

MACON COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
BOARD MEETING
Thursday, 21 November 2024 3 PM

Participants: Melanie Thibault, Judy Fritts, Kathy Tinsley, Gary Dills, Lynne Garrison, & John Vanhook. Mr. Jeff Gillette was unable to attend.

Observers: none

Call to Order: The Chair called the meeting to order at 3 PM.

1. Purpose: The purpose of this meeting is to review a protest by Mr. Jefferson Griffin, candidate for the NC Supreme Court Associate Justice, seat 6.
2. Protest Summary: On behalf of Mr Griffin, Mr. Ryan Bonifay (Director of Data and Analytics at Coldspark) conducted a data search to “to create a list of voters who voted despite having their voter registration application denied, or despite being removed from the registration rolls...” His data review resulted in the following:
 - a. List of NC Denied Voters with votes in Macon County: Mr. Bonifay identified two voters – Adrian Oscar Martinez Rodrigues and Ester A. Elliott. The staff researched each voter’s history and found that the staff removed these voters since they had not returned the voter registration card after two attempts. Per NC statute the voters, we identified these voters as ‘denied voters.’ On election day, both voters presented themselves at their polling location, provided appropriate voter identification and properly cast their vote. Mr. Vanhook made a motion to deny the protests concerning these voters since the protest is without merit. Ms. Garrison seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved.

- b. List of NC Removed voters with votes – Macon: Mr. Bonifay identified one voter in this category- Sidney Madison Stovall, classified as “moved within state.’ The staff researched this voter’s history and found that the State Board of Elections had removed this voter from Macon County voter rolls since the voter now lives in Jackson County. However, the voter was outside the time limit to register in Jackson County and therefore retained the right to vote in Macon County for this election. The voter cast an absentee ballot, the Macon County Board of Elections reviewed and approved the ballot allowing the vote to count. Mr. Vanhook made a motion to deny the protest concerning this voter since the protest is without merit. Ms. Garrison seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved.
3. Adjourn: With no further business, Ms. Garrison made a motion to adjourn the meeting and reconvene on 10 December at 3 PM. Mr. Dills seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 3:35 PM.

Attachments

1. Protest documents from Mr. Jefferson Griffin
2. Voter profile for Adrian Oscar Martinez Rodrigues
3. Voter profile for Ester A. Elliott
4. Voter profile for Sidney Madison Stovall