

BRUNSWICK COUNTY

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

75 Stamp Act Drive NE · Building H
PO Box 2 · Bolivia · NC · 28422
www.brunswickcountync.gov/elections

Phone: 910-253-2620
Fax: 910-253-2618
elections@brunswickcountync.gov

Meeting Minutes · Special Meeting · November 27, 2024 · 9:00 a.m.

Board Members Present: Chair Edward E. Lewis, Secretary Stuart Smith, Member Paula Clarity, Member Timothy M. Randall

Staff Present: Director Sara LaVere, Deputy Director Adrienne Rushton, Elections Computer Technician Butch Johnson, Election Logistics Technician Ryan Childress, County Attorney Bryan Batton

Meeting Opening

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

Approval of Agenda

Ms. Clarity made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

Protest Hearing

The board will be hearing a protest filed by Jefferson Griffin regarding the contest of NC Supreme Court Associate Justice.

An opening statement was made on behalf of Mr. Griffin by Preston Hilton. Mr. Hilton noted that the protest was filed with the information available by Mr. Griffin's campaign from the State Board of Elections at the time involving voters that were alleged to be not registered, felons, or deceased.

Mr. Lewis swore in Ms. LaVere. She provided testimony that the votes for the two individuals in the protest not absorbed in the jurisdiction of the State Board of Elections were challenged by the Board and reviewed at its canvass meeting. The board sustained the challenges and removed those two votes from election totals during the canvass process. One voter was determined to have passed away after their vote was cast. The other voter appeared to not be properly registered. Data was provided after election by the state or state sources. She acknowledged that at the time the protest was filed, the status of these votes was not clear to the campaign of Mr. Griffin.

Mr. Lewis asked if Mr. Hilton was satisfied with the information that Ms. LaVere provided.

Ms. LaVere clarified for the audience that list maintenance is continued throughout the election process and if any conflicts meet the deadline challenge, the Board of Elections takes appropriate action.

Mr. Batton clarified the board can find, through its own actions removed the necessary votes according to law. The board could find that there was not substantial evidence that the outcome of the election was not in doubt as the board already took necessary action.

Mr. Smith made a motion to dismiss the protest. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

Ms. Clarity made a motion to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.