

Madison County Board of Elections

Meeting Minutes – Regular Session

September 20, 2023

The Madison County Board of Elections held their regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday September 20, 2023, at Suite E, Room 16, 5707 US 25-70 Hwy, Marshall, 28753. In attendance: Jerry Wallin, Chair; Dyatt Smathers, Secretary; Brian Ball Member (via telephone); Ray Lewis Member; Debbie Ponder, Member; Jacob Ray, Director; and one 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, DP) to approve August 22 meeting minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).

Members' Report:

Member Smathers provided a status update on North Carolina Senate Bill 747 & 749.

Chair Wallin spoke about an update to North Carolina Senate Bill 749 and the polling location for the 2023 Municipal Election.

Director's Report:

The director provided an update on upcoming logic and accuracy testing, poll-worker training, and a status update on North Carolina Senate Bills 747 & 749.

New Business:

Motion (DS, JW) to approve the municipal election assistant list as presented. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).

2023 Municipal Election Assistant Approval:

- Samantha Green - Hot Springs Unaffiliated Assistant
- Rachell Skerlec- Mars Hill Democrat Assistant
- Cheryl Williams- Mars Hill Democrat Assistant (Backup)
- Irma Fiordalisi - South Marshall Unaffiliated Assistant

Motion (DS, JW) to approve municipal election temporary office staff list as presented. The motion passed (5-0).

2023 Temporary Municipal Election Office Staff:

- David Goforth Democrat (Equipment and Supplies Delivery)
- Vacant Republican (Equipment and Supplies Delivery)
- Dean Benfield Democrat (L&A Testing)
- Gloria Sundquist Republican (L&A Testing)

Public Comment:

Cheryl Williams shared her experience attending an event hosted by UNC Asheville that featured Executive Director of the NC State Board of Elections Karen Brinson Bell. The public talk was about “What’s Ahead for NC Elections in 2023 and 2024.”

Other Matters:

The board discussed early voting planning for 2024 election cycle and the Sandy Mush precinct polling location.

Adjournment:

Motion (DS, DP) to adjourn at 3:35 p.m. The motion was passed unanimously (5-0).

Announcement:

Next regularly scheduled meeting: October 18, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.

Chair _____ Secretary _____