



# Alexander County

N o r t h C a r o l i n a

## Board of Elections

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Click the link to view the meeting minutes

<b>Meeting Date</b>
<a href="#"><u>May 10, 2022</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>May 03, 2022</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>April 26, 2022</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>April 12, 2022</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>February 16, 2022</u></a>

# May 10, 2022 Meeting Minutes

ALEXANDER COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

**Present:** Ray Warren, Chair  
Cheryl Millsaps, Member  
Twyla Price, Member  
Martha Schronce, Secretary  
Nancy Sharpe, Member  
**Staff:** Patrick Wike, Director

The Alexander County Board of Elections met in the offices of the Board of Elections on May 10, 2022.

## **Call to Order**

Ray Warren called the meeting to order at 2:04pm.

## **Approval of Agenda**

Twyla Price moved to approve the agenda as presented, Martha Schronce seconded, motion passed unanimously.

## **Approval of Minutes**

Nancy Sharpe moved to approve the minutes from the May 3, 2022 meeting, Twyla Price seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

## **Review of Absentee by Mail Ballots**

Patrick Wike, Elections Director, presented the board with one ballot envelope designated as witness information incomplete. Following review, Cheryl Millsaps moved to disapprove and reissue a ballot to that voter. Martha Schronce seconded, The motion carried unanimously.

Patrick Wike presented the Board with 3 ballots for review. Following discussion and physical review, Martha Schronce moved to approve three civilian absentee ballots, Cheryl Millsaps seconded, motion carried unanimously. Approved envelopes were opened and ballots were fed into the tabulator.

Approved count for the May 10, 2022 meeting was:

- Civilian: 3

The (3) approved ballots were scanned into the tabulator. Ending public count on the tabulator: 15.

## **One Stop Absentee Applications**

Patrick Wike, Elections Director, presented the board with a list of 434 one-stop applications for voting activity between April 29 and May 9. Following discussion and review, Nancy Sharpe moved to approve the 434 one stop absentee applications, Twyla Price seconded, motion carried unanimously.

### **Precinct Official Vacancies**

Cheryl Feimster, Deputy Director, presented the board with a list of precinct officials assigned to work on Election Day. The list included persons recommended to fill vacant positions. Staff consulted with the local party chairs regarding these vacancies. Nancy Sharpe moved to appoint the following individuals to serve the vacant positions for the May 17, 2022 primary:

- Michelle Zirkle (Republican Assistant at LRSL)
- Betty Adkins (Republican Judge at Millers)
- Terri Holbrooks (Emergency Assistant)

Twyla Price seconded, motion carried unanimously.

### **Director's Report**

Patrick Wike, Elections Director, presented the board with a data visualization of one stop early voting activity.

The Board also discussed the impact of having early voting at the Alexander Senior Center and the current facility needs at the Board of Elections office. The limited floor space limits the ability to conduct early voting simultaneously with other important election administrative events such as absentee board meetings. The current space cannot accommodate early voting and absentee board meetings simultaneously.

Patrick Wike also discussed the tentative schedule for the sample audit count would be Friday May 20 at 9:30am. Staff are in the process of assembling the 4 person bipartisan team.

### **Adjournment**

There being no other business, Martha Schronce made a motion to adjourn, Twyla Price seconded the motion, and motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 2:34pm.

# May 3, 2022 Meeting Minutes

ALEXANDER COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

**Present:** Ray Warren, Chair  
Cheryl Millsaps, Member  
Twyla Price, Member  
Martha Schronce, Secretary  
Nancy Sharpe, Member  
**Staff:** Patrick Wike, Director

The Alexander County Board of Elections met in the offices of the Board of Elections on May 3, 2022.

## **Call to Order**

Ray Warren called the meeting to order at 2:06pm.

## **Approval of Agenda**

Cheryl Millsaps moved to approve the agenda as presented, Nancy Sharpe seconded, motion passed unanimously.

## **Approval of Minutes**

Twyla Price moved to approve the minutes from the April 26, 2022 meeting, Martha Schronce seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

## **Review of Absentee by Mail Ballots**

Patrick Wike, Elections Director, presented the board with three civilian absentee applications for review. Following discussion and physical review, Twyla Price moved to approve three civilian absentee ballots, Cheryl Millsaps seconded, motion carried unanimously. Approved envelopes were opened and ballots were fed into the tabulator.

Approved count for the May 2, 2022 meeting was:

- Civilian: 3

The (3) approved ballots were scanned into the tabulator. Ending public count on the tabulator: 12.

One Stop Absentee Applications

Patrick Wike, Elections Director, presented the board with a list of 258 one-stop applications for voting activity between April 28 and May 2. Following discussion and review, Nancy Sharpe moved to approve the 258 one stop absentee applications, Martha Schronce seconded, motion carried unanimously.

## **Precinct Official Vacancies**

Patrick Wike, Elections Director, presented the board with a list of precinct officials assigned to work on Election Day. The list included persons recommended to fill vacant positions. Staff consulted with the local party chairs regarding these vacancies. Twyla Price moved to appoint the following individuals to serve the vacant positions for the May 17, 2022 primary:

- Benjamin Hines (Chief Judge at Bethlehem 1)
- James Walker (Republican Judge at Bethlehem 1)
- Jennifer Ward (Republican Assistant at Bethlehem 1)
- Kelly Hull (Democrat Assistant at Bethlehem 2)
- Brenda Watson (Democrat Assistant at Little River Sugar Loaf)

Nancy Sharpe seconded, motion carried unanimously.

## **Director's Report**

Patrick Wike, Elections Director, presented the board with a data visualization of one stop early voting activity.

### **Adjournment**

There being no other business, Martha Schronce made a motion to adjourn, Cheryl Millsaps seconded the motion, and motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 2:45pm.

## **April 26, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

**Present:** Ray Warren, Chair  
Cheryl Millsaps, Member  
Twyla Price, Member  
Martha Schronce, Secretary  
Nancy Sharpe, Member  
**Staff:** Patrick Wike, Director

The Alexander County Board of Elections met in the offices of the Board of Elections on April 26, 2022. The meeting scheduled for April 19, 2022 was cancelled due to there being no absentee applications for the boards review.

### **Call to Order**

Ray Warren called the meeting to order at 2:01pm.

### **Approval of Agenda**

Martha Schronce moved to approve the agenda as presented, Cheryl Millsaps seconded, motion passed unanimously.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Twyla Price moved to approve the minutes from the April 12, 2022 meeting, Nancy Sharpe seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Review of Absentee by Mail Ballots**

Patrick Wike, Elections Director, presented the board with seven civilian absentee applications and one overseas absentee application for review. Following discussion and physical review, Martha Schronce moved to approve one overseas ballot, Cheryl Millsaps seconded, the motion carried unanimously. The Board compared the original ballot to the duplicated ballot before the ballot was fed into the tabulator. Twyla Price moved to approve seven civilian absentee ballots, Cheryl Millsaps seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Approved count for the April 26, 2022 meeting was:

- Overseas: 1
- Civilian: 7

The (8) approved ballots were scanned into the tabulator. Ending public count on the tabulator: 9.

### **Adjournment**

There being no other business, Martha Schronce made a motion to adjourn, Twyla Price seconded the motion, and motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 2:36pm.

# April 12, 2022 Meeting Minutes

ALEXANDER COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

**Present:** Ray Warren, Chair

Cheryl Millsaps, Member

Twyla Price, Member

Martha Schronce, Secretary

Nancy Sharpe, Member

**Staff:** Patrick Wike, Director, Cheryl Feimster, Deputy Director

The Alexander County Board of Elections met in the offices of the Board of Elections on April 12, 2022.

## **Call to Order**

Ray Warren called the meeting to order at 2:04pm.

## **Approval of Agenda**

Twyla Price moved to approve the agenda as presented, Nancy Sharpe seconded, motion passed unanimously.

## **Approval of Minutes**

Nancy Sharpe moved to approve the minutes from the February 16, 2022 Meeting, Cheryl Millsaps seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

## **Adopt a time to count absentee ballots**

Patrick Wike, Elections Director, presented the board with a resolution to adopt a time for counting absentee ballots. Following review and discussion, Nancy Sharpe moved to adopt the resolution, Twyla Price seconded, motion carried unanimously. The board will meet at 2:00pm May 17. The Board will also hold a meeting 2:00pm may 26 to address supplemental absentee by mail and provisional ballots.

## **Delegate Absentee Preparatory Steps to Staff**

Patrick Wike, Elections Director, presented the board with a resolution to delegate absentee preparatory steps to staff. Nancy Sharpe moved to adopt the resolution, Cheryl Millsaps seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

## **Precinct Assistant Appointments**

Martha Schronce moved to appoint: Rickey Mitchell, Beverly Millsaps, Lori Julian, and Tommy Herman as precinct assistants for May 17, Twyla Price seconded, motion carried unanimously.

## **Appointment of Multi-partisan Assistance Members**

Nancy Sharpe moved to appoint: Randy Gilleland, Linda Frye, Kiristie Elder, and Ann Howard to serve on the Multipartisan Assistance Team pending their completion of any required training, Martha Schronce seconded, motion carried unanimously.

### **Review of Logic and Accuracy Requirements**

Patrick Wike, Elections Director, provided an overview on Logic and Accuracy testing. 08 NCAC 04.0307 requires that the county board of elections shall test each voting system unit that will be used in the election to ensure that the system is operational and has been programmed to count votes accurately. Logic and Accuracy testing has been completed on all systems being deployed for the May 17, 2022 primary election. All systems being deployed passed testing.

### **Review of Absentee by Mail Ballots**

Patrick Wike, Elections Director, presented the board with one military/overseas ballot for review. Following discussion and physical review, Martha Schronce moved to approve the one military/overseas ballot. The Board compared the original ballot to the duplicated ballot before the ballot was fed into the tabulator.

Approved count for the April 12, 2022 meeting was OVR 1. The approved ballot was scanned into the tabulator. Ending public count: 1.

### **Adjournment**

There being no other business, Martha Schronce made a motion to adjourn, Twyla Price seconded the motion, and motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned 2:52.

# February 16, 2022 Meeting Minutes

**Present:** Ray Warren, Chair

Cheryl Millsaps, Member

Twyla Price, Member

Martha Schronce, Secretary

Nancy Sharpe, Member

**Staff:** Patrick Wike, Director, Cheryl Feimster, Deputy Director

The Alexander County Board of Elections met in the offices of the Board of Elections on February 16, 2022.

## Call to Order

Ray Warren called the meeting to order at 2:01pm.

## Approval of Agenda

Nancy Sharpe moved to approve the agenda as presented, Martha Schronce seconded, motion passed unanimously.

## Approval of Minutes

Twyla Price moved to approve the minutes from the August 17, 2021 Meeting, Cheryl Millsaps seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

## Change of Time of Absentee Board Meetings

Nancy Sharpe moved to change the five required Tuesday absentee board meetings from 5:00pm to 2:00pm and to add an additional meeting for May 26 at 2:00pm, Martha Schronce seconded, motion passed unanimously.

## One Stop Plan 2022 Primary

Director Wike provided the board with an overview of early voting. The board was advised of the current legal requirements based on Session Laws 2018-112 and 2019-239. These laws eliminated county flexibility regarding additional early voting sites and their days and hours of operation. In previous mid-term primary elections, additional sites operated the last 5 weekdays and the last Saturday (45 hours). The law no longer provides this flexibility and requires if an additional site is opened, it must operate all 12 weekdays (8am to 7:30pm) and the final Saturday (8am to 3pm). Therefore, opening an additional site would require a minimum 222% increase in hours compared to the 2018 primary. The Board voiced frustration at their inability to open additional sites similar to the 2018 Primary. Martha Schronce moved to adopt a one stop plan to include 1 site, The Alexander Senior Center. This location will operate 12 weekdays 8am to 7:30pm, and be open all 3 Saturdays 8am to 3pm (159 total hours). Twyla Price Seconded, motion passed unanimously. The motion also included an inclement weather policy that this location will follow Alexander County government if offices are closed or delayed opening due to inclement weather. Motion passed unanimously.

## 2022-2023 Budget

Director Wike provided the board with an overview of the 2022-2023 proposed budget. Nancy Sharpe moved to approve the proposed budget with the following changes:

- Board Member pay: Increase board member pay from \$50 to \$100 a meeting and for trips from \$75/day to \$100/day.
- Compensation of MAT members



- \$20 increase for Election Day Workers

Cheryl Millsaps seconded the motion, motion carried unanimously.

### **Precinct Assistant Appointments**

Deputy Director Feimster provided the board with a current list of precinct officials. The list included officials appointed at the 08/17/21 meeting. Deputy Director Feimster reported that most of the recommended assistants had previous election service. Martha Schronce moved to appoint the assistants as presented to serve in the 2022 primary election, Twyla Price seconded, motion carried unanimously.

### **Directors Report**

Director Wike discussed the following issues during the Director's Report:

- All Voting Sites had been visited to complete ADA surveys
- Request for permission to enter into special agreement with three churches that request no political advertising on their property
- SBE conference is March 14 and 15, conference is virtual and members can watch here at the BOE office
- Candidate filing is set to resume February 24 and end March 4

### **Adjournment**

There being no other business, Martha Schronce made a motion to adjourn, Twyla Price seconded the motion, and motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned 3:47pm.