

Madison County Board of Elections

Absentee Meeting Minutes

October 2, 2020

The Madison County Board of Elections met on Friday, October 2, 2020. In attendance: Jerry Wallin, Chair; Ray Lewis, Secretary; Dyatt Smathers, Member; Sandra Tolley, Member; Brian Ball, Member; Kathy Ray, Director; and one member of the public.

Call to Order:

Chair Wallin called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Agenda:

Motion, Seconded (DS, RL) and Carried (5,0) to approve the agenda.

Minutes:

Motion, Seconded (DS, BB) and Carried (5,0) to approve the September 29, 2020 meeting minutes.

Members' Reports:

Chair Wallin commented that the Board did well during the September 29 absentee meeting.

The Chair requested the public observe the meetings from the monitor located in the reception area or the back porch area adjacent the board room, weather permitting.

Director's Report:

The Director reported that the September 29 minutes reflect 156 counted ballots for the Mars Hill Precinct rather than the 157 reflected on the voter list. One ballot was removed from the list for review and is on the list for approval and is on the list and counting during this meeting.

Public Comment:

No Public Comments were made.

Preparatory Steps to Count Ballots:

The voting equipment was reconciled with the chain of custody, ballot count from the previous meeting, and the zero results tape.

Absentee Ballots' Approval:

Civilian (CIV) Ballots

1. Beech Glen Precinct: Motion, Seconded (DS, RL) and Carried (5,0) to approve 14 absentee ballots.
2. Ebbs Chapel Precinct: Motion, Seconded (DS, RL) and Carried (5,0) to approve 11 absentee ballots.
3. Grapevine Precinct: Motion, Seconded (BB, RL) and Carried (5,0) to approve 10 absentee ballots.
4. Hot Springs Precinct: Motion, Seconded (BB, RL) and Carried (5,0) to approve 4 absentee ballots.
5. Laurel Precinct: Motion, Seconded (DS, RL) and Carried (5,0) to approve 7 absentee ballots.
6. Mars Hill Precinct: Motion, Seconded (BB, RL) and Carried (5,0) to approve 26 absentee ballots. Motion, Seconded (DS, BB) to place one absentee ballot in "pending cure" status and send the cure certification.
7. North Marshall Precinct: Motion, Seconded (DS, JW) and Carried (5,0) to approve 12 absentee ballots.
8. Revere Rice Cove Precinct: Motion, Seconded (BB, RL) and Carried (5,0) to approve 3 absentee ballots.
9. Sandy Mush Precinct: Motion, Seconded (DS, JW) and Carried (5,0) to approve 1 absentee ballot.
10. South Marshall Precinct: Motion, Seconded (DS, RL) and Carried (5,0) to approve 7 absentee ballots.
11. Spring Creek Precinct: Motion, Seconded (DS, BB) and Carried (5,0) to approve 8 absentee ballots.
12. Walnut Precinct: Motion, Seconded (DS, RL) and Carried (5,0) to approve 4 absentee ballots.

Overseas (OVR) Ballots:

Motion, Seconded (BB, RL) and Carried (5,0) to approve 2 overseas ballots.

Military (MIL) Ballots:

Motion, Seconded (BB, RL) and Carried (5,0) to approve 1 military ballot.

Motion, Seconded (DS, ST) and Carried (5,0) to go into closed session to duplicate 2 civilian ballots and 2 overseas ballots.

Motion, Seconded (DS, RL) and Carried (5,0) to return to open session.

The duplicated ballot log was created and original ballots were sealed for storage.

Board members sealed the DS200 machine, completed the chain of custody, and recorded the ending Public Count of 728 ballots.

Other Matters:

The Board reviewed Numbered Memos 2020-19 and 2020-25 prior to reviewing “pending cure” absentee ballots and returned cure certifications.

Cured Certification Ballots:

Motion, Seconded (RL, ST) and Carried (5,0) to approve the absentee ballot of Ray Winthrop Lewis.

Motion, Seconded (BB RL) and Carried (5,0) to approve the absentee ballot of Linda F. Hopps.

Motion, Seconded (DS, BB) and Carried (5,0) to approve the absentee ballot of Chester Franklin.

Motion, Seconded (BB, RL) and Carried (5,0) to approve the absentee ballot of Leonard C. Hopps, Jr.

Motion, Seconded (DS, JW) and Carried (5,0) to table the absentee ballot of Darryl Donald Diemer pending further guidance from the North Carolina State Board of Elections.

Motion, Seconded (BB, RL) and Carried (5,0) to approve the absentee ballot of Adrien Clawson.

Motion, Seconded (DS, BB) and Carried (5,0) to approve the absentee ballot of Betty Irene Caldwell.

Motion, Seconded (BB, DS) and Carried (5,0) to table the absentee ballot of Rodney Charles Brown pending further guidance from the North Carolina State Board of Elections.

Motion, Seconded (DS, JW) and Carried (5,0) to approve the absentee ballot of Courtney Bradshaw.

Motion, Seconded (DS, JW) and Carried (5,0) to approve the absentee ballot of Mary Aubrey.

The 8 approved cured ballots will be counted at the October 6, 2020 absentee meeting.

The Board reviewed 4 ballots that remain in “pending cure” status. The voters have been notified and cure certification statements have been mailed.

Member Smathers reported that he has been contacted by Madison County Schools Superintendent Will Hoffman to address curbside parking and signage at the Madison Wellness Center Gymnasium one-stop site. The Board requested that Member Smathers conduct a site visit with Dr. Hoffman to develop a plan.

Adjournment:

Motion, Seconded (DS, RL) and Carried (5,0) to adjourn at 4:15 p.m.

Chair *Jerry Walli*

Secretary _____