

Minutes

Franklin County Board of Elections

Board Meeting – February 23, 2021

The Franklin County Board of Elections met on this date at 6:30 pm. The following were present at that time: Chairperson Sonravea Privette, Secretary Harry Barrick, Board Members M. Rose Gill (virtual), Barry Gupton, Angela Pearce (virtual), Director Michelle Chavis and Deputy Director Colette S. Kneeland.

Chairperson Sonravea Privette called the meeting to order and turned the meeting over to Director Michelle Chavis. The Director explained the purpose of the meeting was to review the 2021/2022 Budget Proposal, review minutes and discuss other business including the introduction of their new Elections Specialist staff member, Kia Brodie.

New Business

Review 2021/2022 Budget Proposal
February 23, 2021

Director Michelle Chavis presented a copy of the proposed budget for the 2021/2022 fiscal year to the Board Members for review. She reviewed the General Fund Expenditures and explained how the grant funds were used. She read aloud and discussed each justification line item with the Board Members. During discussion of the budget, the Board agreed to a flat rate of \$200.00 per Board Member per day for a Recount. A motion was made by Board Member Barry Gupton, seconded by Board Secretary Harry Barrick to include the \$200.00 Recount fee as a reimbursement for Board Members. The Board agreed that the 2021/2022 fiscal year budget was very cost efficient for the Elections Department. After review of the 2021/2022 Budget Proposal was completed, a motion was made by Board Secretary Harry Barrick, seconded by Board Member M. Rose Gill to approve the proposed budget as amended. The vote was unanimous.

Other Business

Office Site Move Proposal
February 23, 2021

The Director reported that the county had proposed a new site location for the Elections Office and presented the building floor plans of the new site to the Board Members for review. Director Michelle Chavis explained that the new site offers improvements in parking and access for early voting. The site plan provides essential office space and security requirements for elections administration, poll worker training and early voting. Board Chair Sonravea Privette commented that the site will be shared with other departments in the county that serve senior citizens, who represent both the majority population in the county and majority of our poll workers. The new facility offers a secure and spacious County Training Room. The Board agreed that the move would be contingent on access to the County Training Room for mandatory poll worker training and for use as an early voting site as scheduled by the State Board of Elections. The Director asked if the Board Members would like to view the site and suggested they meet again after the site visit. Board Secretary Harry Barrick agreed to visit the site on Wednesday February 24, 2021. The Board Members scheduled the next Board Meeting on Monday, March 1, 2021 to vote on the proposed site.

Other Business (continued)

Centerville Fire Department Polling Site
February 23, 2021

Director Michelle Chavis reported that the Centerville Fire Department has been difficult to use as a polling site due to voting in the bay area where the trucks are kept. Access to the bay area for setting up the polling site is dependent on weather conditions which can delay removing the trucks. The Board agreed that an alternative site should be considered at this time. Board Member Barry Gupton suggested the use of the Centerville Baptist Church which is nearby. Board Chair Sonravea Privette asked Board Member Barry Gupton if he would reach out to them given his knowledge of the area and he agreed that he would.

Sheriff Substation One-Stop Site
February 23, 2021

The Director asked whether we could continue to use the Sheriff Substation for an early voting site in the 2022 elections. The Board agreed that we should continue to use the Sheriff Substation as a Bunn One-Stop site if we are allowed.

Introduction of new staff member
February 23, 2021

Director Michelle Chavis announced the recently filled Elections Specialist full time position. Kia Brodie was the chosen candidate and started employment with the Board of Elections on Monday February 22, 2021. She joins the team as a recent college graduate with previous elections skills from the 2020 General Election. The Board welcomed Kia Brodie as a member of the team and wished her continued success with the Franklin County Board of Elections.


New Business (continued)

Review Minutes from December 6, 2020 Board Meeting
February 23, 2021
NCGS 163-31

The Board reviewed the minutes of the December 6, 2020 meeting. The motion was made by Board Secretary Harry Barrick, seconded by Board Member Barry Gupton to approve the minutes as read. The vote was unanimous.

Board Secretary Harry Barrick made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Board Member M. Rose Gill. The vote was unanimous.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.


Secretary, Harry Barrick


Deputy Director, Colette S. Kneeland