



MONTGOMERY COUNTY **BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

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

BOARD MINUTES **Tuesday, August 19, 2025** **5:30PM**

The Montgomery Board of Elections met August 19, 2025, at the BOE office located at 327 N. Main Street in Troy for the regular monthly Board Meeting. Board Members John Adams, Teddi Benson, Kelsy Brown, Debbie Burris, and Dree Wynkoop were present. Also present were BOE staff, Director Kimberly Walter and Deputy Director Donna Moore

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

The Board Meeting Agenda was presented. Chair Adams reported that there was an addition to the agenda pertaining to a New Party Petition received. Member Wynkoop made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition and Member Burris seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the agenda was approved.

The Board meeting minutes from the July 22, 2025, Board Member meeting were presented for approval. Member Benson moved to approve the minutes, and Member Wynkoop seconded the motion. All Members were in favor, and 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 8/19/2025 regarding activities initiated and/or completed since the last Board meeting. A copy of the Director's Report is attached. Chair Adams asked when the BOE can release Sample Ballots and asked Director to check on this and let the Members know.

Old Business

There was no old business

Public Comment

No one signed the Public Comment Sign Up Sheet for this meeting.

New Business

New Party Petition

Chair Adams read the letter and shared the accompanying signature sheet informing the Board that a petition for new party, the North Carolina Forward Party in Montgomery County, was received. Pursuant to the NC Law, batch #2 submitted on 8/19/2025 had been checked against the voter registration records of the Montgomery County Board of Elections and zero names out of one signature have been determined to be qualified because the one person who signed the petition is not a registered voter. Director Walter confirmed that she checked his status, determined that he was not a registered voter, and sent him a voter registration application. Chair Adams noted that he would sign the letter with the findings and Director Walter advised she would return it to the appropriate individual.

Temporary Transfer of Voters and Official Notice for the Election

Chair Adams explained that when the Town of Mt. Gilead annexed a small section of residences located within the Pee Dee Precinct it made some registered voters in Pee Dee Precinct residents of the Town of Mt Gilead and, thus, they are eligible to vote in the municipal election. He explained that there are a total of 13 voters effected and that there are no other contests for the Pee Dee Precinct. Therefore, those voters are to be temporarily transferred to the Mt. Gilead Precinct for this election. He read the Resolution approving the temporary transfer of the eligible Pee Dee Precinct voters to the Mt. Gilead Precinct for the 2025 Municipal elections. Member Wynkoop made a motion to approve the resolution. Member Benson seconded, all Members approved, and the motion passed unanimously. The Resolution was signed, and a copy of the Resolution is attached.

He read the Official Notice which provides the poll locations, times polls will be open, the dates and times for Early Voting for the Municipal Elections, the process and timeframe to request Absentee ballots, voter eligibility, the contests included in the municipal elections, voter registration deadline, and same day voter registration during Early Voting. Chair Adams advised that the Official Notice of Election will be posted and sent to the paper.

Precinct Officials and MAT Appointments

Chair Adams suggested that the Board start by considering the MAT (Multipartisan Assistance Team) team members for approval. He advised that a list of the proposed MAT team members had been included in the Board Member packets. "Team A" includes Patricia Cagle and Deana Poole, "Team B" is Shelia Perry and Doni Juarez, and "Alternate" is Pam Hurley. Member Brown made a motion to accept the MAT team member appointments as presented. Member Burris seconded, all Members were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Chair Adams announced the Board will move to making the Precinct Official appointments. He said that each Member has lists as submitted by the Party Chairs. He asked if anyone wanted to comment on the Precinct Officials appointment process. Member Brown advised he would like to speak. He announced that he had attended training and wished to share with the other Members the information he learned about the appointment process. He noted that NCGS 163-41 mandates that the Precinct Officials appointment process be conducted in three phases. Those three phases are as follows:

Phase 1: Board must appoint Officials from the list of nominees provided by the Party Chairs if the nominations for Chief Judge and Judges were submitted on-time and consists of qualified, registered voters who live in the precinct. The appointment can be made by a majority of the vote of the Board. Any nomination that was made involving an individual that is not qualified and/or does not live in the precinct for which they were nominated is to be deemed insufficient.

Phase 2: If the nominations from the Party Chairs for Chief Judge and Judges are insufficient, the Board may name voters in that precinct who were not recommended by the Party Chairs by a unanimous vote.

Phase 3: If after diligently seeking to fill the positions with registered voters of the precinct, the Board still has an insufficient number of officials for the precinct, the Board may appoint registered voters from other precincts in the county who meet the qualifications, other than residence, by a unanimous vote.

Member Brown also pointed out that the Chief Judge and Judges must not be from the same political party. He also noted that any Board discussion regarding Precinct Officials appointments is to be done in an open session as these individuals are not yet employees. This changes once they are appointed and become employees. At that point, if a complaint filed against them or other personnel matter is to be considered by the Board, a closed session would be required.

The Members considered the nominations made by the Democrat and Republican Party Chairs; deliberated each recommendation, position and placement; and diligently worked to finalize the 2025-2027 Precinct Officials appointments per the process provided in the NC General Statute. A copy of the final appointments with the record of motions/seconds/approvals is attached.

Precinct Official Orientation and Training

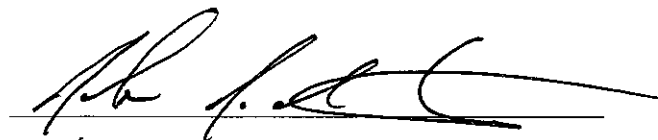
Chair Adams commented that over the last 8 months there has been a lot of discussion about the training the poll workers need and will receive. He also reported that, in the past, all poll workers were brought together for an orientation where the Board can lay out the expectations. He commented that he would like to reinstate that practice. Director Walter announced that Precinct Officials Orientation is scheduled for September 9, 2025, at 6PM at the Montgomery County Courthouse in the courtroom and that arrangements have been made with the Clerk of Court to grant access to the facility. Member Brown noted that this was also the date of the next regular Board meeting and asked to confirm that the meeting time would remain at 5:30PM. Chair Adams announced the regular Board meeting will be at 5:30PM, the Precinct Officials Orientation would begin at 6PM, the location of the meeting will change to courthouse and all the specifics will be posted as required.

Director Walter reported that MAT team training will be conducted on September 18, 2025, at 6PM at the BOE office. She also advised that training sessions for the Precinct Officials who will be working the 2025 Municipal Elections has been scheduled for September 23rd and 25th. She noted that Chief Judges will be trained separately from the Judges and Assistants. She said morning (10AM) and evening (6PM) sessions will be offered and will alternate between Chiefs and other Officials. She said she would like to have one Precinct Official from each municipality to work Early Voting.

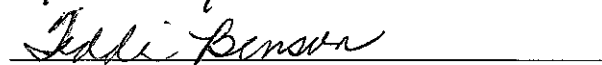
Registration Repair

Director Walter advised that she had placed a copy of Registration Repair training materials she had received in the Board Member packets. She explained that the packet provides screenshots illustrating what the Precinct Officials will see on the laptops at voter check-in when they encounter an in-person voter who was included in the Registration Repair Project. She noted that this information will be covered with Precinct Officials in training. Chair Adams asked if a voter who is asked at check-in and immediately provides the identification required must still vote a provisional. Director Walter confirmed that they would have to vote a provisional and that the information given would be included for the Board to have during the provisional review process. Deputy Director Moore added that the provisional ballot would be required because the identification numbers they provide would have to be validated for the ballot to count. Director Walter explained that the validation could not happen at the precinct and can only be done when the information is added at the BOE office.

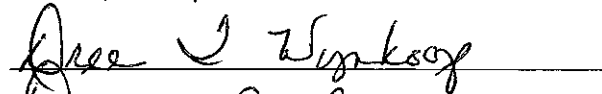
With no further comments or business to discuss, Chair Adams called for a motion to adjourn. Member Benson made the motion to adjourn. Member Wynkoop seconded and all were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:50PM.



CHAIR



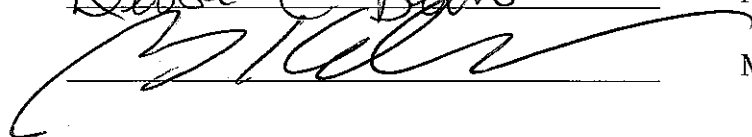
SECRETARY



MEMBER



MEMBER



MEMBER

Director's Report August 19, 2025

- Montgomery County Early voting plans were sent to the state on July 25, 2025 they were due 8/8/25 but received an extension due date of 8/15/2025.
- State Conference went well; I am looking forward to all the ways we will be using what we've learned in the future.
- MAT team training materials have been completed. MAT team member recommendations for the Board's approval are in your packets.
- New required UOCAVA envelopes with sleeves for ID's have been ordered. I needed to order all three types of envelopes involved in these absentee mailings to have the most recent requirements met.
- 8/4/25 Candidate for Mt. Gilead Town Commissioner Withdrew: Mr. Bruce Genth
- 8/6/2025-8/7/2025 Precinct Officials Sheila Perry and Doni Juarez assembled all 70 of the New Precinct Official Manuals here at the office.
- 8/7/2025 We held Candidate Orientation. We had two candidates attend. That went extremely well, Donna worked on that presentation and included General Election processes to help the candidates better understand our role in their journey to becoming an elected official.
- The registration repair duties presented to our office have been completed. State Survey, acknowledging completion, was sent in on 8/8/25.
I received an Immediate Release yesterday stating the first wave of mailings were now being sent out to 82,700 NC voters. Montgomery County has 188 letters going out from the state with that mailing.
- Laptops are being updated to Windows 11 and Election Information will be uploaded when available.
- 8/13/25 Candidate for Biscoe Town Commissioner Withdrew: Mr. Kenneth Lynthacum
- 8/14/2025 The ballot proofing process was completed.
- 8/19/2025 Ballots for the 2025 Municipal Election were ordered today.

Listed below is a record of the Board appointment process by phase, motion and vote:

Phase 1: Biscoe Precinct: Noting an insufficiency - Member Wynkoop moved to appoint JoAnn Richardson (Judge-Rep), and Shelia Perry (Judge-Dem); Member Burris seconded; all were in favor and motion passed.

Candor Precinct: Having no insufficiency - Member Brown moved to appoint Lucas McCaskill (Chief Judge-Rep), Karen Britt (Judge-Rep), and Laura Harris (Judge-Dem); Member Benson seconded; all were in favor and motion passed.

Cheeks Creek Precinct: Having no insufficiency - Member Wynkoop moved to appoint Audrey Farlow (Chief Judge – Rep), Stephen Prophater (Judge-Rep), and JoAnn Butler (Judge-Dem); Member Brown seconded; all were in favor and motion passed.

Eldorado Precinct: Having no insufficiency - Member Wynkoop moved to appoint Heather Walker (Chief Judge – Rep), Kimberly Walker (Judge-Rep), and Janet Schaefer (Judge-Dem); there was not a second and the motion failed. After discussion, it was suggested to switch the recommendations for Chief Judge and Republican Judge. Member Adams made a motion to switch the Rep Party Chair's recommendations for Chief and Judge an appoint Kimberly Walker (Chief Judge – Rep), Heather Walker (Judge-Rep), and Janet Schaefer (Judge-Dem); Member Brown seconded; all were in favor and the motion passed.

Little River Precinct: Having no insufficiency - Member Burris moved to appoint Stephanie Vann (Chief-Rep), Leah Hunt (Judge-Rep), and Roy Moore (Judge-Dem); Member Wynkoop seconded; all were in favor and the motion passed.

Mt. Gilead Precinct: Noting an insufficiency - Member Brown moved to appoint Laura Anderson (Chief- Rep) and Tselane LeGrand (Judge-Dem); Member Benson seconded; all were in favor and the motion passed.

Ophir Precinct: Noting an insufficiency – Member Wynkoop moved to appoint Edward Huneycutt (Chief Judge-Rep) and Laura East (Judge-Dem); all were in favor and the motion passed.

Pee Dee Precinct: Having no insufficiency – Member Wynkoop moved to appoint Christy Jordan (Chief Judge-Rep), Sharon Mason (Judge-Rep), and

Joseph Collins (Judge-Dem); Member Brown seconded; all were in favor and the motion passed.

Rocky Springs Precinct: Noting an insufficiency – Member Benson moved to appoint Annie Pratt (Chief Judge-Rep) and Carolyn Bostic (Judge-Dem); Member Wynkoop seconded; all were in favor and the motion passed.

Star Precinct: Noting an insufficiency – Member Burris moved to appoint Charlotte Lamonds (Chief Judge-Rep) and Zachary Mashburn (Judge-Rep); Member Wynkoop seconded; all were in favor and the motion passed.

Troy 1 Precinct: Having no insufficiency – Member Wynkoop moved to appoint Stacy Shook (Chief Judge-Rep), Kenneth Hubbard (Judge-Rep), and Andrea Marshall (Judge-Dem); Member Benson seconded; all were in favor and the motion passed.

Troy 2 Precinct: Noting that no individual recommended by the Party Chairs met the precinct residency criteria, no member made a motion to appoint any Chief or Judge during Phase 1 of the appointment process.

Uwharrie Precinct: Noting insufficiencies – Member Brown moved to appoint Susan Inman (Chief Judge-Rep); Member Burris seconded; all were in favor and the motion passed.

Wadeville Precinct: Noting an insufficiency; Member Wynkoop moved to appoint Angela Harris (Chief Judge-Rep) and Emmanuel Christian (Judge-Dem); Member Benson seconded; all were in favor and the motion passed.

Phase 2: During this phase of the appointment process Member Brown suggested that they return to those noted as insufficiencies to see if anyone of those recommendations can be placed in their home precinct. Deputy Director Moore pointed out that Marybeth Throneburg recommend as an Assistant in Star is a resident of Star.

Troy 2 Precinct: Member Brown noted that Elizabeth Sasser recommended as an Assistant in Troy 2 is a resident of Troy 2. Chair Adams noted that Trey Lincoln was recommended as Judge (Dem) in Star is as resident of Troy 2. Member Brown made a motion to appoint Kimberly Blake (Chief Judge-Rep), Elizabeth Sasser (Judge-Rep), and Trey Lincoln (Judge-Dem) in Troy 2; Member Burris seconded; all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Star Precinct: Deputy Director Moore noted again that Marybeth Throneburg was recommended as an Assistant (Dem) in Star and she lives in Star. Member Brown made a motion to appoint Marybeth Throneburg (Judge-Dem); Member Wynkoop seconded; all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Uwharrie Precinct: Member Brown noted that Nancy Hinson was recommended as an Assistant (Rep) in Uwharrie and she lives in Uwharrie. Member Brown moved to appoint Nancy Hinson (Judge-Rep); Member Wynkoop seconded; all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Chair Adams commented that the Board was at an impasse and since no Member had named any voters to fill any remaining insufficiencies, he thought it best to move into Phase 3 of the appointment process.

Phase 3: Biscoe Precinct: Member Brown moved to appoint Doni Juarez (Chief Judge-Rep); Member Wynkoop seconded; all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Mt. Gilead Precinct: Member Wynkoop moved to appoint Jerry Osborne (Judge-Rep); Member Brown seconded; all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Ophir Precinct: Member Wynkoop moved to appoint Janie Carroll (Judge-UNA); Member Burris seconded; all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Wadeville Precinct: Member Brown moved to appoint Jennifer Dellipizzi (Judge-Rep); Member Benson seconded; all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Uwharrie Precinct: Member Benson moved to appoint Kimberly Bost (Judge-Dem); Member Wynkoop seconded; all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Rocky Springs Precinct: Member Brown moved to appoint Deana Poole (Judge-Rep); Member Wynkoop seconded; all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Assistant Precinct Officials: With all the Republican Chiefs, Republican Judges and Democrat Judges place, Chair Adams noted that now the Board can consider the Assistant recommendations.

Biscoe Precinct: Member Brown moved to appoint Zachary Brewer (Assistant-UNA) and Pat Cagle (Assistant-Dem); Member Benson seconded; all were in favor and the motion passed.

Candor Precinct: Member Brown moved to appoint Lynn Varner (Assistant-Rep) and Jamal Moore (Assistant-Dem); Member Wynkoop seconded; all were in favor and the motion passed.

Cheeks Creek Precinct: Member Wynkoop moved to appoint Joey Haywood (Assistant-UNA) and Eva Dykes (Assistant-Dem); Member Benson seconded; all were in favor and the motion passed.

Little River Precinct: Member Benson moved to appoint Misty Smith (Assistant-Rep) and Brenda Brock (Assistant-Dem); Member Wynkoop seconded; all were in favor and the motion passed.

Mt Gilead Precinct: Member Wynkoop moved to appoint Rodney Haywood (Assistant-Rep) and Dorothy Kee (Assistant-Dem); Member Brown seconded; all were in favor and the motion passed.

Ophie Precinct: Member Benson moved to appoint Deborah Davis (Assistant-Rep) and Jordan Larose (Assistant-Dem); Member Wynkoop seconded; all were in favor and the motion passed.

Pee Dee Precinct: Member Brown moved to appoint Paul Holsonback (Assistant-UNA) and Rita Zech (Assistant-Dem); Member Benson seconded; all were in favor and the motion passed.

Rocky Springs Precinct: Member Brown moved to appoint Christopher Smith (Assistant-Rep) and John Beard (Assistant-Dem); Member Wynkoop seconded; all were in favor and the motion passed.

Star Precinct: Board asked about and requested to review Phillip Johnson's application. Chair Adams announced that officials must meet specific qualifications and the Board, after discussion, determined that there is not enough evidence to indicate that the required qualifications are met. Chair Adams moved to strike him; Member Burris seconded; all were in favor, and he was stricken. Member Brown made motion to appoint Stephanie Cagle (Assistant – Rep) saying she had been contacted and agreed to work; Member Wynkoop seconded; all were in favor and the motion passed. Member Benson noted they needed a Democrat Assistant in Star. Director Walter asked if Ben Zech could do it. Deputy Director Moore explained that

he submitted his application, but was not nominated by the Party Chairs, was listed as an alternate, has worked Little River before, and his wife was appointed to their home precinct at Pee Dee and called to inquire about Ben being placed as he wanted to serve. Member Benson moved to appoint Ben Zech (Assistant-Star); Member Brown seconded; all were in favor and the motion passed.

Troy 1 Precinct: Member Benson moved to appoint Ricardo Ramierez (Assistant-Rep) and Michelle Balding (Assitant-Dem); Member Wynkoop seconded; all were in favor and the motion passed.

Troy 2 Precinct: Director Walter and Deputy Director Moore noted that Kathy Rollins and Nancy Ruppert, both Unaffiliated, were listed as alternates and Kathy Rollins worked the Troy 2 precinct in the 2024 election. Member Brown noted that Tanya Williams was originally listed as Troy 2 Judge but was deemed insufficient for being out of precinct. Chair Adams said that he would consider putting her as Assistant in Troy 2. Member Wykoop moved to appoint Tanya Williams (Assistant-Rep) and Amber Johnson (Assistant-Dem); Member Benson seconded; all were in favor and the motion passed.

Uwharrie Precinct: Member Benson noted that Lisa Greenwell was recommended in Eldorado and lives in Uwharrie so should be moved to Uwharrie. Member Brown agreed. Member Benson moved to appoint Lisa Greenwell (Assistant-Rep) and Kate DeVoe (Assistant-Dem); Member Wynkoop seconded; all were in favor and the motion passed.

Wadeville Precinct: Member Benson moved to appoint Karlye Sink (Assistant-Rep) and Mack Gaddy (Assistant-Dem); Member Wynkoop seconded; all were in favor and the motion passed.

Eldorado Precinct: Member Benson asked about nominating Sharon Hudson and Member Brown advised she couldn't serve because she holds a position in the Party. Member Wynkoop moved to appoint Nancy Ruppert (Assistant-UNA) and Barbara Lippert (Assistant-Dem); Member Burris seconded; all were in favor and the motion passed.

Chair Adams noted that Deputy Director Moore will compile the new, approved list and will send it out to the Board, copy the Party Chairs and notify all the appointees. He noted that the names would be posted as they are public information.