

# **Perquimans County Board of Elections**

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#### MINUTES

Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022

The Perquimans County Board of Elections held its meeting on Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022, in the conference room at the NC State Extension Building, 601 S. Edenton Road St., Hertford, NC at 6 p.m.

#### **Board of Elections**

Members Present: Vera Murrill, Chair; Ella Fields-Bunch, Secretary; Bobby Siller, Victoria Butler, Kevin Jones

#### **Others Present**

Jackie Greene, Director; Erica Critcher, Deputy Director

Board of Elections Chair, Vera Murrill called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

#### **Consent Agenda**

The consent agenda was approved unanimously. Director Greene provided a voter tally of Perquimans County. The Board discussed how the number of registered voters in Perquimans County has grown and is consistently staying over 10,000.

## **Old Business**

**Meeting Protocol and Decorum -** Director Greene informed the Board about her recent conversation with Karen Brinson Bell, the State Board of Elections Executive Director. She informed the Board that interaction with the public during a BOE meeting should not occur. However, debate between Board members is fine if it is kept professional. The Board was given a copy of *Roberts Rules of Order - Simplified* and *Meeting Protocol and Rules of Decorum* to be able to reference when needed.

## New Business

## **Election Recap** -

**Polling Places:** Director Greene shared that the BOE had received complaints and concerns regarding the use of the Perquimans County Department of Social Services as a polling place for the future. Many including Tammy Miller-White, the Democratic party chair, shared that the voting enclosure is congested, parking is limited, and how poorly lit some areas at the precinct are. The concerns of continuing to use the Perquimans County Courthouse were

shared as well. Concerns staff have include limited available voting space, parking, and accessibility for voters who may have a harder time walking longer distances.

BOE staff presented the idea of using the Hertford Grammar School as a new polling place for the West Hertford precinct and the Perquimans County High School for the East Hertford precinct. It was stressed that to use these locations the BOE will have to collaborate with the School Board to ensure that school would not be open that day. This would be for the protection of the children and to help with congestion during arrival and dismissal times.

Mr. Siller suggested that we reach out to the county attorney before we begin to present the idea to the School Board to ensure that there are no legal issues that may arise.

**Election Officials:** During this time, the Board was made aware of the evaluations conducted by BOE staff shortly after the election. This evaluation allowed staff to work together to reflect on the election officials who worked during the 2022 General Election and where improvements could be made. Director Greene proposed the idea of offering an additional refresher training during late spring/early summer to help keep information fresh in the election official's mind. She mentioned the possibility of Lauren Hines, SST, attending the training to help assist with any questions.

Future recruitment options were also discussed during this time.

**Training:** To follow up with the discussion regarding Election Officials, Director Greene shared that a few election officials have expressed that they would like to attend additional training on specific topics such as Provisionals. The Board was also made aware that in the future BOE staff is likely to break the mandatory training that takes place before every election into three separate trainings, Chief Judges, Judges, and Assistants. This will allow each group to receive training that specifically targets the duties and responsibilities of the position they hold.

**Budget -** The Board begins discussing a new budget around February every year. Mr. Siller asked the Director to provide the Board with an update on the budget on a quarterly basis. Each member of the Board received the 2022 November Expenditure statement and a comparison of the budget from previous years. More information was given during this time regarding how the BOE works to put together a budget before it is presented to the Board of Commissioners for approval.

The suggestion was made to purchase an extension cord reel or holder to help organize extension cords that are used on Election Day and make sure said cords were labeled.

**Consideration of Board membership after June 2023 term expires -** The Board was made aware of the importance of attending scheduled BOE meetings. At this time, term length was also discussed.

## Public Comment

N/A

## **Closed Session**

December 06, 2022

On a motion made and carried, the Board moved the meeting into closed session at 7:34 p.m. per G.S. 143-318.11. a. (6).

## Adjournment

On a motion made and carried, Ms. Murrill adjourned the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

Vera Murrill, Chair

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toria Butler, Member

Elle Fields-Bunch, Secretary

Bobby Siller, Member

Kevin Jones, Member