

**BURKE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
2128 SOUTH STERLING STREET-SUITE 100
MORGANTON NC 28655
TUESDAY NOVEMBER 21, 2023
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING**

Attending; Sandi Walker, Anthony Iovino, Beverly Carlton, LH Kirksey, and Linda Walker.

Staff; Kenny Rhyne

Guests: Alicia Connelly, Ann Moncrief, Barbara Myers, Bruce Hawkins, Mary Wright, David Griffith, Kevin Frederick, Leslie Kern, and Mimi Phipper. Additional guests arriving late; Wesley Hendrix and Ann Fisher.

Chairman LH Kirksey called the meeting to order at 2 PM, led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence.

Public comments:

Kevin Frederick encouraged the board to extend the voting hours. "8-5 is insufficient." according to Mr. Frederick.

Alicia Connelly asked the board to add more days to the schedule including Saturdays and Sundays.

David Griffith said voters need to be allowed additional time for voting.

Mary Wright also stated the voting hours of 8 -5 was insufficient for voters and asked for additional days of Saturday and Sunday be added.

Bruce Hawkins said he felt he needed to speak on behalf of citizens that were being denied the ability to vote because they did not have sufficient time. He advocates additional days on Saturday and Sunday.

Ann Moncrief said she appreciated the board revisiting the issue and asked the board to increase early voting hours for the March 2024 Primary.

Barbara Myers said she felt the same as all the speakers and also asked the board to post the agenda on the website.

Sandi Walker made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. All approved.

Business:

Interim Director Kenny Rhyne reminded the board members the decision on early voting hours had to be unanimous.

FYI: Beverly Carlton asked the question of the group, what was their plan to get voters to take advantage of extra voting times. She commented they should show an action plan that would demonstrate a need for additional hours and suggested this be considered in the future for such requests.

After discussion, Linda Walker made a motion to add Saturday February 24, 2024, hours 8 -3, to the early voting hours.

Yes: Linda Walker, LH Kirksey, Beverly Carlton

No; Sandi Walker, Anthony Iovino

Anthony Iovino made a motion to adjourn at 2:27 PM All approved.

Submitted by Sandi Walker, Secretary