

December 6, 2021, 5:00 p.m. (Regular meeting)

Present: Katherine Horne – Chairman, David McPherson– Secretary, Bonita Blakney – Member, Brenda Ebron-Member, Tucker Ward– Member and Carla Strickland –Director

Absent: 0

The meeting was called to order. Kay Horne-Chairman, David McPherson–Secretary, Bonita Blakney – Member, Tucker Ward -Member, and Mrs. Ebron were present. Mrs. Blakney gave the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The next item was the approval of the agenda. Mrs. Ebron made a motion to approve the agenda, Mrs. Blakney second, Mr. McPherson, Mr. Ward and Mrs. Horne concurred.

The next item on the agenda was public comments. There were none.

The next item on the agenda the Director advised that she had finished the redistricting on the NC House, NC Senate and the Congressional District. She advised that the changes to each were in the three expandable folders located at the center of the table.

The next item on the agenda the Director informed the Board Members that the Columbus County Board of Commissioners would not be redistricting and that a copy of the Resolution passed by the Commissioners was provided in their Board packets.

The next item on the agenda the Director advised that the City of Whiteville will be redistricted and that a copy of the map was provided in their Board packets. She advised that the redistricting will need to be implemented in the Geo-code no later than January 3, 2022.

The next item on the agenda that a Temporary stay on Candidate filing for the NC House, NC Senate and the Congressional District was ordered. Notification of the same was received after 11:30 a.m. today just prior to the opening of the Candidate filing at 12:00 noon.

The next item on the agenda was the Letter from the Town of lake Waccamaw regarding sanitizing of the Lake Waccamaw Fire Department. The Director advised that at no time did anyone from the Board of Elections office authorize for this to be done. She further advised that funds were made available through the Cares Act to do this for the Presidential Election to cover the expense for doing so. She also advised that PPE were provided for all buildings used which included gloves, masks, face shields, throw away pens, hand sanitizer, and spray sanitizer to sanitize counters and booths. No other buildings had been sanitized with the fog sanitizer prior to or after the 2021 Municipal Election. After discussion Mr. McPherson made a motion to decline payment, Mrs. Ebron second, Mrs. Blakney, Mr. Ward and Mrs. Horne concurred.

The next item on the agenda were the processes to be completed. The Director advised that the poll workers payroll was completed before Thanksgiving. She advised that she was working on the invoices to the Towns and the City of Whiteville redistricting. Once the Whiteville redistricting is completed verification cards will need to be mailed to all of the voters in the County. The polling place rent still needs to be paid.

The next item on the agenda was the consideration for the March 8, 2022 Primary Election One-stop plan. The Director advised that if the plan is not unanimous a majority and a minority plan would need to be drafted and a member from each side will need to be available to present their views during a State Board meeting. The question was raised about Saturday and Sunday voting. The Director was advised to provide daily statistics at the next Board meeting. No vote was taken.

The next item on the agenda the Director provided a listing of Candidates filed to date. No action was taken.

The next item on the agenda was a closed session pursuant to GS-143-318 (6)a Personnel issues. Mrs. Ward made a motion to go into closed session, Mr. Ward second, Mrs. Ebron, Mr. McPherson and Mrs. Horne concurred. The regular session was recessed at 5:33 p.m. The regular session was resumed at 6:45 p.m. Mrs. Ebron made a motion to schedule interviews for the Elections Specialist position on Monday, December 13, 2021 beginning at 1:00 p.m.

The next item on the agenda was NVRA/ removed voter report. No action was taken.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

CS/cls*

December 6, 2021, 5:33 p.m.-6:45 p.m. (Closed Session General Account)

Closed Session pursuant to GS 143-318.11 (a) (6) Personnel Issues

Present: Katherine Horne – Chairman, David McPherson– Secretary, Bonita Blakney – Member, Brenda Ebron-Member, Tucker Ward– Member, and Carla Strickland –Director

Absent: 0

At 5:33 pm the closed session was brought to order.

Item #1: Election specialist applications and scheduling of interviews.

Item #2: Directors concerns regarding the retirement process and the rescinding of the paperwork due to confusing information provided

At 6:45 p.m., Mr. McPherson made a motion to go back into regular session, Mrs. Ebron second, Mrs. Blakney, Mr. Ward and Mrs. Horne concurred.

CS/cls*