

October 24<sup>th</sup> 2017

|                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| PATSY GARDIN   | 828-424-7085 |
| MARY STANDAERT | 828-669-1008 |
| JOE STANDAERT  | 828-669-1008 |
| George Flynn   | 406-261-5593 |
| Carl Mummery   | 828-252-8390 |
| JAKE QUINN     | 828 713 1972 |

October 31<sup>st</sup> 2017

|              |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| PATSY GARDIN | 828-424-7085 |
| JAKE QUINN   | 828 713 1972 |

November 4<sup>th</sup> 2017

|               |              |
|---------------|--------------|
| PATSY GARDIN  | 828-424-7085 |
| Jeffrey Rose  | 828-333-2595 |
| Robert Jordan | 828-299-4402 |

November 7<sup>th</sup> 2017

Election Day

|                  |              |
|------------------|--------------|
| Phillip G. Wolfe | Beso         |
| PATSY GARDIN     | 828-424-7085 |

# Buncombe County Board of Elections

Meeting Minutes

October 24, 2017

## Opening

The scheduled meeting of the Buncombe County Board of Elections was called to order at 5:30 pm on October 24, 2017 at 77 McDowell Street, Asheville, NC 28801.

## Present

Board Members-

Jay Watson, Chairman  
Lucy Smith, Secretary  
George Keller, Member

BOE Staff-

Trena Velez, Director  
John Noce  
Bria Bailey  
Neggy Fox  
Corinne Duncan  
Bobbie Johnston

Visitors-

(See Attached)

## Item One – Welcome of the Visitors

## Item Two – Approval of Minutes

- Member Keller motioned the minutes to be approved for October 16, 2017 and the Board was in unanimous agreement.
- Member Keller motioned the minutes to be approved as amended for October 17, 2017, and the Board was in unanimous agreement.

## Item Three – Approval of Absentee Ballots

- Staff member Noce presented the Early voting totals as of 2:00 pm on October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017. The current count is 380 votes.
  - Member Keller motioned to accept the voting totals for October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017 and the Board was in unanimous agreement.
- Noce presented six (6) civilian ballots.
  - Noted requirement for two signatures or a notary.
  - The Board reviewed and signed the civilian absentee ballots.
- Noce presented eight (8) overseas ballots.
  - Noted requirement for the signed affirmation form.
  - The Board reviewed and signed the eight (8) overseas absentee ballots.

- Chairman Watson reminded staff and the visitors that while ballots are being duplicated, the room is to be silent to avoid confusion and assure accuracy.
- The duplication team duplicated the eight (8) overseas ballots.
- Chairman Watson inquired whether all calls and marks were clearly heard and seen and the duplication team answered affirmatively.
- Member Keller moved to approve the civilian and overseas ballots presented, and the motion was approved unanimously.

#### **Item Four – Office Items**

- Director Velez reviewed with the Board the October 10<sup>th</sup> Election Day accounting journals. Velez asked the Board to get complete answers from workers that haven't balanced after closing the polls.
- Staff member Sparks presented to the Board examples of what to look for when checking the accounting journals.
- These examples include:
  - The Judge did not sign.
  - The "How many unvoted ballots" section remained blank.
  - The 10 am, 2 pm, and 4 pm counts remained incomplete.
  - ATV forms were incorrectly numbered.
- Director Velez stated that Election Day training would begin Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Item Five – Correspondence from Mary Standaert**

- Chairman Watson restated the ongoing issue that Montreat voting locations have a Black Mountain address and that Standaert has taken a position that the information is wrong.
- Director Velez stated that the issue has been ongoing since 2013. Velez explained that the Elections staff met with the Buncombe County GIS and the Montreat Mayor in 2014. In April 2014, a letter was sent to the citizens of Montreat explaining the situation regarding this issue.
- Staff member Sparks explained to the Board that there are two separate boundaries within Montreat which include a municipal boundary and a zip code boundary. Sparks explained that within Montreat the post offices have a zip code but no residential delivery. Therefore, Montreat has no defined zip code boundary.
- Chairman Watson clarified that the concerns were addressed previously by Mrs. Standaert in her communication to US Congressman, Patrick McHenry, where his Constituent Service Director responded, and to the NC State Board of Elections where Ms. Degraffenreid responded.


- Noce summarized a meeting with Mrs. Standaert on October 19<sup>th</sup> where Mrs. Standaert stated she would not sign the One-Stop application because of the address dispute.
- Director Velez presented a copy of the voter registration card that stated the Montreat voting location change. Velez also stated that a follow-up letter containing a map will be sent out October 25, 2017. The location change letter includes a map showing the new location.
- Chairman Watson reiterated that this is not an issue that Election Services is able to resolve. Watson stated that at this point, given all the prior efforts, this issue has been asked and answered on several occasions by several parties, and was now taking time and resources from the Board of Elections staff on a matter which the Board of Elections staff cannot change. Therefore, Chairman Watson directed Director Velez and Board of Elections staff to not respond further to any inquiries on this issue from Mary Standaert, and that any further inquiries of Mary Standaert must be submitted in writing. Chairman Watson noted that this is the first time the Board has had to take this action, but regrettably, given Mary Standaert's history and conduct it has become necessary. Standaert commented that she, as her role as commissioner, is only trying serve the constituents of her town, at which point Chairman Watson Suggested that if that were the case then perhaps she should explain to her constituents what has been explained several times to her regarding this issue, rather than continue to make the same inquiry to the Board of Elections.

The meeting adjourned at 6:28 pm. The next meeting will be at 5:30 pm on October 31, 2017, at 77 McDowell Street, Asheville, NC 28801

Minutes submitted by: Kevin J. Roberts

Approved by:

  
Jay Watson, Chairman

  
Lucy Smith, Secretary

  
George Keller, Member