

BRUNSWICK COUNTY

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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Meeting Minutes · Special Meeting · September 12, 2025 · 10:00 a.m.

Board Members Present: Chair Randy Pelton, Secretary Edward Lewis, Member Paula Clarity, Member Joe Myers, and Member David Smudski

Board Staff Present: Director Sara LaVere, Election Logistics Technician Ryan Childress

Also Present: County Attorney Bryan Batton, Assistant County Attorney Ryan King

Meeting Opening

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

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Lewis made a motion to approve the agenda.

Preliminary Hearing for Voter Challenge

A voter challenge has been filed challenging the voter's registration by Randy Pelton as the chair; Trevor Moehrke

Ms. LaVere was sworn in and provided testimony; she summarized that when a voter is reported as a convicted felon the voter is provided 30 days notice to object to their voter registration being removed. If an objection is filed the statute says the board should file a challenge to the voter's registration. Ms. Knotts provided information that the voter provided with his objection. He provided information that he was not convicted as a felon; that his conviction was that of a misdemeanor. North Carolina via interstate compact is handling his parole on behalf of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Batton confirmed that the only conviction in Pennsylvania is that of a misdemeanor.

Ms. Clarity made a motion to dismiss the challenge. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Batton will draft an order as such.

Hearing for Voter Challenge

Two voter challenges have been filed by Michael Felmly challenging the voter's registration of Lori Mabe Smith and Richard F. Smith, Jr.

Mr. Pelton called to see if the challenger Michael Felmly was present; Mr. Felmly identified that he was present. Mr. Pelton called to see if Mr. and Smith were present; Both identified as being present.

Boyd Worley identified himself as an attorney representing Mr. and Mrs. Smith.

Mr. Myers made a motion to hear both voter challenges simultaneously. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Pelton provided qualification for being a registered voter.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith were sworn in to provide testimony.

Mr. Smith provided testimony regarding his residency and evidence submitted in the agenda packet.

Ms. Smith provided testimony regarding her residency and evidence submitted in the agenda packet.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith took an additional oath that they meet all qualifications to be registered to vote.

Mr. Felmly was sworn in and provided testimony as to his belief that Mr. and Mrs. Smith are not qualified to be registered.

Ms. Sally Caldwell was sworn in to provide testimony in knowledge of Mr. and Mrs. Smith.

Mr. Smudski made a motion to overrule the challenge and find the voters properly registered. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Batton will draft an order as such.

The full hearings can be found here:

<https://youtu.be/UZsM74kN0II?si=KXscm-px0KHt6FAL>

Adjourn

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