

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Ken Raymond
Chairman

Stuart Russell
Secretary

Fleming El-Amin
Member



FORSYTH COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS BOARD MEETING MINUTES – FEBRUARY 17, 2014

Meeting Called to Order

A special meeting of the Forsyth County Board of Elections was called to order in the fourth floor meeting room on February 17, 2014. The meeting convened at 4:30 PM, Chairman Ken Raymond presiding.

Board Members in attendance: Chairman Ken Raymond, Secretary Stuart Russell,
Member Fleming El-Amin

Staff Members in attendance: Interim Director Lamar Joyner, Chris Duffey, Judy Speas,
Jacob Wright

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Raymond led the pledge of allegiance.

Moment of Silence

Chairman Raymond led a moment of silence.

Public Comment Session

Chairman Raymond opened the public comment session with instructions. Speakers were asked to complete a public comment card and would have three minutes or less to speak. The speaker's name and address should be stated for the record. Questions should be included during the allotted time and answers would be given at the close of the session. A speaker's time could not be given to another individual. At the close of the public comment session, no additional statements or questions would be heard from the public. The public comment session included the following speakers:

Charles Wilson - 445 Marshall View Court, Winston-Salem, NC 27101
Elisabeth Motsinger - 6548 Woodmere Drive, Walkertown, NC 27051
Anne Wilson - 445 Marshall View Court, Winston-Salem, NC 27101
Phillip Carter - 1148 Fifth Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27101
Susan Campbell - 1208 Brookstown Avenue, Winston-Salem, NC 27101

Member El-Amin moved and Secretary Russell seconded a motion to close the public comment session. **Motion carried unanimously.** In response to public comment, Chairman Raymond stated that the Early Voting locations and hours would be spread as evenly as possible according to recent election legislation. The schedule would fairly serve the entire county and no vote would be suppressed.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Raymond requested that the Board members review the minutes of the February 10, 2014 meeting. Secretary Russell moved and Member El-Amin seconded a motion to accept the Board minutes of February 10, 2014 as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Old Business

Voting Locations and Hours

Chairman Raymond reviewed that two plans were approved regarding the 2014 Primary Early Voting locations at the previous meeting. The majority plan included the Kernersville Senior Center/Library; Lewisville Branch Library; and, the Rural Hall Branch Library besides the Board of Elections office location. Member El-Amin also planned to submit an additional Early Voting plan. Since then, the Early Voting schedule at the satellite locations had been arranged to avoid an existing conflict at the Kernersville Library on Friday, May 2, 2014. Mr. Joyner explained that the schedule of all satellite locations was planned for April 28 - May 1, 2014 to circumvent the May 2nd conflict. All Early Voting satellite location schedules must be uniform in hours. Chairman Raymond stated that the Early Voting schedule was agreeable and entertained discussion from the Board members. He explained that the Rural Hall Library location was selected to offer a site that represented an equal voter registration for both political parties and access for the northern part of the county. The Early Voting plan included 144 voting hours that exceeded the 137 hours required by election law. Secretary Russell moved and Chairman Raymond seconded a motion to adopt the Chair's proposed plan with the hours adjusted for the satellite locations. **Motion carried two to one with Member El-Amin in abstention.** The Early Voting hours adopted by the motion would pertain to both the majority and minority plans submitted.

Member El-Amin read from a proposed minority plan schedule using Carver School Road Library as a satellite location instead of the previously mentioned St. Andrews United Methodist Church. The State Board prefers a library or recreational center over a church as an early voting location. Member El-Amin's plan included three sites, Lewisville Branch Library, Carver School Road Library and the Board of Elections office, to be more cost effective. This alternative plan would be forwarded to the State Board for consideration.

New Business

Duties of Director of Elections

Chairman Raymond began a discussion of the Duties of Director of Elections document which is a listing of responsibilities for the Director. The current document was approved in 2012 and could be modified by the Board members per NCGS 163-35 (b) (d). Mr. Joyner and the Board members discussed item number three: Make recommendations to the Board for approval on staff hiring, termination and significant salary adjustments. This item offers the Director an opportunity to give an opinion for adjustments. Human Resources would then handle the recommendations of the Director. Secretary Russell moved and Member El-Amin seconded a motion to adopt the Duties of Director of Elections document as stated. **Motion carried unanimously.** Secretary Russell stated that the document could be adjusted if needed.

Testing Voting Machines

Chairman Raymond stated that the county board of elections is required by NCGS 163-33.2 to test the voting machines prior to each primary and general election. No less than ten percent of the machines should be test voted and the record of the serial numbers of the tested machines should be kept in the official minutes of the Board. Mr. Joyner stated that

Forsyth County test votes one hundred percent of the voting equipment with the ballot scripts after the approval of a ballot. Member El-Amin asked for a public notice to inform the Board members and public of the testing of the voting equipment.

Other Business

Chairman Raymond referred to a resolution adopted at the previous meeting that the Board Members be forwarded a copy of the candidates' campaign finance discrepancy reports on an informational basis. Since then, Mr. Albright had checked the legality and found that the reports were a public record. Chairman Raymond moved and Secretary Russell seconded a motion to adopt a policy for the Board members to receive a copy of the candidates' campaign finance discrepancy reports on an informational basis. **Motion carried two to one with Member El-Amin in abstention.**

Adjournment

Secretary Russell moved and Member El-Amin seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. **Motion carried unanimously** and the meeting was adjourned at 5:22 PM.

Approved:

Ken Raymond, Chair

Date

Stuart Russell, Secretary

Date

Fleming El-Amin, Member

Date

Attachments on File: Majority Plan Early Voting Hours Calculator, Alternate Plan for Forsyth County Early Voting Sites, Duties of Director of Elections