BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Ken Raymond Chairman

Stuart Russell Secretary

Fleming El-Amin Member



Tim Tsujii Director

Lamar Joyner Deputy Director

FORSYTH COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS Meeting Minutes - Canvass June 14, 2016 – 11 a.m.

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FORSYTH COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS Meeting Minutes - Canvass June 14, 2016 – 11 a.m.

Meeting Called to Order

A statutory meeting of the Forsyth County Board of Elections was called to order in the second floor meeting room on June 14, 2016. The meeting called to order at 11:15 a.m., Secretary Russell presiding.

Board Members in attendance: Chairman Ken Raymond (11:30 a.m.), Secretary Stuart Russell, and Member Fleming El-Amin

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

Other Staff: Lonnie Albright – Assistant County Attorney (11:30 a.m.)

Pledge of Allegiance

Secretary Russell led the pledge of allegiance.

Moment of Silence

Secretary Russell led a moment of silence.

Public Comments

Secretary Russell opened public comments deferring to Tim Grant – Director, Recreation and Parks Department. Mr. Grant provided the Board with a packet for their review; introducing Kimberly Jones – Craft Shop Manager, Crickets Nest, Jane Jester – Executive Board Member, Crickets Nest, Cynthia Tsysinger – Board Member Crickets Nest. Mr. Grant addressed two craft festivals; The Gingerbread festival and the Holy Jolly Craft Show at the Crickets Nest located at South Fork Recreation. Mr. Grant noted that South Fork Recreation is a non-profit shared facility that serves 485 active seniors and the loss of both craft festivals would be a potential \$80,000.00 loss of revenue for the facility. Mr. Grant requested the Board seek another location for Early Voting.

Member El-Amin noted that \$80,000.00 would be a significant loss and stated that he would suggest an alternate site.

Secretary Russell inquired about the previous Early Voting impact on revenue as well as the periods in which the upcoming festivals were scheduled. Secretary Russell remarked that after a compromise was reached that it was conveyed that South Fork would be a possible site in the future; he also inquired about who was to stay in contact with the Board.

Ms. Jones advised that the exact numbers were not available for previous festival as well as addressing parking and the potential loss that would be incurred if the festivals were unable to go forward.

Mr. Grant stated that he was aware that all recreation centers could be used; however, scheduling of the festivals is set by the craft season's schedule.

Additional public comments were offered by the following:

Tim Grant – Winston Salem Recreation/Parks Ann Wilson – 445 Marshall View Ct, Winston-Salem, NC 27101 Eric Ellison – 442 Wachovia St., Winston Salem, NC 27101 Zachary Bynum (Democracy North Carolina) – 1022 Polo Rd, Winston Salem, NC 27106 John Larson – 448 Factory Row, Winston Salem, NC 27101 Deborah Miles (Democracy North Carolina) – 1745 Argonne Blvd, Winston Salem, NC 27107

Chairman Raymond moved to close public comments; Secretary Russell motioned, Member El-Amin seconded. **Motion carried unanimously**.

Secretary Russell thanked those that provided comments and addressed Mr. Ellison's comments regarding Winston Salem State University. Secretary Russell stated that he was hopeful for a unanimous plan, noting that the use of Winston Salem State University was not contingent on one person's opinion.

Member El-Amin addressed the use of South Fork Recreation; noting that \$80,000.00 has a large impact and requested the other members of the Board to seek an alternate site. Member El-Amin addressed other comments regarding density, access to recreation and the historical significance of Winston Salem State University to the community and hope that the University would be considered to enable students to vote on campus.

Chairman Raymond addressed the use of Winston Salem State University; noting that student access to voting would be fair and equal across the board. Chairman Raymond advised that there would be further discussions regarding Early Voting sites.

Approval of Absentee Ballots

Ms. Gary recommended 156 absentee ballots for approval and 42 for disapproval due to receipt at the Election's Office after deadline and without postmark. Chairman Raymond moved to accept staff recommendations, Member El-Amin motioned, Secretary Russell seconded; **Motion carried unanimously**.

Report on Hand/Eye Recount Audit

Deputy Director Joyner provided the Board with the results of the Hand/Eye Audit; noting that the race selected for audit was the North Carolina Associate Justice race. Precincts audited were St. Andrews Presbyterian (033) and Old Town Recreation (909). St. Andrews had 130 ballots; results were 1 over and 1 discrepancy. Old Town Recreation had 305 ballots, no under/over count and no discrepancies as calculated by the tabulator. Mr. Joyner advised the Board that a multi-partisan group made up of Republican, Democrat and Unaffiliated participants performed the Hand/Eye Audit. Member El Amin verified with Mr. Joyner that ballots were signed and sealed. Mr. Joyner stated that the Hand/Eye Audits are open to the public for those that wish to view the process. Member El-Amin motioned to approve the results of the Hand/Eye Audit, Secretary Russell seconded; Motion carried unanimously

Review of Remarked Ballots

Director Tsujii presented the Board with three absentee ballots that required remarking due to being emailed. Mr. Tsujii stated that the ballots could not be tabulated in their emailed form, thus they had to be remarked on the appropriate ballot. He reminded the Board of the previously approved preprocessing steps utilized in the tabulation process.

Approval of Provisional Ballots

Director Tsujii provided the Board with a spreadsheet of the 89 Provisional ballots for review and recommending the following for approval:

- 14 Unreported Moves, verified and properly transferred
- 35 Out of precinct; incorrect precinct correct ballot
- 4 No ID; presented by Canvass
- 4 Reasonable Impediment; provided Date of Birth and Social Security number
- 4 Due to miscellaneous reasons
 - 1 To correct error on label
 - 2 Removed due to Federal Election requirement; maintained residency
 - 1 Updated Party in timely manner.

Total recommended for approval – 61

Provisional Ballots for Partial Approval:

- 7 Incorrect Party
- 2 Out of Precinct

Provisional Ballots for Disapproval:

- 13 Not registered
- 5 No ID provided; contact attempted, no appearance
- 1 Voted twice

Secretary Russell inquired if the information of those that voted twice had been forwarded to the District Attorney; Director Tsujii stated that it was at the Board's discretion to submit information to the State Board of Elections for referral to the District Attorney.

Member El-Amin requested insight to the partial count process. Director Tsujii provided an explanation of how partial counts work and the process involved.

Director Tsujii stated that there had been two additional attempts to vote twice by absentee. Voters stated that they had forgotten that they had voted by absentee.

Secretary Russell moved to refer all three instances of multiple votes to the State Board of Elections, Chairman Raymond seconded; Member El-Amin opposed. **Vote carried by majority**.

Member El-Amin stated that he would support forwarding only the blatant one to the State Board of Elections; Secretary Russell reiterated that it is a serious issue and State Board should review those duplicate voting attempt but agreed to only submit the one instance of a voter voting twice. Director Tsujii provided the total provisional ballots for approval: 61 approved; 9 for partial

approval; and 19 recommended for disapproval.

Member El-Amin motioned to accept staff recommendations of Provisional ballots, Secretary Russell seconded; **Motion carried unanimously**.

Counting of Absentee and Provisional Ballots

Director Tsujii stated that the staff would count the ballots and provide the Board with the summary report. Secretary Russell asked if a recess was necessary, Director Tsujii stated that the Board could cover other topics while they processed the ballots.

Board agreed to move to agenda item 12, return to items 10, and 11.

Discussion of One Stop Voting Schedule for General Election

Chairman Raymond stated that there were several locations requiring additional information before making a determination including, South Fork Recreation, Winston Salem Lake, Tobaccoville Community Center and Industries for the Blind. He inquired if contact had been made to those facilities. Director Tsujii noted that visits were on the schedule. Secretary Russell stated he would like to have the information for the next meeting.

Director Tsujii inquired of the Board when they would like to meet next; the Board reviewed schedules and agreed upon July 1, 2016 at 4 p.m.

The Board discussed the four sites at length addressing each sites limitation. At the request of Secretary Russell, Director Tsujii provided the 2014 early voting statistics for South Fork Recreation Center for review by the Board. After reviewing the statistics, the Board discussed usage and potential conflict; and discussed other sites that could be alternates and possibility of private facility to serve citizens of that area.

Director Tsujii presented an additional remarked ballot to the Board for review.

The Board continued in their discussion of South Fork; Secretary Russell added one additional comment noting that he did not believe that their motive was bad; but was discouraged in that there was not communication with the Board. Member El-Amin read Mr. Grant's memo regarding South Fork and the festivals; noting that other locations could be considered.

Director Tsujii provided the Board an overview of the sites that had been approved as of this date; Chairman Raymond inquired if it included his latest revision. Director Tsujii provided the sites that had been approved: Board of Elections, Clemmons Library, Lewisville Library, Rural Hall Library, Walkertown Library, St. Paul's Methodist Church, Mazie Woodruff, Polo Park and Old Town Library; noting that six additional site would be needed.

The Board discussed multiple sites that were being considered; Brown Douglas Community Center, Sprague Street Recreation Center in lieu of St. Peter's Outreach Church due to consideration of public comments; Reynold's Park Community Center in lieu of Sim Recreation Center. Director Tsujii assured the Board that the necessary due diligence would be done to provide information to assist the Board in its decision. Member El-Amin called for a point of privilege noting that he had submitted multiple sites for consideration.

Chairman Raymond called for any additional questions regarding sites; moved to other business.

Other Business

None

Approval of Minutes

Secretary Russell asked that the word's "Video Recording" be added to the first page and motioned to accept minutes with change; Member El-Amin seconded. **Motion carried unanimously**.

Secretary Russell moved to approve June 7, 2016 meeting minutes as presented; Member El-Amin seconded; **Motion carried unanimously**

Chairman Raymond moved to recess until 1:15 p.m., Secretary Russell motioned, Member El-Amin seconded; **Motion carried unanimously**.

Meeting reconvened at 1:20 p.m.; Director Tsujii presented nine remarked ballots for review as well as the zero reports, summary results report and Canvass block style results report for the Board's review and signature. Director Tsujii stated that the reports were complete and that Chris Duffey was preparing the Abstracts.

Signature of Canvass Abstracts

Director Tsujii advised the Board that they must take action to approve abstracts; Chairman Raymond moved to approve Abstract Certifications as presented; Secretary Russell seconded; **Motion carried unanimously**

Closed session

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

Adjournment

Chairman Raymond motioned to adjourn; motion held for Supplemental Absentee report for signature. Chairman Raymond thanked Staff and Director, volunteers, and pollworkers for smooth election process.

Member El-Amin motioned to adjourn; Secretary Russell seconded; **Motion carried unanimously**. Meeting Adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

Approved:

Ken Raymond, Chair	Date
Stuart Russell, Secretary	Date
Fleming El-Amin, Member	Date

Approved:

Ken Raymond, Chair	Date
Stuart Russell, Secretary	Date
Fleming El-Amin, Member	Date