

Minutes

Franklin County Board of Elections

Board Meeting – August 4, 2020 (Virtual) Board Meeting

The Franklin County Board of Elections met virtually 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, Barry Gupton, Angela Pearce, Director Michelle Chavis, Deputy Director Colette S. Kneeland, IT Director Coy Floyd, and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc, Phi Zeta chapter Representatives Edith Henderson and Kentisha Dinham. Other unnamed callers were also in attendance.

Chairperson Sonravea Privette called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm and stated that the public comments would be heard first. After all public comments were received, the Chairperson thanked them for participating and explained that the Board would take their comments under consideration for the one-stop plan for the 2020 Presidential Election. She then turned the meeting over to Director Michelle Chavis. The Director explained that they would follow the meeting agenda and discuss any additional items at the end.

Public Comments

August 4, 2020

Chairperson Sonravea Privette asked IT Director Coy Floyd to virtually admit each attending member of the public to speak for a maximum time period of 5 minutes. The following public comments were submitted:

Edith Henderson:

- Would like to thank the Board for looking at alternative one-stop sites due to Covid19 social distancing requirements.
- Asks the Board to consider Sunday voting options and extend Saturdays.

Kentisha Dinham:

- Would like to see an increase in weekend hours that include Sundays.
- And increase by Voting by Mail options

New Business

Review Minutes from July 28, 2020 Board Meeting

August 4, 2020

NCGS 163-31

The Board reviewed the minutes of the July 28, 2020 Meeting. The motion was made by Secretary Harry Barrick, seconded by Board Member Barry Gupton, to approve the minutes with corrections. The vote was unanimous.

Discussion of One-Stop Sites (Social Distancing)

August 4, 2020

The Director reported her responses from contacts regarding potential one-stop voting sites as listed below:

RESPONSES FROM THIS WEEK BOARD MEETING August 4, 2020:

Below are the places and comments that I have contacted for one-stop sites for Thursday, 10/15 – 10/31, weekdays 8:00am-7:30pm and the one Saturday, 10/31 which is mandated per the NCGS.

-Gethsemane Baptist Church on Bunn Elementary Church Rd., which is 2.1 miles from the Bunn Library

– I met with Gethsemane Baptist Church administrative staff on Saturday, August 1, 2020 at 12 noon. I sent you all the findings. *(The letter from church was read aloud by the Director. Chairperson Sonravea Privette responded that the \$8500 charges for using the Gethsemane Baptist would be too substantial given that the Bunn library usage costs are county funds and not part of the Board of Elections budget. The Cares Act funds are needed to secure the extra supplies and poll workers due to COVID19 pandemic. Chairperson Sonravea Privette stated that due to the pandemic that there would be hazard pay and personal protection equipment (PPE) and procedures for all poll workers. She asked that anyone interested in working the polls to please contact the Board of Elections Office.)*

-American Legion Franklinton – Colette and I met with Mr. Harvey Satterwhite on Monday, August 3, 2020 at 6:00 PM to visit the site. His concern was the American Legion Franklinton Post #52 was requiring face coverings to enter their building. For voting purposes Boards of Elections cannot require a voter to wear a face covering. We will suggest and have the mask available, but by law we cannot require the voter to wear the mask while casting their vote, whether in the voting enclosure or curbside. He said he would speak with his commander and get back with me.

-Franklinton Town Annex – Spoke with the new owner of the Franklinton Annex building and he was going to get back with me. He said he was getting the building ready for lease and because the Board of Elections would only have need for the facility for 3 weeks in October 2020, that he would potentially lose at least 2 months and would not be able to get anyone in until November 2020.

-Sheriff Substation on Hwy 98 – Called the Franklin County Sheriff Department and spoke with the Chief of Staff. He said the building was not available because the sheriff department had officers that occupy that building every day. Today, Tuesday August 4, 2020 per Mr. Dewey Botts, he spoke with Sheriff Kent Winstead and he offered to allow the Board of Elections to use the substation. I will call the Sheriff tomorrow, Wednesday, August 5, 2020 to set up a site visit for a potential one-stop site. *(Sheriff has agreed to allow usage of substation. The Board would like to thank Dewey Botts for his assistance.)*

One-stop (early voting) Implementation Plan

August 4, 2020

NCGS 163-227.6 and SBOE Memo 2020-14 re: Emergency Order of July 17, 2020

Director Michelle Chavis reported that she emailed with the State Board of Elections Director to request an extension of one week for submitting the one-stop plan to allow additional time to research and finalize alternative one-stop sites. The new one-stop plan submission deadline is Friday, August 14th, 2020. The Board agree to vote on all 4 one-stop sites at one meeting for the one-stop plan.

Old Business

Multi-partisan Assistance Team (MAT)

August 4, 2020

Director Michelle Chavis reported that the COVID19 guidelines for the MAT are still pending and will be provided by the State Board of Elections. Chairperson Sonravea Privette announced that we have names of registered Democrats willing to work on the MAT, however, we still need registered Republicans or Unaffiliated members to join the MAT. She asked that anyone interested in joining the MAT should contact the Board of Elections office.

Other Business

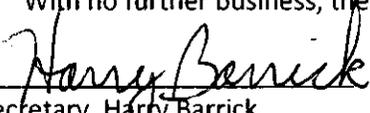
August 4, 2020

The Director reported that the Board and staff attended the first virtual State Board of Elections Conference held on August 3, 2020 and August 4, 2020. The online conference went very well and provided important and timely information for the 2020 Presidential election.

The next Board Meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday August 11, 2020 at 6:30 pm. The Board will plan to meet for Absentee Meetings beginning on Tuesday September 29, 2020.

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

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:29 pm.


Secretary, Harry Barrick


Deputy Director, Colette S. Kneeland