

BURKE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
2128 SOUTH STERLING STREET-SUITE 100
MORGANTON NC 28655
MONDAY DECEMBER 02, 2024
EVIDENTIARY HEARING
2PM

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

Staff; Kenny Rhyne, Dustin Wise, Trent Price, and Keith Rigsby

Guests; Jordan Lester, Don Siebel, and Gena Singleton

Chairman LH Kirksey called the meeting to order at 2:05PM, led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence.

Public comments; none

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

Chairman LH Kirksey called the evidentiary hearing to order and turned the hearing over to Attorney Keith Rigsby.

The hearing is for evidence to be presented to establish whether the protest petition filed by candidate for the NC Supreme Court Jefferson Griffin challenging votes cast by four individuals in Burke County in the 2024 Presidential Election.

While neither campaign has sent a personal representative for the hearing, documents have been submitted to the board by the candidates, Griffin and Riggs for consideration.

Mr. Rigsby read aloud for the record the affidavits filed by the respective candidates.

Director Rhyne read aloud the names of the voters challenged by Mr. Griffin.

Seth Purdy voted during early voting in Burke County on Oct. 17. He had moved less than 30 days before the election and updated his registration with his new address on Oct. 20, 2024. He did not vote in another county.

Steven Matthew Witte voted in early voting on Oct. 29-2024 in Burke County

George Fetherbay III voted in Burke County early voting Oct. 21-2024

Carroll Vance voted early in Burke County on Oct. 21-2024. He became deceased on Nov. 2-2024. The Burke County Board of Elections receives an update on deaths in the county. His name was not on the list of deceased voters to be removed on the Nov. 7-2024 update. The day before the audit for the list to be processed for the canvass.

The next list sent by the SBoE was sent out on Nov. 12-2024 listed Carroll Vance as deceased, after the audit.

Deputy Director Dustin Wise presented the documents for the board members to verify.

After some discussion with the board members, the chairman asked for the decision of the members. Each member voiced their choice of item b in reference to the choices provided for deliberation by NC General Statute 163-182.10 sub section 2 paragraph d (2)b.

The board members were unanimous in their decision.

Anthony Iovino made the motion to adjourn at 3PM. All approved.

Submitted by Sandi Walker, Secretary