

MACON COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
CANVASS BOARD MEETING
15 March 2024 per General Statute

Participants: Melanie Thibault, Judy Fritts, John Williams, Kathy Tinsley, Gary Dills, Lynne Garrison, John Vanhook and Jeff Gillette.

Observers: Thomas Sherrill (*The Franklin Press*).

Call to Order: The Chair called the meeting to order at 11 AM.

1. Minutes from 4 March and 5 March 2024: Mr. Vanhook made a motion to accept both minutes as written. Mr. Gillette seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved. Attachments 1 and 2.
2. Supplemental Absentee Ballots review: The Director provided 39 civilian ballots, 2 Overseas ballots, and one military ballot for review. After Board review, Mr. Dills made a motion to approve all 42 ballots. Mr. Gillette seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved the motion. Mr. Williams opened the polls. Mr. Vanhook and Ms. Garrison noted that the counter read zero. Mr. Vanhook and Ms. Garrison entered the approved ballots. The ending counter read 42. Mr. Williams closed the polls and printed the tape. Mr. Dills and Mr. Gillette completed the abstract for the supplemental absentee ballots.
3. Provisional Ballots Review: The Director provided 42 provisional ballots. The staff recommended accepting 15 and disapproving 27 of the ballots (various reasons including not registered, requesting and voting the wrong party ballot). After Board review, Mr. Gillette made a motion to accept 15 ballots and disapprove 27 ballots. Mr. Vanhook seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved the motion. Mr. Williams opened the polls. Mr. Vanhook and Ms. Garrison noted that the counter read zero. Mr. Vanhook and Ms. Garrison entered the 15 ballots noting that the counter then read 15. Mr. Williams closed the polls and printed the tape. Mr. Dills and Mr. Gillette completed the abstract for the supplemental absentee ballots.
4. Upload data into Verity and to the NC State Board of Elections (NCSBE): The Director uploaded the data to Verity and to the NCSBE. Mr. Vanhook and Ms. Garrison supervised the uploads.
5. NCSBE form completion: The Board reviewed data entered today and signed the appropriate forms certifying the election.

6. Invoices: The Board reviewed 21 invoices: Five for Board members pay, one for mileage reimbursement for Mr. Williams and fifteen for meal reimbursement for election day poll workers. The Board reviewed each and the Chair signed each. Attachment 3, 4, 5.
7. One-Stop Plan: The Director provided a plan for the second primary. One Stop voting begins on 25 April 2024 and ends on 11 May 2024 at 3 PM. Both the Highlands and Franklin sites will be open from 6:30 AM to 7:30 PM, Monday through Friday and on Saturday, 11 May 2024, from 6:30 AM until 3 PM. Mr. Dills made a motion to accept the plan, Mr. Gillette seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved. Attachment 6
8. Closed Session: Mr. Dills made a motion to go into closed session to discuss a personnel compensation issue. Mr. Vanhook seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved the motion. The Board went into closed session at 12:57 AM. The Board resumed open session at 1:30 PM. Mr Gillette made a motion requesting the Director discuss the following with the county manager and the Commissioners if necessary:
 - a. Request the county honor the contracts to pay Mr. Williams and Ms. Fritts (for testing) and for Mr. Todd Seagle and Mr. Jesse Seagle (for machine delivery). For next year's election cycle, the Board will determine an alternative process and still provide capable people to perform these tasks.
 - b. Request the county reimburse \$15,000 paid from operating funds which should have been paid from the funds provided by the county to buy and initially maintain the new HART equipment.
 - c. Request the county provide an additional \$50,000 to pay for costs associated with the mandated second primary (May 2024).

Mr. Dills seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved the motion.

9. Year to Date Budget: The Director provided the most recent version of the budget. With a second primary scheduled, the Director expects to request approximately \$50,000 additional funds from the county commission. Attachment 7.
10. Adjourn: With no further business, Mr. Vanhook made a motion to adjourn until the absentee ballot meeting on 9 April 2024 at 5 PM. Ms. Garrison seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved. The Board adjourned at 1:40 PM.

Attachments:

1. Minutes from 4 March 2024.
2. Minutes from 5 March 2024.
3. Board members pay invoices.
4. Mileage reimbursement invoice.
5. Poll workers meal reimbursement invoices.
6. One-Stop Plan for second primary.
7. Year to date budget report.