



ROCKINGHAM COUNTY

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

BOARD MEETING MINUTES January 12, 2021– 2:00 PM Called Meeting

The Rockingham County Board of Elections met Tuesday, January 12, 2020, at 2:00 pm in Board of Elections Board Room.

Board Members Present: Royce Richardson, Chair; Toni Reece, Secretary; Leanna Lawson, Member, Bonnie Purgason, Member and Nelson Cole, Member

Staff Members Present: Kathy Clark, Deputy Director

Other Persons Present: County Attorney John Morris telephonically

ITEM #1 – MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The Board meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm by Chair Richardson.

ITEM #2 – APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Member Purgason makes a motion to approve the agenda with adding an Executive Session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(6) Personnel and NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3) Consult with Attorney. Member Cole seconds the motion and the vote is unanimous.

ITEMS #3 – EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO NCGS 143-318.11(a)(6) PERSONNEL AND NCGS 143-318.11 (a)(3) CONSULT WITH ATTORNEY

Secretary Reece makes a motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11 (a)(6) Personnel and NCGS 143-318.11 (a)(3) Consult with Attorney. Member Purgason seconds and the vote is unanimous.

ITEM #4 – OPEN SESSION

At 4:00 pm Member Cole makes a motion to go back into open session and Member Purgason seconds. The vote is unanimous. Chair Richardson announced we were back in open session. Chair Richardson requested the presence of the Deputy Director, Kathy Clark, to rejoin the meeting. Member Purgason makes a motion to transfer from the board training account to the regular salaries account the amount of \$8,815.00 and also to move \$1,000 from staff training to advertising. Secretary Reece seconds the motion and the vote is unanimous to advise Justine Thacker, Rockingham County Deputy Finance Officer, of the budget amendments. The Deputy Director brought the board up to date on supplies that had been received and the situation with storage in the workshop and other storage spaces. Deputy Director advised that to her knowledge the election process had been completed.

Chair Richardson asked what about campaign finance and was told by the Deputy Director, Kathy Clark, she didn't know anything about campaign finance. She added that she received an email earlier from Laura Dell stating she would be here Thursday or Friday to work with me on campaign finance. This is the first Ms. Clark said she had heard of this but she said if that is what you want me to do that is what I will do. Chair Richardson said "that's not really your job or in your job description". The consensus was that the Chair would reach out to the neighboring counties to see if there was anyone in their office that would be willing to help us complete campaign finance reports. Member Purgason suggested they could even work at night or on the weekend. Secretary Reece expressed concern that Deputy Director Clark was still learning her job and shouldn't be asked to assume duties that are not in her job description. Chairman Richardson agreed to take care of this. Deputy Director Clark conveys that everything seems to be caught up and she would only need someone once or twice a week to enter data.

ITEM #5 – UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Chair Richardson will contact ServPro to meet with Member Cole and Member Purgason to discuss our needs for deep cleaning the building.

Chair Richardson stated he is waiting for direction from the State Board of Elections before proceeding with the purchase of the badge system.

Member Purgason made the motion to pay Kathy Clark for 401.87 hours of comp time in its entirety. Payment would come out of regular salaries, motion seconded by Member Cole and the vote was unanimous.

The meeting was disrupted by Meredith Bailey demanding to make public comments. Chairman Richardson informed Ms. Bailey that the agenda had been approved earlier and didn't allow for public comments. Ms. Bailey demanded to know if we discussed the lawsuit.

ITEM #6 – ADJOURNMENT

Member Purgason makes a motion to adjourn seconded by Secretary Reece and the vote was unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted.



Tori Reece, Secretary



Royce Richardson, Chair