

# Mecklenburg Board of Electors

February 14, 2023

Present were Robert P. Chadeayne, Chairman; Charles Jackson, Vice- Chairman; Yvonne Alexander, Secretary, and Jason Corwin Registrar. Guests in attendance: Melissa Hartman, Marguerite Smith, Jeanne Capello, Jeff Stratford, and Wally Hudson.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Chadeayne at 1:05 PM leading us in a brief prayer followed by welcoming all guests.

The agenda was reviewed for approval with the addition of Mr. Corwin requesting to add prior to the General Comments - Outreach text message communication he had received be added. Agenda Approved with the addition. Ms. Alexander motioned to accept the previous minutes. Minutes approved as received being there were no corrections.

Mr. Chadeayne addressed the guests and explained that the public comment section has been moved to the beginning of the agenda in the event guests chose not to remain throughout the entire meeting. There was some concern among those guests pertaining to items on the agenda that may arise after the public comment section was over. After discussion it was agreed that if there were items that were of genuine concern, the public would be allowed to make their comments within reason if things did not prolong the meeting or get out of hand.

## **Old Business:**

Sunday Voting was discussed. Melissa Hartman expressed an interest in wishing to continue Sunday Voting, Wally Hudson expressed his desire to do away with Sunday Voting since there was 45 days early voting and Marguerite Smith's desire was to continue with Sunday Voting would give everyone every opportunity to be able to vote.

Mr. Jackson motioned and seconded by Mr. Chadeayne to do away with Sunday Voting will be eliminated now but with a condition of possibility of Sunday Voting during the Presidential Election . Ms. Alexander questioned the motion; Mr. Corwin expressed an interest in the opportunity for Sunday Voting during the Presidential Election and the possibility of Satellite Voting. Jean Capello and Jeff Stratford both expressed their support for Sunday Voting during the Presidential Election. Ms. Alexander made a motion to amend the previous motion that we will have the opportunity to have Sunday Voting during Presidential Elections. Mr. Jackson seconded. Motioned carried.

The Board took the opportunity to recognize the former Chair, Ms. Jean Capello, and the current Chair, Bob Chadeayne, presented her with a Proclamation plaque thanking her for all her service, dedication and commitment as a former Electoral Board member. It was well received.

Polling places: Precinct 103 Clarksville South moving to the Lake Country Regional Airport, Precinct 501 South Hill East moving to Catholic Church Fellowship Hall, and 901 Nelson to Wharton Memorial.

Jean Capello suggested that we send Averett Food Store a thank- you for the years that we were allowed to use the store and see if we could get The Mecklenburg Sun to publish an article to that fact.

Mr. Jackson motioned that we approve of the locations changes and it was seconded by Ms. Alexander. Motioned carried.

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Mr. Corwin made recommendations for staff for Officers of Elections for the precincts. He recommended that we carry this over to the next meeting. That way the board could have time to look at the precincts and make any recommendations if needed. We will look at the Officers of Election list.

Inactive cancellation (1-24) As of now we only have 126 people that have been dropped. That is a really low number compared to the past.

Officers of Election Training. Mr. Corwin presented a draft of a new way of training. We plan to do some hands-on training. Chiefs training will be held on February 28, 2023, with future training for other Officers of Elections to follow. It is designed to have each precinct trained as a team conducting dual training. The training process will allow for us the opportunity to critique the participants' performance and give the precinct participants surveys to also give their honest opinions of whether the training was helpful, and what the Board and Mr. Corwin could do to make training better and election day process run even more smoothly.

Pollbook reports. Mr. Chadeayne requested that Mr. Corwin set up Electronic Poll books at a future meeting with the Board and go over all the different reports that are available to us. He noticed on Election Day when using the tablet that there were reports available that could be beneficial to the Officers of Elections and the Board. Mr. Corwin will set that up at a board meeting and go over the different reports accessible.

Mr. Corwin presented the Board with the budget for approval. Mr. Chadeayne motioned seconded by Ms. Alexander. Motioned carried.

Mr. Corwin presented the 5-year plan. Motioned by Ms. Alexander, seconded by Mr. Jackson for approval. Motioned carried.

### **New Business:**

**The relocation of the polling places has been approved.**

**Re-districting implementation has taken place:**

- **Voter Registration cards and notifications will be mailed to all voters. The cost will be about. \$18,000.00 to mail out. (\$ 11,000 of that is postage)**
- **The Board of Supervisors action requests Hopefully the cost of new voters cards , county will be reimbursed.**

**Report of Registrar's activities:**

- **LESS (Locality Election Security Standard0**
- **CNP (Cyber Navigator Program)**
- **VRAV Meeting**
- **RPV Candidate Training**
- **SVRS Meeting**
- **Candidate Paperwork**
- **Demtech User Group**
- **VVRS (Virginia Voter Registration System)**
- **Ran election o Hampton Virginia**

**The Deputy Registrar. Mrs. Darcell Terry addressed the Board informing all in attendance of some of her duties:**

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- Help prepare and assist in all training for Elections.
- Oversee daily operations of the office.
- Voter's Registration Applications.
- Process all Voter Absentee Ballots, (Mail and In-Person). Last November 2100 ballots were done in person. 800 was processed by mail.
- All ballots were received back that was requested with the exception of 160.
- DMV do a daily update with new voter registration through their office.
- If ballots are undeliverable, they are marked spoiled.

The question was asked if those incarcerated could vote while waiting for trial. Mrs. Terry stated that if the accused had not been convicted of being a felon, they could vote. Someone just had to request from the registrar's office to have a ballot sent to the individual.

Ms. Alexander thanked Mrs. Terry for all that she did and commended her willingness to always help.

Mr. Corwin reported that a company (Text. Gov) had contacted him about us using them to do text messaging through their company to contact voters. The cost would be \$9000 for the first year and thereafter \$ 6000. He thought that it was too costly and would check with the county to see if they have a free option for us.

Demtech has partnered with a new company (Civic). They will come down to visit with the Board prior to the Election. During las Election, Mr. Corwin found out that the reason all our poll books crashed at least once was due to a microchip. That has been replaced since that time. During the regional meeting, we can ask questions and offer input.

Mr. Corwin will also check on getting pocket guide for voters. This will make the voting process even easier for voters.

Next meeting set for March 14, 2023. 1:00 p.m.

### Enter closed session:

Mr. Charles Jackson moved that the Mecklenburg County Board convene a closed meeting at 3:00 p.m. under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act in order to discuss reports or plans related to the security of the Process of Elections, Network Security, and personnel for the Mecklenburg Office of Elections under Code of Virginia 2.2-3711 (A) (19)

Seconded by Ms. Yvonne Alexander. Motioned carried. The board went into closed session with no visitors present.

### Leave Close Session:

The Freedom of Information Act required the Electoral Board to reconvene in open session, and to certify that such Closed Meeting was conducted in conformity with the law. Therefore, the Mecklenburg County Electoral Board resolved that only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Freedom of Information Act were discussed in the Closed Meeting and that no votes were taken.

At 4:13 p.m. The Mecklenburg County Board came out of closed session. At 4:14 p.m. The Chair. Mr. Chaydeayne called the regular meeting back to order, He reported that just cyber security and personnel issues were discussed. No action was taken. All in favor of said actions. Unanimously agreed.

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**It was motioned by Ms. Alexander to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Jackson. Motioned carried.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Yvonne S. Alexander, Secretary