

## FEBRUARY 11, 2020

The Cumberland County Board of Elections met at the Board of Elections Office at 1:00PM for their regular monthly meeting.

**Present:** Floyd W. Johnson, Jr., Chairman      Linda Devore, Secretary  
Bobby Swilley, Member                              Helen Nelson, Member  
Irene Grimes, Member                                Terri Robertson, Director

**Staff:** Angie Amaro  
Vicki Hilburn

**Guests:** Mildred Gale, Diane Barnes, Brenda Sparks, Judy Lowe, Pam Wade, Peter Apone, Pam Carver, Sally Shutt.

Chairman Floyd Johnson called the meeting to Order at 1:00PM, welcomed guests, and presented the Agenda.

**ACTION:** Member Swilley moved to adopt the agenda as presented.  
Seconded and passed unanimously.

Chairman Johnson addressed the Board with remarks related to his vote at the last meeting to not approve minutes of the prior meeting. The chairman read from Roberts Rules of Order and from the UNC School of Government publication concerning Open Meetings law requirements. All public bodies must maintain full and accurate minutes of their meetings. What is done, not what is said. The Chairman also referred to court decisions laying out minimum requirements for meeting minutes, which should reflect motions, orders, appeals and actions taken by the board, and that discussions have taken place—referencing case law related to the sufficiency of minutes of confidential meetings discussing economic development proposals in closed session.

Member Nelson suggested that this discussion be tabled until the remainder of the board's agenda is completed.

Chairman Johnson continued his remarks that additional meeting details are unnecessary, and a summary of public comments is unnecessary.

**ACTION:** Secretary Devore moved to table the discussion of minutes until the Board has completed other agenda items.  
Seconded and passed unanimously.

Secretary Devore presented minutes from the meeting of January 14<sup>th</sup> for approval. The minutes were circulated more than a week ago, and no suggestions for additions or corrections were received from any Board member.

**ACTION:** Member Grimes moved to approve the minutes of the January 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Chairman Johnson stated that he has some corrections.

Member Nelson stated that when minutes or documents are circulated to members before the meeting, we do not wait until we get to the meeting to offer corrections.

**ACTION:** Secretary Devore moved to table the discussion of the minutes until the Board has completed other agenda items.  
Seconded and passed unanimously.

Vicki Hilburn presented 33 absentee ballots for consideration. 10 civilian ballots, 12 military and 11 civilian overseas ballots, with no irregularities. 8 of the military and 9 of the civilian overseas ballots were received by email, and will require duplication, if approved.

There was discussion of the new ballot envelope style, and new requirements for identification of anyone other than a close relative who assists a voter when completing an absentee ballot. One of the civilian ballots presented has this assistance on the envelope. Absentee ballot envelopes now require the signature of only one Board member when approved.

**ACTION:** Member Swilley moved to approve the absentee ballots presented.  
Seconded.

**ACTION:** Member Nelson moved to amend the motion to approve the 10 civilian ballots presented.  
Member Swilley accepted the amendment.  
Amended motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

**ACTION:** Member Nelson moved to approve the 23 military and civilian overseas ballots presented, with the 17 received by email preserved for duplication.  
Seconded and passed unanimously.

16 ballots were fed into the DS200 and counted. 17 ballots were locked in the DS200 cabinet for duplication at a later time.

Director Robertson reported to the Board that the early voting site at Smith Rec Center will need to use a smaller room than originally planned for this election. One of the doors in the larger room cannot be secured, and it is not possible to install a new lock before early voting begins on Thursday. Staff will be able to order and install a lock before November early voting. The smaller room will be able to accommodate up to 20 voting booths. The larger room and other early voting sites can accommodate 30.

Director Robertson reported to the Board that the office is experiencing connectivity issues, and is temporarily unable to communicate via email with voters and the public. The State Board is aware that there has been a line cut. There is also an issue with postal mail delivery yesterday and today. The Director has spoken with Charlotte, and will find out why we have not received mail. This is critical to tomorrow's deadline for receiving voter registrations postmarked by last Friday.

Member Swilley expressed how proud he is of our Director and staff who attended state training with us last week.

Member Grimes thanked the Director for making it possible for all Board members to attend the training.

**ACTION:** Secretary Devore moved to schedule a work session with the County Attorney to take up the tabled discussion of minutes.  
Seconded and passed unanimously.

Member Nelson asked that the Chairman provide the documents he has referenced in order that Board members will have them to review before the work session.

Member Grimes thanked Secretary Devore for doing our minutes.

Staff UPDATE: Mail has just been delivered.

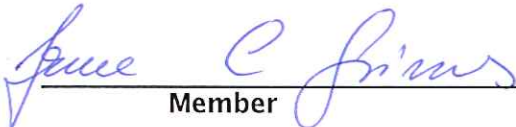

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:54PM.

Submitted by,



Linda Devore, Secretary

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Chairman

  
Member  
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Director  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Member

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Member