

# BOARD OF ELECTIONS

**Mrs. Charles A. Cardwell, Jr.**  
CHAIR

**J. Eric Elliott**  
SECRETARY

**John A. Redding**  
MEMBER



**Kathie Chastain Cooper**  
DIRECTOR OF ELECTIONS

## FORSYTH COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS BOARD MEETING- AUGUST 16, 2005

Present: Mrs. Charles A. Cardwell, Jr., Chair  
Mr. Eric Elliott, Secretary  
Mr. John A. Redding, Member

Staff: Mrs. Kathie Chastain Cooper, Director of Elections  
Mrs. Laura Gerardi-Dell, Deputy Director of Elections  
Mrs. Pamela Johnson, Administrative Assistant

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### Call To Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

### Approval of Minutes- August 4, 2005

Mr. Redding moved to approve the minutes for August 4, 2005. Mr. Elliott seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### Swearing in ceremony – 2005-2007 term- The Honorable Terry Holbrook (Clerk of Superior Court)

Mrs. Charles A. Cardwell, Jr., Mr. Eric Elliott and Mr. John Redding were reappointed as Board Members for the Forsyth County Board of Elections. The Honorable Terry Holbrook, Clerk of Superior Court, delivered the affirmation to the Board and all were sworn in.

### Election of Secretary

Mrs. Cardwell moved to nominate Mr. Elliott as Secretary of the Board of Elections. Mr. Redding seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### Election of Chairman

Mr. Elliott moved to nominate Mrs. Cardwell as Chairman of the Board of Elections. Mr. Redding seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### Adoption of Resolution- Duties of Director

Mrs. Cooper gave each Board Member a copy of the Duties of the Director. She stated that some of the terms were outdated and she updated those. She also stated some of the duties were obsolete and needed updating. All changes were highlighted. The Board

stated they would like to wait until the meeting on September 6, 2005 to discuss the Duties of the Director. Mr. Redding moved to postpone the approval of the Duties of the Director until the September 6, 2005 Board Meeting. The motion passed.

#### Approval of Ballot

The Board reviewed the ballot for the Primary and General Elections. Mr. Redding moved to approve the ballot for both Elections. Mr. Elliott seconded and it passed unanimously.

#### Public Comment

Ms. Joyce McCloy of 212 Evergreen Dr., Winston-Salem, N.C. addressed the Board regarding voting equipment. She presented the Board with hand-outs pertaining to the cost of using different types of voting equipment. She stated that Senate Bill 223 passed in the State Senate on Saturday, August 13, 2005. She asked that the Board consider the advantages of optical scan equipment.

The Board stated that they have been working on the purchase of voting equipment for a number of years and want to find the best possible equipment out there. Mr. Redding and Mr. Elliott explained that is why the Board has not chosen equipment in all that time.

#### Appointment of Precinct Officials

The Board reviewed the list of Precincts Officials recommended for appointment. The Democratic Party submitted their names by the deadline. The Republican Party did not submit their names by the deadline. However, Mrs. Gerardi-Dell contacted the party chairman last Friday and he said to use the same officials as were used in the past. The Board and Staff discussed the 5-6 vacancies that need to be filled at various precincts. Mrs. Dell stated she would have vacancies filled soon. Mr. Elliott moved to approve the list of Precinct Officials with the exception of one name removed for cause. Mr. Redding seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Mr. Redding was concerned about a name that has been submitted in the past for a Republican Judge position. Mrs. Cooper stated that since the Republican Party did not submit a list that no new names were submitted.

#### Request From Town of Lewisville

Mrs. Cooper gave the Board Members a letter from the Town of Lewisville requesting that some of the precincts be consolidated for the General Election in November. The town made the request in order to reduce the cost of the Election. Mrs. Cooper stated that their request involves 4 precincts. Those precincts are Pfafftown Christian Church, Vienna Elementary, Lewisville Library and Lewisville Elementary. Mr. Redding stated he does not want to confuse voters by changing their voting location for this one election. He also was not going to approve a request that came from one individual, who is a candidate. Mr. Elliott agreed. Mr. Redding moved to deny the request from the Town of Lewisville to consolidate precincts for the November Election. Mr. Elliott seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### Fall 2005 Testing of Voting Equipment

Mrs. Cooper suggested testing optical scan equipment at the one-stop voting locations so staff can have the opportunity to see how the equipment works. This also allows staff to

be aware of any problems that may occur during the use of the equipment. She also stated there are 15 ballot types for the November Election and she is concerned there will not be enough room in the one-stop voting enclosure for 15 voting booths. By testing the optical scan at the one-stop location, the space would not be an issue. Mr. Elliot stated he would like to test the maximum number of vendors as possible during the Election. He would like to test at least 3-4 vendors and test DRE equipment and optical scan. He stated the Board of Elections could test 1 precinct during the September Election, test 1 at a precinct in November and test 1 at the one-stop location. That would allow the testing of 3 different vendors. Mrs. Cooper stated it would be difficult to test optical scan at the one-stop location in September because of time constraints. She suggested testing optical scan equipment at a precinct location for the Primary Election.

The Board and Staff discussed testing equipment on Election Day for the General Election. Mrs. Cooper stated there could be testing issue with vendors who are already scheduled to test somewhere else. She also stated there could be issues with equipment that may not be State certified. She stated there are 3 vendors she knows that have State certified optical scan systems. They are Diebold, Sequoia and ES&S. She stated that Sequoia's equipment is certified, although they have recently upgraded their counting unit and this unit has not been state certified.

Mr. Elliott moved to negotiate with Diebold to use their Accuvote optical scan equipment at a precinct in the Primary Election and to negotiate with Sequoia and ES&S to use their optical scan equipment at one-stop voting in the General Election. Mr. Redding stated he did not want the equipment used at the one-stop site in the Primary Election. He stated the equipment should be used at a precinct so the pollworkers and the public can see how it works. Mr. Redding stated he would second the motion if Mr. Elliott amends his motion to test 3 vendors in the General Election at the precincts and test 1 vendor at the one-stop location for the General. Mr. Elliot moved to test 3 different vendors for the General Election at the precincts and test 1 vendor at the one-stop location for the General Election. Mr. Redding seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### Other Business

Mrs. Cooper presented to the Board the Resolution for the Board of Elections Plan of Implementation (No Excuse Absentee Voting) 2005 Elections. She stated the Board needed to adopt the resolution as the one adopted in 2004 had several one-stop sites and we will only have one at the BOE office this year. Mr. Elliott moved to adopt the resolution. Mr. Redding seconded and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Elliott stated he would like a paragraph on the website explaining why the Board of Elections will only have one location for the one-stop voting for the Primary and the General Elections this year.

Mrs. Cooper explained to the Board that the Board of Elections received grant money to develop an online training module to be used by pollworkers. She stated that the website is now complete. She would like to set up the Board Members so they can test the online training and see how it works. Mrs. Cooper stated she would eventually like to have the precinct officials take the test online and if they pass not require them to attend the training in person. She would also like to pay them the training fee if they do the online

program and pass the test. Mr. Redding stated he is concerned about the officials not retaining the information if they do the online training. The Board is also concerned about those who do not have internet access. Mrs. Cooper explained that there is a computer training center in the Government Center that has 8 computers and this room could be reserved to be used by those wanting to do the training online. It was also noted that there are computers available at the public libraries and at the Board of Elections office. Mrs. Cooper stated that Mrs. Dell communicates with many of the precinct officials through email so there is a large number that have Internet access. Mr. Elliott suggested having the online training available on CD format so that the precinct officials could study it on their home computers. Then they could log onto the Board of Elections Site and take the test. Mrs. Cooper was not sure if the program could be placed on a CD. She stated she would have the Board Members set up so they can try the online training and they can discuss it further at the next meeting,

Mr. Elliott stated he would like to have his first initial added to the Board of Elections letterhead. The staff will change his name to J. Eric Elliott on the letterhead.

#### Adjournment

Mr. Redding moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Elliott seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 5:35 PM.

s:/ Mrs. Charles A. Cardwell, Jr., Chair

s:/ Mr. J. Eric Elliott, Secretary

s:/ Mr. John A. Redding, Member