

COUNTY OF CARTERET BOARD OF ELECTIONS
1702 Live Oak Street, Beaufort, NC 28516
Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes, September 6, 2023
9:00AM

I. Meeting Called to Order

Chair Susan Cuthrell called the meeting to order at 9:00AM.

Board Members Present: Chair Susan Cuthrell, Secretary Jeanette Deese, Member Dale Gillikin, Member Lucia Bond, and Member Gerald Godette

Staff Members Present: Director Caitlin Sabadish

Others Present: Barbara Smith; citizen, Lynn Carraway; citizen, Ralph Hall; League of Women Voters (LWV), Normal Hall; LWV, and Carol Geer (LWV)

II. Approval of Agenda

Secretary Deese made a motion to approve the September 6, 2023 regular meeting agenda as presented. Member Bond seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

III. Public Comment

No comments were made by the public.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the August 2, 2023 Regular Meeting and August 2, 2023 Closed Session Minutes, and August 22, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes were presented for Board approval. Member Bond made a motion to approve both sets of minutes as presented. Member Godette seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

V. Sign Resolution for Bogue and Cape Carteret/Cedar Point Precinct Alterations

Director Sabadish presented the materials required to be submitted by the State Board of Elections in order to permanently alter precincts boundaries including a memorandum, a resolution, and copies of electronic images showing the changes. Secretary Deese made a motion to approve the proposed resolution to permanently alter the Cape Carteret/Cedar Point precinct boundaries and the Bogue precinct boundaries to accommodate the Cape Carteret Municipal boundaries and the Bogue Municipal boundaries. The motion was seconded by Member Gillikin and the motion was passed unanimously.

VI. Sign Resolution for Emerald Isle and Indian Beach/Salter Path/Pine Knoll Shores Precinct Alterations

Director Sabadish presented the materials required to be submitted by the State Board of Elections in order to permanently alter precincts boundaries including a memorandum, a resolution, and copies of electronic images showing the changes. Member Bond made a motion to approve the proposed resolution to permanently alter the Emerald Isle precinct boundaries and the Indian Beach/Salter Path/Pine

Knoll Shores precinct boundaries to accommodate the Emerald Isle Municipal boundaries and the Indian Beach Municipal boundaries. The motion was seconded by Member Godette and the motion was passed unanimously.

VII. Director's Report

- a. October 3, 2023 Absentee Meeting Cancelled
 - i. Director Sabadish recommended that the October 3, 2023 Absentee Board meeting be cancelled due to the start of absentee by mail voting beginning on October 6, 2023. Director Sabadish explained that the Board will hold their regularly scheduled monthly meeting on October 4, 2023 at 9:00AM and their first Absentee meeting on October 10, 2023 at 4:00PM.

- b. County Email Addresses Discussion
 - i. Director Sabadish asked the Board if they would like to have County email addresses for Board of Elections business in lieu of using their personal email addresses. The Board agreed that they would prefer having separate Board of Elections County email addresses moving forward. Director Sabadish will be in contact with the County IT department to implement this change.

Director Sabadish also noted that Rena Popp withdrew from candidacy in the Emerald Isle Commissioner contest. Director Sabadish also informed the Board that ballots for the 2023 Municipal election have been ordered and were ordered at one-hundred percent.

VIII. Board Comments

Chair Cuthrell opened the floor for Board comments. No formal action was required by the Board.

Member Godette

Member Godette thanked the staff for their hard work.

Member Gillikin

Member Gillikin expressed that she was happy to see the increase in voter registration in Carteret County and is hopeful that this increase is indicative of an increase in voter turnout in the upcoming Municipal election. Member Gillikin noted that the conference was very informative valuable information was exchanged. Member Gillikin thanked the staff for their hard work.

Secretary Deese

Secretary Deese asked staff when the upcoming precinct official trainings will be held for the municipal election. Director Sabadish noted that staff is working to finalize the dates and times and that an email would be sent out soon detailing this information. Secretary Deese asked staff if they had notified the appointed precinct officials of their appointments. Director Sabadish explained that the precinct officials were notified via email and the list was also published in the

newspaper having regular circulation within the county and posted at the office and on the door of the Courthouse, as required by law.

Member Bond

Member Bond noted that she is looking forward to the Municipal election. Member Bond also commented that she enjoyed the State Board of Election Conference and that it is clear that the State and the County Boards are dedicated to election safety and security. Member Bond reiterated that Director Sabadish will be speaking at the League of Women Voters meeting on September 21, 2023 in an effort to continue the public outreach and education efforts before the November election.

Chair Cuthrell

Chair Cuthrell echoed the other Board Members' comments and expressed that she would like to see the voter turnout and voter registration data specific to each municipality. Chair Cuthrell noted that the next Carteret County Board of Elections meeting will be held on October 4, 2023 at 9:00AM at the Board of Elections office in Beaufort.

IX. Adjournment

Chair Cuthrell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion to adjourn was seconded by Member Gillikin and the motion was passed unanimously.

Susan Cuthrell, Chair

Jeanette Deese, Secretary

Dale Gillikin, Member

Lucia Bond, Member

Gerald Godette, Member