

Madison County Board of Elections

Meeting Minutes

June 9, 2020 Meeting

In attendance: Jerry Wallin, Chair; Ray Lewis, Secretary; Dyatt Smathers, Member; Sandra Tolley, Member; Brian Ball, Member; Kathy Ray, Director; Jacob Ray, Deputy Director; and John Noce, North Carolina State Board of Elections Security and Support Technician.

Call to Order:

Chair Wallin called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Agenda:

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

Minutes:

Motion, Seconded (BB, DS) and Carried (5,0) to approve the June 2, 2020 meeting minutes.

Members' Reports:

Chair Wallin commented that Mars Hill Public Library one stop voter turnout was exceeding turnout at the Board of Elections.

Member Tolley requested information regarding the snake in the polling site during one stop voting at Hot Springs Community Center.

Member Smathers commented that he was fielding questions from the community regarding the precinct transfers for the June 23, 2020 Second Primary and the list maintenance procedures for the removal of deceased voters.

Secretary Lewis reiterated the hearsay regarding Member Smathers comments.

Director's Report:

The Director referenced the one stop and Election Day staff plan for the June 23, 2020 Second Primary election.

Moved, Seconded (RL, BB) and Carried (5,0) to approve Betty Dean Benfield as the temporary replacement chief judge at the North Marshall Precinct for the June 23, 2020 Republican Primary Election.

Chair Wallin reported that all precinct polling sites for the November 3, 2020 General Election are under review as per the Center for Disease Control and State Board of Elections guidance

for polling sites during the COVID 19 pandemic. The Director has asked the State Board of Elections if it is allowable for Madison County Board of Elections to work with Buncombe County stakeholders to locate and create a polling site on the Buncombe County side of the Sandy Mush Community for the Sandy Mush Precinct for the November 3, 2020 General Election only. The discussion continued regarding the need for larger venues at other sites that will allow for social distancing and to eliminate the use of meal sites and cafeterias during the November 3, 2020 general election.

Member Smathers commented regarding the number and quality of the Security Mentor security lessons.

New Business:

Moved, Seconded (DS, RL) and Carried (5,0) to approve 1 civilian absentee application and ballot.

Moved, Seconded (BB, RL) and Carried (5,0) to approve 81 one stop applications.

Moved, Seconded (DS, RL) and Carried (5,0) to approve paying the Deputy Director's overtime compensation during the pay period in which it is accrued.

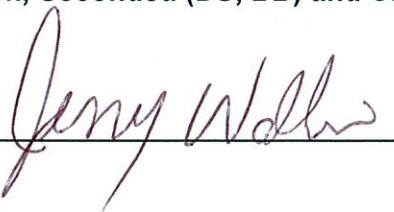
Discussion ensued regarding the commissioners' decision to approve the AutoMark Ballot Marker rental agreements for all 2020 elections.

State Board of Elections Security and Support Technician John Noce Comments:

Mr. Noce commented about litigation issues and the ExpressVote Ballot Markers, and he provided the Board with suggestions for managing and processing large volumes of absentee mail in applications and ballots. Suggestions included increasing the number of absentee meetings and dividing the Board and staff into bi-partisan teams for application approval and ballot duplication. He will provide the Board with the suggestions in writing for future reference.

Adjournment:

Motion, Seconded (DS, BB) and Carried (5,0) to adjourn at 5:58 p.m.

Chair 

Secretary 