

# BRUNSWICK COUNTY

## BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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Meeting Minutes · Election Day Meeting · May 14, 2024 · 5:00 p.m.

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**Board Members Present:** Secretary Stuart Smith, Member Paula Clarity, Member Randy Pelton, and Member Timothy M. Randall

**Board Staff Present:** Director Sara LaVere, Deputy Director Adrienne Rushton, Elections Computer Technician Butch Johnson, Election Logistics Technician Ryan Childress, and Elections Training Assistant Tammy Applegate

**Bipartisan Duplication Team Present:** Christy Souter and Cathy Newland

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### **Meeting Opening**

Mr. Smith called the meeting to order and everyone in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Approval of Agenda**

Mr. Randall made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Ms. Clarity made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 13, 2024 absentee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Consideration of Absentee Ballots**

There are 11 ballots for the board's consideration.

#### **Ballots Recommended for Approval**

- Nine Civilian ballots
- One Affidavit Review Pending Civilian ballots with a properly executed Photo ID Exception Form

Board members each reviewed at least two ballots.

Mr. Pelton made a motion to approve 9 Civilian ballots and one Civilian Affidavit Review Pending ballot as recommended by staff. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **Ballots Recommended for Disapproval**

- One ballot returned without a ballot envelope. This was received Monday afternoon, so it was not reissued. The voter was notified by phone of voting options.

Ms. Clarity made a motion to disapprove two ballots with incomplete witness information. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Johnson verified the seal from the vDrive storage container as 37471382.

Mr. Johnson opened the central scanner.

The bipartisan team opened the approved ballots and removed ballots to be scanned.

Mr. Johnson announced the total number of ballots scanned as 84 ballots scanned; matching what was scanned at the close of the May 13, 2024 meeting.

Mr. Johnson announced that 10 ballots were scanned at today's meeting. That was confirmed to be the number of ballots approved.

The ballots were placed in a bin and sealed, with seals signed by Mr. Randall and Mr. Pelton. The secure vDrive was placed in a storage container and sealed. The following vote count and seal numbers were logged.

- Ballot count: 94 total
- Ballot bin: 2617003 and 2616908

Ms. Rushton obtained board signatures on absentee poll books.

**Closing of Verity Central Scan**

Mr. Johnson obtained results from Central Scan of absentee ballots.

**Summary of Absentee for Release at Close of Polls:**

**Absentee by Mail Summary**

<b>Absentee by Mail</b>	<b>Verity Central Scan Total</b>	<b>Executed Absentee Report</b>
Civilian		92
Military		2
Overseas		0
<b>Absentee TOTAL</b>	94	94

The board recessed until 7 PM.

At 7:00 PM the board returned from recess and began the preparatory steps for closing the Early Voting Verity Scan.

Ms. LaVere informed the board about the state board's directive concerning the release of election results. The directive aims to protect voter secrecy. Specifically, if all voters in a precinct or reporting group (e.g., election day, absentee by mail, early voting) vote for the same candidate, it could reveal how individual voters marked their ballots. To prevent this, it was decided that election results will be reported collectively as election day without separate breakdowns by reporting group.

**Closing of Verity Scans from Early Voting Location**

At the close of polls, 7:30, Mr. Johnson closed Verity Scans from the Early Voting Location.

The handle seal numbers on each scanner were compared with the seal number which was logged by precinct officials at the end of early voting. The vDrive seal number was compared with the seal placed on the Verity Scan during Logic and Accuracy testing.

Results media was imported into the Verity Count system. From the Verity Count system, they were transferred to the networked computer and uploaded to the State Board of Elections using a new, unopened thumb drive.

Board members signed results tapes from the Verity Scan.

**Early Voting Summary**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Verity Scan Total (As reported)</b>	<b>Executed Early Votes Report</b>	<b>Signed Early Voting Applications</b>	<b>Security Seal Number</b>	<b>Handle Seal Number</b>
Bolivia	562	562	562	0504460	37471322

**Precinct Results**

When all precincts had reported, and tabulations were complete, the unofficial results of the 2024 second primary election were announced.

**Adjournment**

Mr. Pelton made a motion to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.