

October 30, 2020

The Cumberland County Board of Elections met at the Board of Elections Office for a 9:00AM Absentee Meeting.

Present: Floyd Johnson, Chairman
Irene Grimes, Member
Helen Nelson, Member

Linda Devore, Secretary
Bobby Swilley, Member
Terri Robertson, Director

Staff: Vickie Hilburn

Guests: Live-feed available for members of the public.

Chairman Floyd Johnson called the meeting to Order at 9:00AM, and presented the Agenda.

ACTION: Member Swilley moved to approve the agenda as presented.
Seconded and approved unanimously.

Director Robertson presented 6 Civilian Absentee Ballot envelopes with Witness Cure Affidavits. The envelopes were reviewed by each board member.

Secretary Devore asked the board would to consider the ballots with Witness Cure Affidavits individually, or in two groups—two with an identifiable witness name, and four without a printed witness name or address or legible witness signature.

ACTION: Member Nelson moved that the 6 Civilian Absentee Ballots with Witness Cure Affidavits be approved.

Secretary Devore offered a friendly amendment to the motion to consider the ballots in groups. Member Nelson declined to accept the amendment to her motion.

ACTION: Member Nelson renewed her original motion to accept all 6 Civilian Absentee Ballots with Witness Cure Affidavits.
Seconded and approved 3-2. Swilley and Devore against

Director Robertson reported that 276 Civilian Absentee Ballot envelopes without cure affidavits, 74 Military Absentee Ballots, and 8 Overseas Absentee Ballots have been reviewed by staff and are recommended for approval.

Board Members randomly selected Absentee Ballot envelopes to spot check and confirm the voter signature, witness signature, and witness information. No irregularities were found.

Director Robertson confirmed the ballot tabulator reading of 3943*.

ACTION: Member Grimes moved to authorize staff to open the 282 Civilian Absentee Ballot envelopes, 74 Military Absentee Ballots, and 8 Overseas Absentee Ballots presented, and proceed with any needed duplication of ballots. Seconded and passed unanimously. 5-0

Staff opened the 282 Civilian Absentee Ballot envelopes and scanned into the tabulator. The tabulator reading showed 281 ballots. Each ballot and ballot envelope was re-counted by hand, and ballot numbers confirmed for each ballot. After extensive effort, it was determined that the discrepancy between the 282 ballots presented and scanned, and the 281 tabulated could not be resolved. The 282 ballots and ballot envelopes were boxed and sealed.

ACTION: Secretary Devore moved to approve 282 Civilian Absentee Ballots recommended by staff without irregularities. Seconded and passed unanimously. 5-0

74 Military Absentee Ballots presented were opened, duplicated as needed, and placed in the tabulator.

ACTION: Secretary Devore moved to approve 74 Military Absentee Ballots recommended by staff without irregularities. Seconded and passed unanimously. 5-0

8 Overseas Absentee Ballots presented were opened, duplicated as needed, and placed in the tabulator

ACTION: Member Swilley moved to approve 8 Military Absentee Ballots recommended by staff without irregularities. Seconded and passed unanimously. 5-0

Total ballots approved today: 364

Tabulator total: 4306* [includes one Oct 26 spoiled ballot set aside to be reversed out on Election Day, and one ballot undercount today]

Cumulative Total Mail-in Absentee Ballots Approved: 19,816

Director Robertson reported an additional 5435 ballots were cast and accepted after the report received at our Thursday meeting and up to 3:00PM yesterday, including the Absentee Ballots approved and tabulated today.

Director Robertson reported that 12 ballots that have been previously accepted and approved are subject to challenge before the board.

2 ballots received from felons

1 ballot from a voter who has moved to another county and voted there

9 ballots from voters who have become deceased

Director Robertson reported that 816 Absentee Ballots have been received with curable witness deficiencies and are pending cure. 488 of those voters have already voted one-stop.

Member Swilley asked for clarification of the process for accepting Absentee Ballots up to nine days after Election Day, particularly for any ballot envelopes that may arrive without a postmark or not received via USPS, and how we will use BallotTrax to determine the date they were mailed.

Director Robertson referred to the email received and circulated to Board Members yesterday, as well as any further guidance that may be received from the State Board on using BallotTrax.

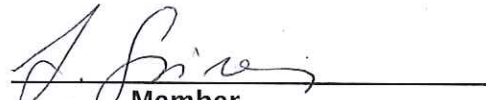
Next Meeting: Monday, November 2nd at 9:00AM at the Board of Elections office.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:45PM.

Submitted by,


Linda Devore, Secretary


Chairman


Member


Member


Member

Director