

Orange County Board of Elections
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Minutes
February 5, 2013 – 3:30 p.m.

Present: Jim White, Chair
Kathy Knight, Secretary
Jamie Cox, Member
Tracy Reams, Director

Call to order: Chairman White called the Board meeting to order. Bob Randall, Mike Kuhn and Matt Hughes were present.

Chairman White opened the meeting by acknowledging those present and asked if there was anyone who would like to make any comments prior to the Board discussing the alleged voter fraud and unanswered incident reports as reported by Bob Randall, OC Republican Party Chairman in a letter to Governor McCrory.

Mr. Randall started the discussion by saying the intent of the letter sent to Governor McCrory was to convey his discontent with the Governor's latest position on "Voter Photo ID" and to show that our election laws need to be reformed. He stated that his intent was by no means to belittle the Orange County Board of Elections.

The Chair noted that there were no official challenges filed concerning the poll observer incident reports and discussed the procedures in place for a legitimate challenge. Mr. Randall stated that the reports did not warrant a formal complaint and/or challenge. He stated the problems were with the law and not with the Orange County Board of Elections. The Board informed Mr. Randall of the right of appointed observers to challenge voter's right to vote. The Chair asked Mr. Randall if the incident reports went unanswered as stated in his response to the Board. The director asked if there was anything that she was aware of that she did not address as soon as they were brought to her attention. Mr. Randall stated that they were addressed but not to his satisfaction due to flaws in the election laws. The Board addressed various voting concerns noted by Mr. Randall. After further discussion with the Board, Mr. Randall confirmed that all incidents and/or complaints were responded to by the director as necessary and requests no further action to be taken by the Board. He stated he did not see the Orange County Board of Elections violating any election laws. The Board asked that Mr. Randall provide the statement in writing to the Board and Gary Bartlett, Executive Director of Elections and he agreed to do so.

The Chair proposed that the Board send a letter to Gary Bartlett, Governor McCrory and Senator Kinnaird repeating what Mr. Randall stated today noting that no challenges were filed and that Mr. Randal's issue was not with the Board of Election actions but with the statutes. Ms. Knight suggested that the Board wait until letter was received from Mr. Randall before any further action was taken. The Board unanimously agreed.

Ms. Knight requested incident reports be provided in the future to the Board noting any necessary actions taken. The director shall forward incident reports to the Board upon receipt.

Approval of Board Minutes: Ms. Knight moved and Mr. Cox seconded the motion to approve the November 16th, 2012 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
- Legacy Voter Registration Scanning Project Update
- 2013 Election Calendar

Voter Registration Statistical Report:

The director presented the voter registration statistical report showing a total of 104,718 registered voters.

Year-to-Date Budget Report:

The director provided the monthly budget report and reported sufficient funds to carry out the work of the Board pending approval of line item transfer requests to conduct the March 19th Carrboro Special Election.

Campaign Finance Compliance Report:

The director provided an updated list of candidate campaign reports received to date. All active committees are in compliance.

Legacy Voter Registration Scanning Project:

The director reported that a total of 38,041 out of 48,094 legacy registration signatures have been scanned and attached to date.

2013 Election Calendar:

The director provided the Board with important 2013 election dates for review.

Board Actions:

The Chair asked about the timeline for the director's WPPR evaluation. The director reported that it is to be submitted within 30 days of the evaluation date which was January 28th. The Chair suggested they circulate the evaluation forms for Board input by email.

Board Discussion:

The Board discussed the 2013-2014 Fiscal Year Budget and funding for the 2014 May Primary one-stop voting sites. The Board unanimously recommended the director request funds for 4 one-stop early voting sites for the 2014 May Primary and 1 one-stop early voting site if a 2nd Primary is needed.

The Board discussed the April 7th – 9th, 2013 Elections Conference in Concord. Kathy Knight will attend. Tracy Reams and Bettye Timberlake will also attend.

The director provided pertinent Town of Carrboro Special Election dates. Election Day is March 19th and one-stop voting shall be conducted from February 28th until March 16th. Due to the March 19th election, the Board unanimously agreed to defer the March 5th monthly meeting until March 19th at 3:00 p.m. The Board will Canvass on March 26th at 11:00 a.m.

The Board and staff congratulated and recognized Kathy Knight for passing the State Board of Election Certification Program obtaining the title of Certified North Carolina Elections Administrator.

Adjournment: Mr. Cox moved and Ms. Knight seconded the motion that the Board adjourn. The motion passed and the Board adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

After the meeting was adjourned the Board, director and Matt Hughes toured the proposed BOE space at the Link Government Services Bldg. The Board agreed that the space was problematic for conducting one-stop early voting and voter access. The Board shall plan to attend the BOCC meeting on February 12th to state their concerns.

Next Scheduled Board Meeting: March 19th, 2013 – 3:00 p.m.