

The Madison County Board of Elections met on Wednesday, May 15, 2019 in the Board of Elections Office, Room 16. In attendance: Jerry Wallin, Chair; Dyatt Smathers, Member; Sandra Tolley, Member; Brian Ball, Member; Kathy Ray, Director; Wade Gahagan, Deputy Director; and 3 members of the public.

Call to Order:

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

Agenda:

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

Minutes:

Moved, Seconded (ST, DS) and Carried (4,0) to approve the March 1 Closed Session and April 17, 2019 meeting minutes.

Chair's Report:

Chair Wallin announced the appointment of Karen Brinson Bell as the North Carolina State Board of Elections Executive Director.

Member's Reports:

Member Smathers provided a health update for Board Secretary Ray Lewis.

Director's Report:

Director Ray provided the April 30, 2019 budget report. The budget amendment request to move \$16,000 in funds from Salaries Temp to Capital Equipment for the purchase of the security carts has been approved. The 2019-2020 budget will be available in late June 2019.

The Director provided a voting equipment update and cost projections for ADA equipment options.

The Director informed the Board that the 2010 Precinct Project has been delayed pending further review by the State Board of Elections and the state legislature.

The Director provided the PCII Department of Homeland Security Checklist Report.

The Director reported on her site visit to Henderson County Board of Elections to see the security carts.

The Director was contacted by *Printelect* and provided information that the approved ballot storage cart may not be available for purchase and any replacement item may be smaller and more costly. The company will keep us updated as they obtain more information regarding availability and options.

The Director and Deputy Director provided updates on the Sandy Mush and South Marshall Precincts. At Chair Wallin's recommendation, the office staff set up a simulation Sandy Mush Precinct site. The suggested modifications will deem it a suitable polling site for the voters. The South Marshall Precinct Site has been cleaned and awaiting inspection.

The Director reported that voting equipment demonstrations are available on the Board of Elections website.

The Director provided information regarding storage space and quotes for storing the security carts.

Moved, Seconded (DS, BB) and Carried (4,0) to negotiate storage space at Laurel Community Center.

New Business:

The Director informed the Board that the current laptops used for electronic pollbooks cannot support a Windows 10 installation and must be replaced. The cost to replace the 25 laptops is \$16,250.00 excluding shipping and handling.

Moved, Seconded (DS, JW) and Carried (4,0) to request funds from the county commissioners to initiate the purchase of 25 laptops.

Other Matters:

A discussion ensued regarding polling site locations for the municipal elections.

Citizens Comments:

A citizen inquired about rental vs. purchase of the AutoMark voting equipment. She commented that Henderson County Board of Elections had only one one-stop site during the 2018 General Election and questioned whether one site was user friendly for all the voters across that county. She inquired if poll workers would be allowed to assist voters with the new voting equipment. Finally, she informed the Board of a water leak along the back wall where the wall heater is located inside Sandy Mush Precinct Building, and the entrance door is rotting.

A citizen inquired if towns must notify the Board of Elections regarding new annexations and commented that an expansion to the Sandy Mush Precinct Building would be less expensive if adding to the existing roofline.

Announcements:

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, June 19, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.

Adjournment:

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

Minutes Approved: 6/19/2019

Chair Jerry Wallin

Secretary Ray Lewis

Director Kathy M Ray