

Cumberland County Board of Elections
Monthly Board Meeting
Jan 20, 2026

The Monthly Board Meeting was called to order by Chair Devore at 9:30 AM.

Members in attendance: Devore, Eldridge, Grimes, Johnson, and Edmonds

Others in attendance: Director of Elections Angie Amaro, Assistant County Manager Tufanna Bradley, and members of the public

ACTION: Member Grimes moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Edmonds and approved unanimously.

ACTION: Member Eldridge made the motion to accept the meeting minutes for dates Nov 19th, Dec 2nd, and Dec 9th. The motion was seconded by Member Johnson and approved unanimously.

Director Amaro presented the new poll worker application and stated it is now on the website. She stated this is also the form used by Moore County. The Director also announced Login and Accuracy testing is being conducted today at 10am and the rest of the week.

The Director discussed the early buffer zones and stated they are essentially the same as previous years. The members were distributed a printout of the mapped areas of the buffer zones for the early voting sites.

ACTION: Member Johnson made the motion to change the word from "Do" to "Please" in item #5 that references remaining in the designated area of the "Guidelines for Campaign Volunteers and Electioneers at the Polling Place". The motion was seconded by Member Eldridge. The vote was 3-2 with Grimes and Edmonds against.

Board Members discussed the upcoming training schedules for the members, precinct vacancies and resignations of precinct officials.

Next the Director presented a comparison of NC Counties of precinct official pay, and a printed sheet was passed out to the board members for their review and discussion. The Director presented a pay scale recommending increases of approximately 40% for our Chief Judge, Judge, and Assistant officials. The Chair also discussed an increase in pay around 20 to 30% for the early voting pay.

ACTION: Member Edmonds made a motion to accept the Director's proposal to increase Chief Judge pay by 40%, Judge pay by 41%, Assistant pay by 41%, and new Assistants by 38%. The motion was seconded by Member Grimes. The motion failed, 2-3 with Devore, Eldridge, and Johnson against.

ACTION: Member Johson made a motion to increase the Chief Judge pay by 35% (\$285), Judge pay by 35% (\$225), Assistant pay by 35% (\$175), new Assistant pay by 35% (\$175) and increase the night-before setup pay from \$25 to \$50 for the Chief Judge. The motion was seconded by Member Grimes. The motion passed, 4-1 with Devore against.

Director Amaro then presented the semi-annual financial report with a description of the various categories and comparisons of past year budgets. The discussion among the board members and the director included original budget, remaining budget and % used of the current year's budget.

Meeting recessed at 11:00am.

Meeting resumed at 11:10am.

ACTION: Member Grimes made a motion to increase the early voting pay to \$18 for Chief Judge & Judge and \$15 for Assistant. Seconded by Member Edmonds and approved unanimously.

Director Amaro presented the director's report that included the need to identify a new polling site for PM2C. The current site is a church that is relocating and will no longer be available after the March primary.

ACTION: Member Grimes made the motion to go into closed session at 11:37am. Seconded by Member Johnson and approved unanimously.

Meeting returned to open session at 11:46.

ACTION: Member Johnson moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:49am. Seconded by Member Edmonds and approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda M Eldridge
Secretary

Linda DeVore

Chair Linda Devore

Irene Grimes

Member Irene Grimes

Member Derek Edmonds

Member Ryan Johnson