

# Mecklenburg Board of Electors

August 9, 2022

Present were Jeanne M. Capello Chair, Robert P. Chadeayne Secretary, Yvonne Alexander, and Jason Corwin Registrar, and Deputy Registrar Darcell Terry. The guest: Wally Hudson, Republican Committee Chair.

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Capello at 1:02 PM. Mr. Corwin led us in a brief prayer.

The proposed agenda was agreed to without modification.

The minutes of the July 5, 2022 meeting were approved as presented.

The name badge design presented by Mr. Corwin was reviewed. A motion was made to approve the design and to have badges purchased. Motion passed.

The Cyber Navigator Program Work Group has been on site to install and test the electronic security improvements, the details of which have and will continue to be discussed in closed sessions. The individuals supporting Mecklenburg County have committed to continue on an informal basis, beyond the September end date of the formal program, for a period of time.

Mr. Corwin reported that the ten new tablets ordered from Demtech have been received. The planned poll book updates for all of our tablets and laptops have been tentatively scheduled for the end of August. This update will contain fixes for known problems and will include safety updates for tablets.

Ballots on Demand – Mr. Corwin requested that a printer be purchased for use in the CAP from Demtech, that is capable of printing ballots on demand, for a cost of approximately \$1,000. The necessity is based upon the requirement to have 23 voting precinct specific ballot styles available at the CAP for in-person voting for the November election. This change to election law means the CAP will need a minimum of 59 ballot styles to be available and on hand. There is no historical data that would allow the Registrar to predict the precise number of each style of ballot that would be required. After considerable discussion a motion was made to authorize the purchase of the specialized printer and to authorize its use in the CAP only. Motion passed.

Redistricting – The Board of Supervisors approved the complete redistricting plan for Mecklenburg County at their last meeting. The plan will be implemented beginning with elections held in 2023. The Board of Supervisors also endorsed moving the Nelson Precinct from Averett's Store to an alternative location. A motion was made to seek an alternative location for this precinct and make formal application to the Board of Supervisors to relocate precinct 901 to the alternative location, effective immediately upon approval. Motion passed.

Notice and new voter registration cards have been mailed to the voters in precinct 702 completing the relocation to Williams Grove Baptist Church for the November election.

VRAV Meeting report – Mrs. Terry made a presentation regarding her participation in the VRAV meeting and the request for the Registrar's office to participate in a community event on August 20<sup>th</sup> targeting high school students and young adults, to explain the voting process and encourage new voters to become involved. Also, on August 12<sup>th</sup> there will be a Career Day – Back to School program at Chase City Elementary. In addition, her primary focus at the VRAV meeting was the area of ballot on demand break out session. She thanked the Electoral Board for allowing both her and Mr. Corwin to attend this meeting simultaneously. She had an opportunity to interact with many who have used ballot on demand and was able to gain a better understanding of what best practices might encompass. Valuable contacts were identified. She reported that preparation for use of ballot on demand in Mecklenburg will move forward with a new level of confidence and understanding. Mr. Corwin also reported he participated in the security discussions, both cyber and physical. There is a group EII SAC, which is part of Federal

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Homeland Security, that offers intrusion monitoring and detection on a 24 hour/7-day basis. Mr. Corwin expressed interest in partnering with them to add further protection for Mecklenburg. This service is provided at no cost to governmental agencies identified as critical infostructure, which Registrar's offices and voter integrity is included.

Same Day Registration – being referred to as SDR by ELECT. This will make our Officers of Election responsible for registering voters who present themselves at a precinct and demand to vote. This is going to be handled using the Provisional Ballot process. This will impact the Chiefs and Assistant Chiefs requiring additional training and severely impacts our ability to authenticate any information provided by the voter on the registration form in a timely way. There exists a stringent time line for all post-election activities to be completed, that may also be compromised with implementation of SDR. This also raises serious voter qualification questions and has the potential to undermine election integrity. The board's consensus is that Mr. Corwin and the board will have to demand strong legal guidance from ELECT to ensure we can properly adjudicate issues arising from SDR and continue to meet election reporting and documentation requirements.

School Board District 6 – due to a resignation, this position is vacant and will be filled via a special election in November. It appears that the individual whom has been temporarily appointed to the position has indicated he will not file as a candidate, but will proceed with a write-in campaign. There is a possibility that there may not be an officially sanctioned candidate on the ballot. As a result, the board will have to provide additional training and guidance for Officers of Election in district 6. The four voting precincts in district 6 will be provided with a separate mandatory annual training date to include this guidance.

The next meeting will be September 13, 2022 at 1:00 PM and October 11, 2022 at 1:00 PM.

Motion was made to recess the public meeting and to convene a closed meeting for the purpose of personnel evaluations. Motion passed at 2:12 PM.

At 4:02 PM the Chair called the Mecklenburg Electoral Board to order in open session. Ms. Capello reported that only personnel evaluations were discussed and certifies that no other matters were addressed.

The meeting adjourned at 4:04 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert P. Chadeayne

Secretary