

**BURKE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS**  
**2128 SOUTH STERLING STREET-SUITE 100**  
**MORGANTON NC 28655**  
**TUESDAY AUGUST 13, 2024**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**10 AM**

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

Staff; Kenny Rhyne, Dustin Wise

Guests; Barbara Myers, Dot Williams, Sharon Everhart, Diane Scott.

Chairman LH Kirksey called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM, led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence.

Public comments: Barbara Myers asked if there were any changes in voting procedures for this election. Kenny briefly answered and informed her this was going to be addressed in our meeting today.

Dot Williams informed the members "The NC Trusted Elections Tour" will be at WPCC August 22, 2024, 6:30 – 8:30pm.

Diane Scott asked what happened to voters that missed the registration deadline.

Kenny answered her question.

Linda Walker made the motion to amend the agenda to include discussion on press releases and approve the agenda as amended. All approved.

Linda Walker made the motion to approve the minutes of the July 09-2024 regular meeting and closed session as presented. All approved.

**Business:**

Director Kenny Rhyne recognized our newest addition to the Board of Elections, Deputy Director Dustin Wise.

Kenny then reported on the Wellness check performed by the State Board of Elections. A couple items pertaining to candidate filings and notification to the county attorney needed attention. All the staff had helped with this project.

The Emergency Contingency plan from the county Emergency Director will be included in the supplies for the precincts and will be available for inspection.

The county leadership has assured the Director the redesigned sidewalk will be ready at the Senior Center for the General Election.

NCOA mail out was 330 cards sent to update voter registration. This is done 2 times a year.

Candidates that filed for the two town councils' offices and soil and water candidates will be added to the ballot. There are still possibilities of additions to the ballot. Absentee ballots are scheduled to start going out September 6, 2024.

Director Rhyne then presented resolutions for precinct relocation. This concerns moving the Quaker Meadows 2 polling location from the Burke County Fairgrounds to Faith Presbyterian Church on Bost Rd. and Lovelady 4 from the Valdese Town Hall to the Valdese Recreation

Center Splash Pad.

Director Rhyne and staff have visited the new locations and have determined they meet ADA requirements.

Linda Walker made a motion to approve the two resolutions for moving the Quaker 2 polling location to Faith Presbyterian Church and temporarily move the Lovelady 4 polling location to the Valdese Recreation Center Splash Pad as presented by the Director.

All approved.

Discussion was held on the inclement weather plan.

Sandi Walker made a motion to adopt the resolution as presented by the Director to amend the Burke County Early Voting Implementation Plan for the 2024 General Election as it relates to the hours of operation during inclement weather. All approved.

Director Rhyne reported to the board on the SAFE Assessment conducted by Homeland Security for the board to use to implement security for the Board of Elections.

Discussion was held on concerns and options.

Director Rhyne will go over the needs and put together a list of the most pressing needs.

Immediate concerns recognized by the discussion was the need for cameras and a glass put up to separate the staff from visitors and a "panic button" in case of an emergency.

The board members have a document of the assessment to go over.

Sandi Walker made the motion to authorize Director Rhyne to address the immediate needs listed in the SAFE assessment. All approved.

Director Rhyne presented the Absentee Ballot meeting schedule pursuant to memo 2020-25.

Sandi Walker made a motion to approve the absentee ballot meeting schedule as presented by the Director. All approved.

Beverly Carlton made a motion to allow a board member from respective political parties to review voter ID exceptions on absentee ballots to be processed on the Monday at 2pm before the absentee ballot meeting. All approved.

Director Rhyne presented important dates for the general election; training schedules for poll workers, voting schedules, mailing and registration deadlines, and other election meetings for the general election.

Director Rhyne gave the board members a proof of the new election pin to be given to election workers for the 2024 presidential election.

Discussion was held on press releases for the general election season generated by the Board of Elections. This will be put together and sent to the board members to proof.

Director Rhyne noted 400 absentee ballots have been requested.

With no further business, Anthony Iovino made a motion to adjourn at 11:52 AM. All approved.

Submitted by Sandi Walker, Secretary