

### **Perquimans County Board of Elections**

601 A South Edenton Road Street PO Box 336 Hertford, N.C. 27944 Phone: 252.426.5598 Fax: 252.426.5068

#### MINUTES

The Perquimans County Board of Elections held its meeting on Wednesday, August 10, 2022, at The Hertford Hub, 127 N. Church St, Hertford, NC 27944.

## **Board of Elections**

s - bri

Chairperson: Vera Murrill Members Present: Ella Fields-Bunch, Victoria Butler, Bobby Siller (by phone)

Board of Elections Chairperson, Vera Murrill called the meeting to order at 6 P.M.

# **Consent Agenda**

All members of the Board agreed unanimously to approve all points on the agenda.

# **Old Business**

**One Stop Plan Resolution Amendment** – The Board was given information provided by the SBOE that explained how one stop hours must be set. This informed the Board that the previously agreed One-Stop dates/times set at the Aug. 3, 2022 BOE meeting must be amended because it does not follow the SBOE's guidelines. Jackie explained to the Board that if they chose to provide the community with additional One-Stop dates/times, One-Stop during the week (Monday through Friday) must stay open from 8 A.M. to 7:30 P.M. She then went on to share that the SBOE only requires each CBOE to be open from 8 A.M. to 5 P.M on Monday through Fridays, with the additional last Saturday of the One-Stop period.

Before the Board made their final decision on the new One-Stop hours, Jackie provided them with additional information. She shared a variety of information that was collected directly from the SBOE website <u>https://www.ncsbe.gov/</u>. This information included a list off all 100 counties in North Carolina, and the One-Stop hours they decided upon starting at the 2008 General Election and ending with 2020 General Election. This allowed the Board to compare what other counties have done in the past. The Board was also given data on the other 15 counties that are also in District 8 with Perquimans County. The data showed how many registered voters each county has. In addition to this, it broke down the number of registered voters into party affiliation, gender, and race.

After viewing the data, Jackie informed the Board that longer days may result in more mistakes due to the poll workers being tired. She suggested 3 options. The first option was to only participate in the required hours made by the State. This would include the minimum hours on Monday through Friday 8 A.M. to 5 P.M and the last Saturday from 8 A.M. to 3 P.M. The second option was the 8am-7:30pm weekday hours with one additional Saturday or Sunday. The last option Jackie suggested was the 8am-7:30pm weekday hours with two additional Sundays from 1 P.M. to 5 P.M. Bobby Siller stated that our job is to make voting easy and stated he favored the third option.

Chairperson Vera Murrill made a motion to open public comment Tori and Ella seconded the motion.

# **Public Comments**

Kathy Trieber, former Perquimans County BOE Director, shared that budget could not support the additional days/times. After sharing some of her experiences from the previous election, she suggested that the Board should agree to only open One-Stop for the required days and times. Bobby Siller shared that he did not realize there was not enough funds in the budget to support additional days.

Tim Brinn, the Republican Party Chairman, informed the Board that he has not received any complaints that an individual felt that they were unable to vote. He stated that he did not feel like any additional days are needed. Mr. Brinn shared that during the past two voter registration drives held that he, with the help of the Democratic chairperson, only registered 6 people. He stated that the majority individuals are already registered in the area.

Bobby Siller shared that he wanted more information regarding how many individuals would consider voting on Sundays, especially in the African American community. The idea of speaking with Pastors in the area may help us determine this information in the future since it is not in the budget at this time. Ella Fields-Bunch expressed that churches may provide transportation to the polls while their congregation is already out. Mrs. Trieber shared that other individuals would not consider voting on a Sunday.

Steven Keurig, from the State GOP, shared that from what he has heard in other meetings it is harder to find poll workers to work on Sundays.

Mrs. Trieber suggested that the Board write to the SBOE stating that Sunday voting maybe an option for the county if times through the week did not have to extend as well.

Chairperson Vera Murrill closed the public comment section of the meeting at 7 P.M.

## **Continuation of Old Business**

**One Stop Plan Resolution Amendment** - Mrs. Trieber suggested that the Board write to the SBOE stating that Sunday voting could be an option for the county if times through the week did not have to extend as well. Tori made a motion for Jackie to write a letter to the SBOE regarding these concerns along with a new proposal. Ella and Bobby second the motion. All member of the Board agreed to open the polls for the minimum required hours. All present members of the

Board signed the resolution amendment for document of the BOE only. Bobby Siller stated that his stamp could be used for his signature.

#### Adjournment

The meeting was then moved to closed session according to G.S. 143-318.11(a) 6&9. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20pm.

urre

Vera Murrill, Chairperson

Bobby Siller, Member

Victoria Butler, Membe

502 too to Bunch

Ella Fields-Bunch, Secretary

Kevin Jones, Member