

Orange County Board of Elections
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Hillsborough, North Carolina 27278
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Minutes
July 10, 2018 – 3:30 p.m.

Present: Jamie Cox, Chair
Kathy Knight, Vice-Chair
Bob Randall, Secretary
Elvira Mebane, Member
Rachel Raper, Director

Others present who signed up to address the Board: Vicki Boyer, John Hamilton, David Tillery, Mary Mendini, Penny Rich, Heather Redding, Waddy Davis, John Gaither, Louise Bush, Kenneth Woods, Renee Price, Diane Robertson, and Amy Tattersall.

Call to order: Jamie Cox, Chair called the meeting to order.

Chair Cox opened the meeting to allow public comment on early voting sites and hours. The Board discussed and considered various plans for early voting sites and hours submitted by Board members for the November 6, 2018 General Election. The Board acknowledged correspondence from Matt Hughes, Hillsborough Town Commissioner; Isela Gutierrez with Democracy North Carolina and Emily E. Seawell with ACLU of North Carolina; and Lydia Lavelle, Carrboro Mayor.

Approval of Board Minutes:

Mr. Randall moved and Ms. Mebane seconded the motion to approve the May 18, 2018 minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Actions:

After discussion among Board members in support of their proposed plans and considering input received from those in attendance, the Board made the following motions:

Mr. Cox presented a plan and made a motion to open all 5 sites, Board of Elections, Carrboro Town Hall, Chapel of the Cross, Efland Ruritan Club, and Seymour Senior Center, with hours of 7 am – 7 pm on weekdays, 8 am – 3 pm Saturdays, and 1 pm – 3 pm on Sundays for a total of 905 hours, including 125 weekend voting hours. Ms. Mebane seconded the motion.

Ms. Knight made a motion to amend Mr. Cox's plan by eliminating Sunday hours and closing all sites at 1 pm on November 3rd, the last Saturday of early voting. After discussion, the motion died for lack of a second motion.

Mr. Randall discussed a plan to open three sites in Chapel Hill/Carrboro and one site in Hillsborough for a total of 605 hours. Mr. Randall made a motion to open two sites in Chapel Hill/Carrboro and the Board of Elections office. The Chapel Hill/Carrboro sites would be open 7 am – 7 pm on weekdays with the Board of Elections open 8 am – 5 pm

on weekdays. All three sites would be open one Saturday, November 3, from 8 am – 1 pm for a total of 444 hours for early voting. After discussion, the motion died for lack of second motion.

Mr. Cox made a motion to adopt his originally discussed plan. Ms. Mebane seconded the motion, with Ms. Knight and Mr. Randall voting in opposition of the motion.

Mr. Cox presented a plan and made a motion to open all 5 sites, Board of Elections, Carrboro Town Hall, Chapel of the Cross, Efland Ruritan Club, and Seymour Senior Center, with hours of 7 am – 7 pm on weekdays, 8 am – 3 pm Saturday October 27 and November 3, and 1 pm – 3 pm on Sunday, October 28 for a total of 860 hours, including 80 weekend voting hours. Ms. Mebane seconded the motion.

Ms. Knight made a motion to amend Mr. Cox's plan by eliminating Saturday, October 27 and closing sites at 1 pm on Saturday, November 3. After discussion, motion died for lack of second motion.

Mr. Cox made a motion to adopt his amended plan with a total of 860 hours. Ms. Mebane seconded the motion, with Ms. Knight and Mr. Randall voting in opposition of the motion.

After much discussion, the Board did not agree on a unanimous One-Stop plan. Members of the Board may petition the State Board of Elections with individual plans to be heard at a later date. All Board member plans submitted shall be included as a supplement to the minutes for Board record.

Director's Report:

Director Raper provided:

- Voter Registration Statistical Report
- Year-to-Date Budget Report
- New laws affecting the administration of elections

Voter Registration Statistical Report:

The director presented the voter registration statistical report showing a total of 113,278 registered voters.

Year-to-Date Budget Report:

The director provided the monthly budget report and reported sufficient funds to carry out the work of the Board.

Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Report:

Due to not having a budgeted second primary, approximately \$171,360 budgeted funds were unspent and placed into the County's general fund.

New Laws Affecting the Administration of Elections:

Director Raper provided a brief summary of new laws passed by the general assembly in their last session affecting the administration of elections.

Board Discussions:

The Board discussed moving the polling location of Kings Mill precinct off of the St. Thomas More Catholic Church campus due to the unacceptable interpretation of contract

stipulations by facility management. Director Raper was instructed to provide prior Election Day voter turnout for the Kings Mill precinct at the next board meeting. Director Raper provided a map and information for Mt. Carmel Baptist church for Board consideration as a polling location for the Kings Mill precinct. Given Mt. Carmel's remote location on the Orange-Chatham county line, Director Raper was directed to study the possibility of transferring voters to the Mason Farm precinct polling location at the Chapel Hill Kehillah Church.

The Board approved the request to go sign-free from Chapel of the Cross for Election Day and One-Stop. The Board requested additional directional signage for voting locations to better serve voters.

The Board directed Director Raper to investigate other facilities to host Cheeks precinct as Gravelly Middle School presented parking concerns.

The upcoming conference in Winston Salem on August 5-7 was discussed. A tentative agenda was distributed.

Closed Session:

Mr. Randall moved and Ms. Knight seconded a motion to enter into closed session for authorized purposes pursuant to GS 143-318.11(a)(6) to discuss personnel matters.

Adjournment:

Ms. Knight moved and Ms. Mebane seconded the motion the Board adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and the Board adjourned at 6:14 pm.

Next Scheduled Board Meeting: July 17, 12 pm.