

Minutes

Franklin County Board of Elections

Board Meeting – November 10, 2020 (Provisional Ballot Review)

The Franklin County Board of Elections met on this date at 6:00 pm. The following were present at that time: Chairperson Sonravea Privette, Secretary Harry Barrick, Board Members M. Rose Gill, Barry Gupton, Angela Pearce (Virtual), Director Michelle Chavis, Deputy Director Colette S. Kneeland, County Attorney Boyd Sturges, and Observers Ed Strickland and Lucy Allen.

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 Provisional Ballots for the 2020 Presidential General Election and conduct other business matters first.

Other Business

November 10, 2020

The Director Michelle Chavis discussed the State Board of Elections guidance for tabulating the Gold Mine Precinct ballots that were fed into the emergency bin on Election Day. The State Board advised that manual edits on Unity could be done or the ballots could be duplicated by the Board, tabulated, then uploaded to Unity. She suggested that the Board duplicate the ballots in preparation for the Board Meeting on Thursday, November 12, 2020 when the voters would be present to observe their ballots being tabulated by the familiar DS200 rather than observing manual edits to Unity. The Board duplicated the ballots using a multi-partisan team to call out the votes, mark the new ballots, and observe. The Gold Mine Precinct ballots were secured by the Board as follows: Old Seal #: 172957, new Seal #: 172956.

Review Minutes from November 2, 2020 Board Meeting

November 10, 2020

NCGS 163-31

The Board reviewed the minutes of the November 2, 2020 meeting. The motion was made by Board Secretary Harry Barrick, seconded by Board Member M. Rose Gill to approve the minutes with corrections. The vote was unanimous.

Review Minutes from November 3, 2020 (Election Day) Board Meeting

November 10, 2020

NCGS 163-31

The Board reviewed the minutes of the November 3, 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.

New Business

Review of Provisional Ballots

November 10, 2020

NCGS 163-182.2 and State Board of Elections Numbered Memo #2018-05 (Canvass Procedures and Provisional Ballots)

The Director Michelle Chavis explained the process of reviewing and tabulating the provisional ballots. The Director explained that some provisional ballots must be duplicated by the Board if the voter did not vote the correct ballot-style (precinct and/or county commissioner district) contests that

they were registered to vote for. She explained that the State Board of Elections will be auditing the provisional ballots on Wednesday and based on their audit findings, the Board may want to revise the ballot status. The Board agreed to review all the provisional ballots at this meeting and to tabulate the approved ballots at the next Board Meeting. She presented the Board Members with 4 reports of the provisional ballots grouped by Vote Count (Approved, Partial, Pending and Not Approved) and explained that the ballots were thoroughly researched by staff as required by the State.

The Director gave the Board the 156 not approved provisional ballots and read aloud the research findings for each ballot as requested. The Board requested additional research with 3 of the not approved provisional ballots. After the Board reviewed the 156 not approved provisional ballots, a motion was made by Board Secretary Harry Barrick to disapprove 153 not approved provisional ballots, seconded by Board Member M. Rose Gill. The vote was unanimous. A motion was made by Board Member M. Rose Gill, seconded by Board Secretary Harry Barrick to revisit 3 not approved provisional ballots with the additional research findings for the ballots with pin numbers: 002-00027-0001, 002-00024-0008 & 002-00022-0003. The vote was unanimous.

The Director gave the Board the 17 partial provisional ballots and read aloud the research findings for each ballot and explained that each ballot would need to be duplicated by the Board. After the Board reviewed the 17 partial provisional ballots, a motion was made by Board Member M. Rose Gill, seconded by Board Secretary Harry Barrick to approve the 17 partial provisional ballots to be duplicated as marked. The vote was unanimous.

The Director gave the Board the 19 pending provisional ballots and explained the reasons why they were in a pending status. The Director read aloud the research findings for each ballot and any related incident reports. The ballots recorded as registered at the DMV await final DMV research results. The ballots recorded as ID Required have until 5:00 pm on November 12, 2020 to provide a HAVA ID. The ballots recorded with a GEOCODE issue await GIS findings. The ballots recorded as having voted already due to father and son with matching names will be researched to determine corrections for voter history and board approval. The ballots that require further guidance will be sent up to the State Board with incident reports. After the Board reviewed the 19 pending provisional ballots, a motion was made by Board Secretary Harry Barrick, seconded by Board Member Angela Pearce to submit an incident report to the State Board of Elections for the ballot at Precinct 19 West Youngsville 2 that was fed into DS200. The vote was unanimous. A motion was made by Board Member M. Rose Gill, Seconded by Board Secretary Harry Barrick to approve the ballot with an incident report for the Franklinton One-stop same day registrant that returned on Election day to vote. The vote was unanimous.

The Director gave the Board Members the 53 approved provisional ballots and read aloud the research findings for each ballot. After the Board reviewed the 53 approved provisional ballots, a motion was made by Board Member Barry Gupton, seconded by Board Secretary Harry Barrick to approve 50 of the approved provisional ballots. The vote was unanimous. A motion was made by Board Secretary Harry Barrick, seconded by Board Member Barry Gupton to hold 3 of approved provisional ballots for additional research.

Other Business (continued)

November 10, 2020

The Director reported that the State Board of Elections legal department notified her regarding the status of the 7 pending voter challenges due to felony convictions and reported that 2 were not eligible challenges as they were not yet charged with a felony conviction. Therefore only 5 voter challenges will be considered at the Challenge Hearing on November 13, 2020 at 10:00 am.

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

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:12 pm.

Harry Barrick

Secretary, Harry Barrick

Colette S. Kneeland

Deputy Director, Colette S. Kneeland