

Orange County Board of Elections
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Minutes
October 23, 2012 – 2:00 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. Andrew Baird with the Romney Campaign was present to observe. Matt Hughes, Dem. Party Chair and Bob Randall, Rep. Party Chair was present to participate in a discussion with the Director and Board concerning Election Day Observers and Runners.

Bob Randall asked that the Board adopt a resolution to employ at least one staff member to represent each major party at each one-stop voting site. Mr. White stated that due to the availability of staff, we get into situations that have nothing to do with partisanship such as people getting sick, availability of staff to work scheduled hours and at the locations established. Mr. White asked that Mr. Randall submit a list of names who would be available to work the one-stop site at Mt. Zion for Board consideration. Mr. Cox made a motion to adopt a policy to have each major party represented at each one-stop site to the extent that they are qualified and available and for the Board to review such list prior to the beginning of one-stop voting. Ms. Knight seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

The Elections Board and the Party Chairs unanimously agreed to the following:

Observers and Runners shall be appointed per G.S. 163-45: A signed list of precinct specific appointed Observers and Runners will be delivered to the Orange County Board of Elections no later than 10:00 am on Thursday, November 1st. The Observers and Runners shall have name tags to identify them as Party Observers/Runners provided by their respective Party Chairs. Observers and Runners shall check in with the Chief Judge upon arrival at their assigned precinct.

Voters will check in and a numbered ATV (Authorization to Vote) form will be assigned to the voter. A label will be placed on the form with the voter's information and signature. The completed ATVs will be kept in a 3 ring binder. At 9:30 am, 1:30 pm and 3:30 pm, the precinct official will hand off the ATV binder to the Observers present. The ATVs will be in consecutive number order, shall not be removed from the binder and shall not be removed from the voting enclosure. The Observer(s) from each party shall work together to compile the list of names of the persons who have voted as noted on the ATVs. The precinct official shall continue the ATV process with a substitute binder so that the voting process is not interrupted in any manner. Once the Observers have

completed recording the names from the ATVs in the binder, the binder shall be returned back to the precinct officials. The precinct officials may take the ATVs out of the substitute binder and place in the original binder in strict consecutive number order. The Observers shall record the last ATV number recorded so that they will know the last voter recorded and the next one to be recorded at the next designated "hand off" time. Observers may use laptops within the voting enclosure as long as the wireless device is deactivated. Runners will be allowed to pick up the list compiled by the Observer after checking in with Chief Judge. The Runner shall leave the voting enclosure immediately upon receiving the list. The list may be in hard copy form or downloaded to a USB flash drive.

Observers and Runners shall do no electioneering at the voting place, and shall in no manner impede the voting process or interfere or communicate with or observe any voter in casting a ballot.

Approval of Board Minutes: Ms. Knight moved and Mr. Cox seconded the motion to approve the October 16, 2012 minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

Director's Report: Director Reams provided:

- Report of One-Stop Ballots Cast to Date
- Report of Absentee By-Mail Ballots Received to Date

Report of One-Stop Ballots Cast to Date:

The director reported that a total of 13,217 one-stop ballots have been cast as of close of business on October 22.

Report of Absentee By-Mail Ballots Received to Date:

The director reported that a total of 529 absentee ballots (5 military, 52 overseas and 472 civilians) have been received and recommend approval. 4 ballots were submitted and recommend denial due to insufficient witness information as required. The voters have been informed that their ballot application was not properly witnessed.

Board Actions:

Mr. Cox made a motion and Ms. Knight seconded the motion to approve 529 absentee ballots (5 military, 52 overseas and 472 civilians) and deny 4 due to insufficient witness information. The Board duplicated the ballots transmitted electronically as set out in the SBOE memoranda for counting electronically transmitted ballots. A record of which is included as an attachment to these minutes. The Board opened the application envelopes and the ballots were inserted into the M100 tabulator. The ending count on the tabulator was 1404.

Board Discussion:

The Board discussed SBOE Memo 2012-22 and Memo 2012-23 concerning long wait times experienced in some counties and Board consideration on extending one-stop days and hours. The Board unanimously agreed that there did not appear to be a need at this time to extend days and hours due Orange County not having long waiting times to date. The director shall monitor wait times and report back to the Board for further consideration.

Adjournment: Mr. Cox moved and Ms. Knight seconded the motion that the Board adjourn. The motion passed and the Board adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Next Scheduled Board Meeting: October 30th, 2012 – 2:00 p.m.