

Robert Chadeayne

*Chairman*

Charles Jackson

*Vice-Chairman*

Yvonne Alexander

*Secretary*



Mecklenburg County Electoral Board

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August 13, 2024

Present were Robert P. Chadeayne, Chairman; Charles Jackson, Vice- Chairman; Yvonne Alexander, Secretary, and Jason Corwin, Registrar. Guests in attendance: Melissa Hartman, Southside Democracy; Pamela Sydnor, Torrence Sydnor, John Almeter, Melanie Woods, Christine Thompson, and Chairs: Jeff Stratford, and Wally Hudson.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Chadeayne at 1:00 p.m. to welcome all guests. The agenda was reviewed and adopted. The minutes for July 9, 2024, motioned By Yvonne Alexander and seconded by Charles Jackson to be accepted as presented. Motion carried. The July 27, 2024, minutes were motioned to be accepted by Charles Jackson, and seconded by Yvonne Alexander. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:**

Melissa Hartman expressed an interest in wanting to see a Sunday designated for Voting this year during the Presidential election.

Christine Thompson also expressed interest in wanting to see one Sunday voting this year.

**Old Business:**

- Tabletop Training – September 12, 2024, Precinct 401
- Sunday Voting – There were comments from the Board members regarding their sentiments regarding Sunday Voting:
  - Ø Charles Jackson Expressed that he did not see the need for Sunday voting since we already had 45 days early voting. Mr. Jackson further stated that felt that if it was up to him, he thought all ABC stores should be closed on Sundays as well..
  - Ø Yvonne Alexander expressed that she was in full support of Sunday voting for the mere fact that in a previous meeting (February 2023) citizens attending as well as herself was under the impression that this Presidential year that this would be the year that Sunday voting would be tried out to see if there was a true need for it.

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Ø Bob Chadeayne – Expressed he was not in favor of Sunday voting but would see if there was a true call for it later after more data has been collected and researched.

Ø Jason Corwin was more than happy to share that he worked for the Electoral Board, but would do whatever the Board asked him to do. However, he was under the same impression as Ms. Alexander that this was the year that Sunday voting was to be tried out to see if there was a high demand for it.

· Recount – August 1, 2024 – Cost was \$2627.02. There was a lot of positive feedback. Observers were impressed with the board's handling of the recount. Letters of thanks and gratitude are to be sent to officers of election who worked the recount, and the alternatives as well. Judges will send copies of recount certifying John Mcquire as the Republican Candidate for the 5<sup>th</sup>.

· Precincts and 201 – 103 - John Taylor will put out signs at old locations. The Registrar will ask Susan Kyte to put notices in the newspaper making voters aware of precincts' location changes.

Mr. Corwin has found a ramp for precinct 201 – that he will order that is about 36 inches wide. Cost of the ramp was approximately \$200.00  
Precinct 103 will have heat in November.

#### **New Business:**

· Officer Of Elections - Each Board Member was given a copy of the present list of the current officers assigned to each precinct that they are responsible for.

Mr. Corwin also attached a list of new people who have signed up and expressed an interest in working elections. Ms. Alexander suggested that each board member take the time to call their precinct workers to find out whether they plan to work or not.

· Governor Executive Order 35 was signed last Thursday – basically our office already does what is required.

· Training For November Election - dates will be October 22, 23, 24, 29, and the 30. This will be a more hands-on training and officers can attend all dates if they choose to in order to gain more knowledge and experience.

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- New Seal or Solutions- The registrar stated that no company makes a big enough seal for the baker boxes. However, he did find some bags that had keyless security seals on them. Yvonne Alexander made the motion that the Keyless security seals bags be used instead of the banker boxes. Charles Jackson seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- The Voter Information guide – has been updated with all the latest Election Information. Available for anyone who wants copies.
- Review from Conference – Cyber Security was a big topic, the Registrar talked to the team from CISA about all of the free options they have to make our network security more robust, and looked at all the new voting machines to compare the features.

**Board Members Comments:**

- Ms. Alexander inquired about individuals who request absentee ballots, but then return them in person. She wanted to know what can be done about that if this is an ongoing situation for someone. Mr. Corwin will check into this.

Mr. Chadeayne suggested that we table the above discussion until next month's meeting.

**Closed Session:**

Yvonne Alexander moved that the Mecklenburg County Electoral Board convene a closed meeting under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act to discuss reports of plans related to the security of the Process of Elections, Network Security, or personnel matters for the Mecklenburg County office under the code of Virginia 2.2—37 11 (A) (19). Charles Jackson seconded.

Per the Freedom of Information Act that requires 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 resolves that the 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.

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Roll Call vote:

Bob Chadeayne – Aye

Yvonne Alexander - Aye

Charles Jackson - Aye

Open Session Reconvened at 2:20 p.m.

Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 PM

Respectfully submitted

Yvonne S. Alexander, Secretary