MINUTES

The Mecklenburg County Board of Elections met in person on Tuesday, January 11, 2022. Ms. Carol Hill Williams, Chair, Ms. Beverly Earle, Mrs. Liz McDowell, Mr. John Gresham, Mr. Michael Dickerson, Director of Elections and several staff members were in attendance. Ms. Williams called the meeting to order at 5:20 pm.

Mr. Dickerson presented the updated 2022 calendar. Communications from NCSBE include new candidate filing dates from 8:00 am on February 24 to 12:00 noon on March 4, 2022.

The upcoming state conference is on March 14 & 15, 2022. The conference will be held virtually, and the department will be registered as a group.

The Primary Election date is May 17 and Canvass will follow on May 27, 2022. Early Voting dates will be April 28 through May 14, 2022. The first Absentee meeting is on the calendar for April 15, 2022. The second Primary will be either July 5 or July 26, 2022.

As of today, the redistricting was declared legal by a three-person panel of judges. The decision will likely be appealed to the state Supreme Court.

The meeting minutes from the following dates had been read by the Board but not approved by vote:
October 26, 2021
November 8, 2021
November 9, 2021
December 7, 2021
A motion was made to approve all four. That motion was seconded and passed 4-0.

Other items shared with the Board include a copy of the challenge to Madison Cawthorn’s eligibility to file. This is for information only, because part of the district is in Mecklenburg County.
It was announced that January 25, 2022 is National Pollworker Recruitment Day.

At 5:38 pm Mrs. Mary Potter Summa joined the meeting via telephone.

Discussion was held regarding training opportunities for pollworkers. There are four dedicated trainers in this department. Comparisons between in-person and virtual training were made, and it was mentioned that the trainers can’t really assess the effectiveness of the virtual method. It was recognized that different people learn best in different ways. The department will investigate some “train the trainers” options.

Mr. Dickerson reported that a request had been made to have the meeting minutes available online. The Board agreed to this, as long as the format couldn’t be altered (only .pdf files, no
Word or Excel). The decision was made to keep the minutes online for a maximum of two years, and this will begin with tonight’s minutes once they have been approved by the Board and signed by the Secretary.

The Board agreed to hold the next meeting on Tuesday, February 15, 2022 at 5:15 pm.

A motion was made to move to closed session. That motion was seconded and passed 5-0. The Board left the meeting room at 5:52 pm.

The Board returned to the meeting room at 7:40 pm. Mrs. Summa was no longer present via telephone. A motion to return to open session was made, seconded and passed 3-0.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. That motion was seconded and passed 4-0.

Ms. Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:41 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth M. McDowell
Secretary

Approval date: 2/15/22