

**Orange County Board of Elections
Post Office Box 220 * 208 S. Cameron Street
Hillsborough, North Carolina 27278
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**Minutes
October 6, 2015 – 3:30 p.m.**

Present: Kathy Knight, Chair
Bob Randall, Secretary
Jamie Cox, Member
Tracy Reams, Director

Others Present: Vicki Boyer. Ben Swartz, ES&S Representative was also present to answer any questions from the Board concerning the operation of the DS200.

Call to order: Kathy Knight, Chair called the meeting to order. There was no one present who wished to address the Board.

Approval of Board Minutes: Mr. Cox moved and Mr. Randall seconded the motion to approve the August 18 and September 1, 2015 minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

Director's Report: Director Reams provided:

- Voter Registration Statistical Report
- Year-to-Date Budget Report
- Campaign Finance Compliance Report
- Confirmed/Negated Precinct Official Appointments
- List of One-Stop Workers

Voter Registration Statistical Report:

The director presented the voter registration statistical report showing a total of 105,597 registered voters. Mr. Cox requested that the director provide the percent change in the number of registered voters from month to month. Registered voters increased 0.45% since last month.

Year-to-Date Budget Report:

The director provided the monthly budget report and reported sufficient funds to carry out the work of the Board.

Campaign Finance Compliance Report:

The director provided the list of candidate campaign reports received to date. There were only 2 delinquent reports that have already been reported to the SBOE.

Precinct Official Appointments:

The director provided a list of precinct official recommendations that have declined the appointment and recommendations to fill those appointments.

One-Stop Workers:

The director provided a list of one-stop workers for Board approval.

Board Actions:

Mr. Randall made a motion to accept the recommendations to fill the declined appointments as presented and Mr. Cox seconded the motion. The motion was unanimous.

Mr. Cox made a motion to approve the list of one-stop workers as presented and Mr. Randall seconded the motion. The motion was unanimous.

Board Discussion:

The Board discussed the required absentee meetings. Due to the minimum number of absentees to process the Board agreed to meet on October 27.

The Board discussed the costs and labor associated with modeming in election night results. The director reported that it is costing the county approximately \$12,000 annually to maintain the phone lines in addition to the labor cost to check all lines prior to each election to ensure they are working. There is an additional one time cost of \$17,000 to install modems in the new voting equipment. There is additional precinct official interaction needed to transmit the results that could become a problem on election night. The director asked the Board to consider discontinuing modeming in the results. The PCMCIA cards (where results are stored) are brought back to the BOE office on election night. The director would load the results from the cards and release to the public as they are received. Precincts located further away would be assigned Rovers to pick up the PCMCIA card to expedite the release of results. There will be significant cost savings. There will also be a delay in releasing results since results will be brought in but it will be insignificant compared to the costs and additional tasks required of precinct officials.

Ms. Knight recommended that we discontinue transmitting results by modem for the 2015 Municipal Election with discussion to follow on procedures for the March Primary Election. Mr. Randall made a motion and Mr. Cox seconded the motion to approve Ms. Knight's recommendation. The motion was unanimous.

The Board discussed early voting sites and hours for the 2016 March Primary. The director reported that we are required to be open a total of 426 hours. The director reported that at least 5 additional satellite sites with extended hours would be needed to meet the required hours. There was no action taken.

Adjournment: Mr. Cox moved and Mr. Randall seconded the motion that the Board adjourn. The motion passed and the Board adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Next Scheduled Board Meeting: October 27 – 3:30 pm