

March 8, 2022 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order on March 8, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. at the Cumberland County Board of Elections (Classroom) by the Chair.

Present: Helen Nelson - Chair
Linda Devore - Member
Irene Grimes - Secretary

Billy King - Member (by phone)
James Baker - Member

Staff: Angela Amaro, Mitzie Roberts

Guests: Amanda Turnmire, Sandra Walker, Peter Apone, Tom Macon, Sally Shutt, Rudy Smith, Mildred Gale, Nakiya Smith, Roberta Waddle, Judy Lowe

ACTION: Secretary Grimes moves that the Board approve the agenda.
Second: Member Devore
Vote: Unanimous in favor

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

ACTION: Member Devore moves to add a designation in the minutes to guests attending the Board of Elections meetings in their official capacity.
Second: Member Baker
Vote: Did Not Pass (Two in favor: Baker, Devore; Three opposed: King, Nelson, Grimes)

ACTION: Member Grimes moves that the minutes for the February 8th, 2022 meeting be approved.
Second: Member King
Vote: Passed (Three in favor: Nelson, King, Grimes; two opposed: Baker, Devore)

Interim Director Amaro indicates that the Board needs to schedule absentee meetings (starting April 12th and until May 10th, each Tuesday) that the statute calls for meetings at 5:00 p.m. but that the time may be changed.

ACTION: Member King moves that absentee meetings be set at 5:00 p.m., as suggested by the interim Director.
Second: Member Baker
Vote: Unanimous in favor

Interim Director Amaro presents the proposed MAT team appointments to the Board. All but four members of the proposed 21 individuals are new. MAT team members are trained.

Secretary Grimes inquires as to how MAT teams are requested by nursing facilities and care homes. Interim Director Amaro says that residents request that the administration contact the Board of Elections for MAT team dispatch.

ACTION: Member Devore moves that the Board appoint MAT team members as proposed by staff.

Second: Member King

Vote: Unanimous in favor

Interim Director Amaro reminds board members that the North Carolina State Board of Elections Spring Conference will take place virtually on March 14th & 15th and distributes the agenda to the Board. She also reports that two polling locations (CC8 & CC21) have requested that the Board issue letters that no political signs or electioneering be permitted on their properties (these are non-governmental buildings). Interim Director also distributes a precinct list that illustrates the need for poll workers. Poll workers are not only properly trained, but also compensated.

Chair Nelson points out that training is provided and that the job is easy to do; elections officials are needed sooner rather than later. Secretary Grimes notes that she is an avid proponent of the student assistant program. Mitzie Roberts reports that she is approx. 100 workers short for the May primary. In November approximately 700 workers will be needed. Member King inquires what the compensation is for working on election day. Mitzie Roberts indicates that we are one of the higher paying counties and that an election worker can make approx. \$150.

Interim Director Amaro informed the Board that the County is conducting a "space needs" study and that representatives walked through the Board of Elections area. Sally Shutt said that there is a space needs study underway and they have visited not only the Board of Elections but other departments as well. The study is conducted for a Government Services building. Chair Nelson inquired if that government building will still be centrally located.

The April meeting will move back into the Board room since the current meeting room (classroom) will be used for precinct official training. Covid restrictions/masking/distance requirements to be clarified.

ACTION: Member Devore moves that the Board go into closed session to discuss a personnel issue.

Second: Member Grimes

Vote: Unanimous in favor

The Board moved into closed session at 5:41 p.m. to discuss a personnel issue.

The Board returned from closed session at 6:38 p.m.

Chair Nelson states that there is nothing to report from the closed session.


Adjournment

Motion: Member Baker

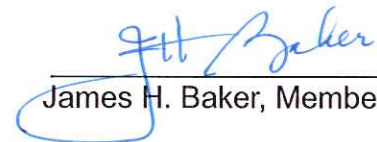
Second: Member Devore

Chair Nelson adjourned the meeting at 6:39 p.m.

Submitted by,


Irene Grimes, Secretary


Helen Nelson, Chair


James H. Baker, Member


Linda Devore, Member


Billy King, Member

March 8 , 2022
Meeting Minutes
CLOSED SESSION

(The regular meeting was called to order on March 8, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. at the Cumberland County Board of Elections by the Chair).

Present: Helen Nelson - Chair
Linda Devore - Member
Irene Grimes - Secretary

Billy King - Member (by phone)
James Baker - Member

Guests: Amanda Turnmire

The Board moved from open into closed session at 5:41 p.m. to discuss a personnel issue.

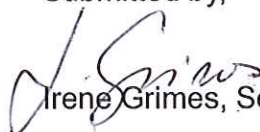
Board members discussed next steps in the search for a Director of Elections. Those include preliminary telephonic interviews for the top five or six candidates.

Board members will start conducting these on April 22nd, 2022 (Friday) and also discussed meeting on subsequent Fridays for further interviews.

Ms. Turnmire (Cumberland County HR) also discussed mini assessment centers for a limited list of candidates.

The Board returned from closed session at 6:38 p.m.

Submitted by,


Irene Grimes, Secretary



Helen Nelson, Chair

Linda Devore, Member


James H. Baker, Member


Billy King, Member