

Cumberland County Board of Elections

Absentee Meeting

September 30, 2025

Chair Devore called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM.

Members in attendance: Devore, Edmonds, Grimes, Johnson. Eldridge by phone

Others in attendance: Director of Elections Angie Amaro and Staff Members Shameerah Dixon and Mitzie Roberts.

ACTION: Member Grimes made the motion to amend the agenda to add discussion of a verbal altercation that occurred yesterday and remove item for closed session. The motion was seconded by Member Edmonds. Motion failed 2-3. Devore, Eldridge, Johnson opposed.

ACTION: Member Johnson made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Member Eldridge. Motion passed 3-2. Edmonds and Grimes opposed.

Board members briefly discussed the verbal altercation outside the office yesterday. A formal complaint was received from a member of the public, though none of our staff observed the incident. Director Amaro reported that only one of those involved was working for a candidate, and that person will not be returning in this election.

Chair Devore reported that the State Board is considering a return of observers for municipal elections at their meeting this afternoon.

Shameerah presented for board consideration the following 13 absentee ballots: 1 civilian ballot with ID exception form, 9 civilian ballots without exception forms, 2 military ballots received electronically, and 1 overseas ballot received electronically.

DS200 before approvals at this meeting: 21

ACTION: Member Grimes made the motion to accept the 9 civilian ballots without exception forms. The motion was seconded by Member Edmonds and approved unanimously.

ACTION: Member Grimes made the motion to accept the 1 civilian ballot with ID exception form. The motion was seconded by Member Edmonds and approved unanimously.

ACTION: Member Edmonds made the motion to accept the 2 military ballots received electronically. The motion was seconded by Member Grimes and approved unanimously.

ACTION: Member Grimes made the motion to accept the 1 overseas ballot received electronically. The motion was seconded by Member Edmonds and approved unanimously.

DS200 count 34.

The Director presented an absentee ballot envelope that appears to have the ID or exception form inside.

ACTION: Member Edmonds made the motion to unseal the ballot envelope to search for ID or exception form. The motion was seconded by Member Grimes and approved unanimously.

The ID was found inside the envelope, and the ballot will be considered at our next absentee meeting.

Director reported that CC12 Chief Judge will not be available on Election Day. Darius Irvins is available to serve in his place.

Chair Devore referred to the statutory requirements of NCGS 163-41(d) for appointment of judge and chief judge vacancies occurring after our appointment meeting in August, which are made for one election only. Mitzie reported 6 specific recent vacancies and those individuals who have been asked about serving in the open positions for this election. Devore cited 11 precincts are out of compliance with state statute that requires a majority of the 3 judges/CJs be residents of the precinct where they are appointed, and 3 precincts without any judge/CJ residing in precinct. Devore will make the recommended appointments for this election.

Director recommended setting up a special meeting on the morning of October 16th at 7:30AM for certification of November early voting machines.

Board moved into closed session for personnel discussion at 10:24, and returned to open session at 10:51.

ACTION: Member Grimes made the motion to appoint recommended assistants for October 7 Election Day. The motion second by Member Edmonds and approved unanimously.

ACTION: Member Grimes made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:02am. The motion was seconded by Member Edmonds and approved unanimously.

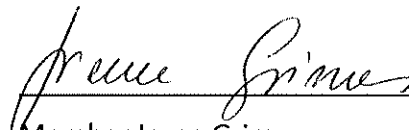
Respectfully submitted,



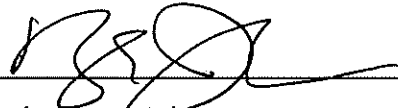
Brenda M Eldridge
Secretary



Chair Linda Devore



Member Irene Grimes



Member Ryan Johnson

Member Derek Edmonds

