

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

J. Eric Elliott
CHAIR

Linda J. Sutton
SECRETARY

Jerry D. Jordan
MEMBER



Robert H. Coffman
Director of Elections

FORSYTH COUNTYBOARD OF ELECTIONS BOARD MEETING- OCTOBER 23, 2007

Present: J. Eric Elliott, Chair
Linda J. Sutton, Secretary
Jerry D. Jordan, Member

Staff: Rob Coffman, Director of Elections
Lamar Joyner, Deputy Director of Elections
Pamela Johnson, Administrative Assistant

Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:15 PM in the Board of Elections Conference Room.

Welcoming of New Staff

The Board was introduced to Carlton Morgan, Department IT Support Assistant. The Board welcomed Mr. Morgan.

Approval of Absentees

There were 3 mail absentees recommended for approval by the Board of Elections Staff. There were 24 One-Stop absentees recommended for approval by the staff. The Board reviewed the absentees and Ms. Sutton moved to approve the 27 total absentees. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes- October 16, 2007

The Board recommended a few minor corrections to the October 16, 2007 minutes. Mr. Jordan moved to approve the minutes with the corrections. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment Session

There were no public comments.

One Stop Voting Progress

The Board and Staff discussed the progress of the One Stop voting, taking place at the Board of Elections office. The staff stated that One Stop voting was going well.

Republican Judge Update

Mr. Jordan stated he has tried to contact the Republican Party

headquarters but has not been able to talk with anyone. He stated he has left messages and will update the Board once he is able to speak with someone at the Party Headquarters.

Pollworker Background Check Discussion

The Board and Staff discussed the pollworker background checks. Mr. Coffman stated he spoke with Lori Sykes, Assistant County Attorney. Ms. Sykes stated the Board should at least check the pollworkers who will be working at the schools. The Board and Staff agree that pollworkers should be checked on the NC State Sex Offender Registry.

Brief Discussion Regarding Recent Challenge

The Board and Staff discussed the recent challenge of residency of a candidate received at the Board of Elections office. Mr. Coffman stated he spoke with State Board of Elections Attorney, Don Wright, regarding the challenge and Mr. Wright suggested Mr. Coffman contact the challenger to explain the challenge procedures and the challenge deadlines since the challenge was not filed in a timely manner. The Board asked that Mr. Coffman follow up with a letter.

The Board discussed the matter of the challenge of residency and questioned what would happen should the Board become aware that the candidate does not live in the proper district. Mr. Coffman suggested the Board follow state laws and guidelines. Mr. Jordan stated he will research the state election laws for information.

KidsVoting Update

The Board and Staff briefly discussed the KidsVoting program. Mr. Elliott stated they are working on a steering committee. He stated it would be nice to have a resolution from the School Board supporting the program.

Other Business

Mr. Coffman stated that state law now allows for the counting of absentee ballots before Election Day, but the votes can not be tabulated until Election Day. He explained this will be more efficient than waiting until Election Day to count the ballots. The Board agreed to count the ballots each week if they can secure the media after each counting. Mr. Coffman stated he would seal the media in a tamper-proof media bag and the bag can only be opened in the presence of the Board. He also stated the ballots and media bag will be placed in a locked ballot box and a numbered seal will be placed on the ballot box. This will ensure the security of the ballots and media. Mr. Elliott moved to go into recess in order to count the approved absentee ballots. The motion passed unanimously and the Board recessed at 4:50 PM.

The Board reconvened at 5:12 PM.

Adjournment

Ms. Sutton moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 5:12 PM.

J. Eric Elliott, Chair

Linda J. Sutton, Secretary

Jerry D. Jordan, Member