



MONTGOMERY COUNTY **BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

John Adams, Chair
Teddi Benson, Secretary
Kelsey Brown, Member
Debbie Burris, Member
Dree Wynkoop, Member

BOARD MINUTES **Tuesday, January 13, 2026** **5:30PM**

The Montgomery Board of Elections (BOE) met for the regularly scheduled monthly meeting on January 13, 2026, at the Montgomery County Board of Elections office located at 327 N Main Street in Troy. Members John Adams, Teddi Benson, Kelsey Brown, Debbie Burris, and Dree Wynkoop were present. BOE staff, Director Kimberly Walter and Deputy Director Donna Moore were present.

Chair John Adams called the meeting to order at 5:30PM.

The Board Meeting Agenda was presented. Member Benson noted an additional item was needed to discuss appointment for the Eldorado Precinct Judge position to fill the vacancy left by Janet Schaefer's resignation. This item was added to Old Business. Member Benson made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition. Member Wynkoop seconded the motion. All were in favor. The agenda was approved.

The Board meeting minutes from December 9, 2025, were presented. Member Wynkoop made a motion to approve the minutes. Member Burris seconded the motion. All Members were in favor. The minutes were approved, signed and returned to BOE office staff to file and to post on the BOE website.

Director Walter read the Director's Report dated 1/13/2026 regarding activities initiated and/or completed since the last Board meeting. A copy of the Director's Report is attached.

Old Business

Precinct Official Placement Updates

Deputy Director Moore reported that Janet Schaefer called and resigned from the ELDORADO-Judge position. She noted that the Democrat Party Chair submitted Kimberly Muth as a possible replacement. Ms. Muth is registered in the Eldorado Precinct as a Democrat, her voter registration is in active status, and she has submitted a completed PO application. Member Benson made a motion to accept the nomination and to appoint Ms. Muth. Member Wynkoop seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Buffer Zone Policy

The Buffer Zone Policy originally presented during the October 17, 2025 regular monthly BOE meeting was tabled to permit each Member ample time to read/review/consider. After discussion, Member Burris made a motion to accept the Buffer Zone Policy as presented. Member Wynkoop seconded. All were in favor and the motion was passed unanimously.

Compensation for Precinct Officials (Delivery Fee)

The Precinct Officials Delivery Fee was originally presented during the October 17, 2025, regular monthly BOE meeting but was tabled so that the BOE staff could conduct more research and seek clarification from the State BOE and other county BOE offices. Director Walters shared the results of the research and noted that she has not received a response from the State after sending help desk requests to them on 10/15/25 and 12/9/25. Member Brown made a motion to pay Precinct Officials who are required to deliver the USB stick containing the votes and the official ballots cast on Election Day a fee of \$15.00/day or \$20.00/day as mandated in NC General Statute 163-46. Member Benson seconded and all were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

No one made any public comments at this meeting.

New Business

Early Voting Officials' Appointments

Director Walter presented a list of Precinct Officials, who were appointed by the Board to serve during the 2025-2027 election cycle, that she proposes to work the three Early Voting Sites identified in the Early Voting Plan approved by the County and State BOE in December 2025. Member Wynkoop made the motion to appoint the Precinct Officials on the list as Early Voting Officials for the 2026 Primary Election. Member Benson seconded the motion. All Members were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Felony Registrant Review

Director Walter presented three Voter Registration Applications and current criminal records for the Board's consideration to deny the applicant's voter registration. Member Brown made a motion to deny the Voter Registration Application for two of the applicants presented based on the information provided documenting the applicants are currently serving a sentence for a felony conviction and directed BOE staff to further research the third applicant's status as their criminal history appears to indicate the sentence for the felony conviction was completed. Member Wynkoop seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Winter Conference

Director Walter reminded all Members that Winter Conference will be held virtually on January 26 and 27, 2026. She reported that she is still waiting for the State BOE to confirm whether Member Benson is required to attend this conference. She reported that the deadline to register is January 19, 2026, and she will be registering herself, Deputy Director Moore, Member Burris, and Member Brown. She noted that she will also register Member Benson if the State confirms that she must attend.

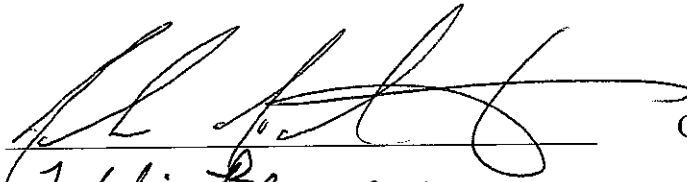
Emergency Polling Locations

Director Walter presented the Members with a list of proposed Emergency Polling Locations. She noted that she has spoken with the contact person listed for each location and has obtained permission to use their facilities as the Emergency Polling Location if needed. Member Wynkoop made a motion to approve the Emergency Polling Locations as presented. Member Benson seconded the motion. All Members were in favor and the motion passed.

Biscoe Town Hall as Voting Site Update

Director Walter reported that she, Member Burris, and Republican Party Chair Larry Kramer attended the Biscoe Commissioners meeting on Monday, January 12, 2026. Democrat Party Chair, Kay Cagle-Kinch, is also a Biscoe Commissioner and was present and presiding over the meeting. Director Walter stated that the Town Manager, Kevin Baughn, had included an item on the Town Board's meeting agenda to consider asking the BOE not to allow the BOE to use the Town Hall as a polling location and to find another facility. She reported that she answered the Biscoe Commissioners' questions and provided statistical data to educate them about the number of voters who are registered in the Biscoe Precinct, who voted at the Biscoe Town Hall during Early Voting and on Election Day during the last General Election in 2024, and who would be effected should the Town of Biscoe not allow the BOE to continue to use the Town Hall as a polling location. There was some discussion, but no decision made by the Town Commissioners.

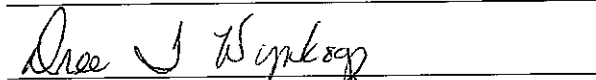
With no further comments or business to discuss, Chair Adams called for a motion to adjourn. Member Wynkoop made the motion to adjourn. Member Burris seconded. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 6:33PM.



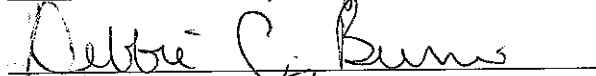
CHAIR



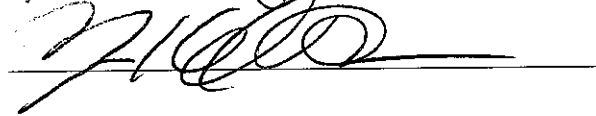
SECRETARY



MEMBER



MEMBER



MEMBER

Director's Report

January 13, 2026

- Confirmed Unanimous Early Voting Plan with the State on 12/15/2025
- Mailed Nursing Facility Letters on 12/15/2025 letting them know of the Absentee Voting process. We have had one request form Autumn Care in Biscoe for a visit and the MAT members are there now assisting voters with their Absentee Request forms. The facility has been advised to notify our office when the voters' ballot packets arrive and keep the packets under lock and key until we are able to get the MAT members back out to the facility.
- Candidate Filing went well and leaves us with 1 local Contest on the Primary Ballot which is County Commissioner At-Large. There are four candidates running for that office on the Republican ticket. The voters will be able to cast their vote for two and those two will be able to move to the General Election where they will run against the Democrat candidate Mr. Allen Parker.
- We did have an UNA voter that was interested in running for office of county commissioner at large as well and he has been given all the necessary documents and information to complete so he can be placed on the General Ballot in this Contest. 12/29/2025 received word the UNA candidate wouldn't be going forward to seek candidacy.
- Candidate Orientation was held last Thursday evening. In attendance were 10 candidates, one board member and a member of the public that assists one of the candidates. Donna did a great job covering so many different topics concerning elections & candidate processes. I love that she lets the candidates know that they can be asked by the public about a number of things concerning elections and running for office. Thanks to her training they are now well prepared to answer those questions. Everyone present was very appreciative of this training.
- Ballots for the March Primary were ordered on December 29, 2025. We have begun to receive those ballots.
- I received notice yesterday January 12, that the Democrat nominee Robert (Bob) Morrison withdrew his notice of candidacy. He was running for the NC Senate District 29 seat and was not on the Primary Ballot just on the General Ballot.
- I have a student in place to assist in the office to gain hours for Leadership Montgomery. He will be here tomorrow 1/14 & again 1/21 to help with machine set up for upcoming L&A and laptop/printer setup for training. I have asked him to be on stand by for 1/20 as we will be printing NCOA cards and depending on the number of

cards going out we may need his assistance. His name is Joshua Nelson and may be interested in being a student assistant in the General Election and could be trained as an emergency student assistant for the primary.

- Computer programming will begin possibly tomorrow.
- Training starts next Thursday; you have a training schedule in your packet.
- L&A will begin when we receive our coding data from Printelect.
- Mock Election is scheduled for January 29th.
- I have submitted a copy of my Comp time Accrual/Usage log for 2025 if you would like to review that document.