

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Ken Raymond
Chairman

Stuart Russell
Secretary



Tim Tsujii
Director

Lamar Joyner
Deputy Director

FORSYTH COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Agenda

April 27, 2017 – 5 p.m.

1. Meeting Called to Order
2. Oath of Office for Member of the Board
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Moment of Silence
5. Public Comments
6. Approval of Minutes
7. Approval of FY18 Budget & Performance Measures
8. 2017 Municipal Elections- City of High Point
9. Polling Place Changes
10. Precinct Officials Appointment Process
11. Update on Purchase of Voting Equipment
12. Legislative Updates
13. Other Business
14. Closed Session (if needed)
15. Adjournment

FORSYTH COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
Meeting Minutes
April 27, 2017 – 5 p.m.

Meeting Called to Order

A meeting of the Forsyth County Board of Elections was called to order in the third floor meeting room on April 27, 2017 at 5:00 p.m., Chairman Raymond presiding.

Board Members in attendance: Chairman Ken Raymond, Secretary Stuart Russell, and Member Susan Campbell

Staff Members in attendance: Director Tim Tsujii, Deputy Director Lamar Joyner, Chris Duffey, and Kimberly Stuck

Other Staff: Assistant County Attorney – Lonnie Albright

Other Officials: District Court Judge Lisa Menefee

Members Oath of Office

District Court Judge Lisa Menefee administered the oath of office to appoint Susan Campbell as Member of the Board. Chairman Raymond, Secretary Russell, and Director Tsujii welcomed Susan Campbell to the Board. Director Tsujii provided the public with a brief overview of Member Campbell's background and experience. Member Campbell stated that she was honored to have the opportunity to work with Chairman Raymond and Secretary Russell and the Board of Elections staff. Member Campbell stated that appreciated the support of her family and friends.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Raymond led the pledge of allegiance.

Moment of Silence

Chairman Raymond led a moment of silence.

Public Comment Session

Chairman Raymond opened the public comment session with instructions. Speakers were asked to complete a public comment card and would have three minutes or less to speak. The speaker's name and address should be stated for the record. Questions should be included during the allotted time and answers would be given at the close of the session. A speaker's time could not be given to another individual. At the close of the public comment session, no additional statements or questions would be heard from the public. The public comment session included the following speakers:

Charles Wilson – 445 Marshall View Ct., Winston Salem, NC 27101

Chairman Raymond called to close public comment session; Secretary Russell motioned, Member Campbell seconded; **Motion carried unanimously.**

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Secretary Russell motioned to approve minutes for February 23, 2017 with the following change: Page 2, Recognition of Service for Member El-Amin, and Paragraph 3 from “the Board was able to submit three very good plans.” to “the Board was able to submit three unanimous plans.” Chairman Raymond seconded; **Motion carried unanimously.**

Approval of FY18 Budget & Performance Measures

Director Tsujii presented the FY18 Budget to the Board for approval. Mr. Tsujii provided an overview of the budget providing insight to the needed increase to prepare for the purchase of new voting equipment and the potential for a special election to coincide with the upcoming fall municipal elections. Director Tsujii stated that if there were no special elections those funds would be transferred to purchase new voting equipment. Secretary Russell asked for clarification of Professional and Technical fees; Director Tsujii noted that those fees were separated for temporary help. Secretary Russell moved to approve budget; Member Campbell seconded; **Motion carried unanimously.**

2017 Municipal Elections- City of High Point

Director Tsujii informed the Board of six voters that reside in the City of High Point portion of Forsyth County that may need to be accommodated for a municipal primary and election this fall. Mr. Tsujii also informed the Board of H.B. 542, s. 2017 - *Elections/Cities in More Than One Co. Gen.*, which is pending legislation at the NC General Assembly that may address this matter by allowing Guilford County to administer the elections for those voters.

Polling Place Changes

Director Tsujii brought back to the table Precinct 122 – Griffith Fire Station’s request to find an alternate location. Mr. Tsujii stated that the closest alternate would be Holy Trinity Baptist; however, it is outside the precinct boundary and would require yearly approval for use. Deputy Director Joyner noted that the reason given by Griffith Fire Station was high traffic. Secretary Russell noted that polling locations should remain in precinct and that compelling information would have to be provided to support a move. Chairman Raymond provided that keeping Precinct 122 would limit confusion; and as it would be a yearly approval process to move to Holy Trinity Baptist was inclined to remain at Griffith Fire Station. Member Campbell noted that with the possible redistricting additional voting locations might become available; agreeing that remaining with Griffith Fire Station would limit confusion. Secretary Russell moved to keep Griffith Fire Station as a precinct until the precinct lines matter has been settled and the new Board is established; Member Campbell seconded; **Motion carried unanimously.**

Deputy Director Joyner presented the Board with two alternate locations for consideration that would address the traffic issues and concerns for 131 - Vienna Elementary School, noting the Board had requested site change opportunities based on feedback from a precinct official. Mr. Joyner offered insight to Vienna Baptist Church as well as West Central Community Center and their potential for use. After review of the locations, Chairman Raymond moved to use Vienna Baptist Church as new location for Precinct 131, Member Campbell seconded; **Motion carried unanimously.**

Precinct Officials Appointment Process

Director Tsujii presented the Board with information regarding the precinct official appointment process; noting letters had been sent out to precinct officials to inquire of interest for another two-

year term and develop a list that would be forwarded to party chairs for an improved and more efficient appointment process. Mr. Tsujii also discussed H.B. 843 s. 2017 - *Municipal Election Schedule & Other Changes* and the impact that it would have on filing and County Board appointments; noting that the bill is an attempt to resolve overlapping issues. Director Tsujii stated that he planned to have precinct official lists sent to party chairs soon to allow adequate time for selection before the August 22nd appointment date.

Update on Purchase of Voting Equipment

Director Tsujii noted that staff had attended equipment and software demonstrations held by several vendors that are vying for state certification in North Carolina. June 30, 2017 is the anticipated date for the State Board of Elections to make a decision. Mr. Tsujii stated that a demonstration would be provided later this summer for the public and to gather input regarding the equipment. Director Tsujii mentioned to the Board about H.B. 655 s. 2017 - *Election Equipment/Grants to Counties*, which is pending legislation at the NC General Assembly that would help with cost of new equipment cost. Chairman Raymond inquired if any of the equipment would assist with the tabulation process of write-in votes. Director Tsujii stated that the new equipment does have some improved capacity to efficiently tabulate write-in votes.

Legislative Updates

Director Tsujii provided the Board with an update regarding legislation for the State Board of Elections and Ethics merge; the date of May 1, 2017 was tentative; however, due to complaint has been held up. Mr. Tsujii also discussed H.B. 100 s. 2017 - *Restore Partisan Elections/Sup. & Dist. Court* and its impact on petitions for write-in and unaffiliated candidates; noting that the Board previously approved 90 days prior to election which will remain as it was an action by the Board. Mr. Tsujii also discussed remedy dates for unaffiliated candidates as provided in H.B. 245 s. 2017 - *Amend W-S Charter/Certain Candidates* and reviewed by Assistant County Attorney Lonnie Albright.

Other Business

Chairman Raymond called for other business; none was offered.

Closed Session (if needed)

Chairman Raymond inquired of need for closed session; none offered.

Adjournment

Member Campbell moved to adjourn meeting, Secretary Russell seconded; Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:53 p.m.

Approved:

Chair

Date

Secretary

Date

Member

Date