



ROCKINGHAM COUNTY

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 16, 2021

Regular Meeting

The Rockingham County Board of Elections met February 16, 2021 at 3:00 pm in the Commissioners Chambers.

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

Staff Members Present: Temporary Worker Cathy Pruitt

Other Persons Present: County Attorney John Morris, Renee Perry, HR Director and Members of the Public

ITEM #1 – MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The Board meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm by Chair Richardson. Chair Richardson welcomed those in attendance.

ITEM #2 – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Royce Richardson, Chairman of the Board of Elections

ITEM #3 – INVOCATION

Invocation was led by Mr. Ron Price

ITEM #4 – APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Richardson makes a motion to approve the agenda seconded by Member Lawson and the vote was unanimous.

ITEM #5 – APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Member Purgason makes a motion to approve the January 19, 2021 minutes. Seconded by Member Lawson and the vote was unanimous.

ITEM #6 - PUBLIC COMMENTS

No one signed up for public comments

ITEM #7 – UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Chair Richardson brought up the matter that the Board has been dealing with over the last several months concerning security at the Board of Elections office. Chair Richardson and Member Purgason met with Derek Southern and Peter Allen of the Rockingham County IT Department last Tuesday, February 9, 2021. Derek Southern is present today to discuss in detail about the security system which would include using card access for employees and temporary worker.

The Board and Mr. Southern also discussed installing a camera system for the Board of Elections Office and workshop. Motion made by Secretary Reece and seconded by Member Purgason for Mr. Southern to get a quote on the camera system. The vote was unanimous.

Chair Richardson passed out a budget revision sheet stating the State Board sent a check for \$8,078.28 for additional monies for precinct workers. Member Purgason wanted clarification as to whether this money had to be used as payment to precinct workers or used for other matters. The Board requested to have Justin Thacker of the Finance Department to come in and clarify how this money could be used. Mr. Thacker came in and stated he received an email from Amy Strange with the NC State Board of Elections. He stated it was confirmed that the money could only be used for payment to the precinct workers. If not, the money would have to be returned to the state. Member Purgason made a motion to return the money to the State Board and Secretary Reece seconded the motion. The vote was 3 to 2: *Member Nelson asked that the minutes state it is a private grant and state will return money to grantor - JCR MR*

3 Yay
Member Purgason
Member Lawson
Secretary Reece

2 Nos
Chair Richardson
Member Cole

Secretary Reece asked, "Where do we stand on campaign finance"? Chair Richardson stated, "It was done at the state level by people who integrated to our system. They took care of that already".

Secretary Reece asked if the Chair had any information about preparing the budget. The chair responded that he had not.

Member Purgason presented the Board with a printout of the costs associated with the recount of the Beasley vs Newby race which differed from the chair's figures. After presenting the figures (which are attached) Member Purgason stated there were discrepancies of 41 hours that she would like to discuss in executive session.

Member Purgason asked the balance in CARES funding. Chair Richardson reported that he did not have that balance with him.

Chair Richardson reported that we now have \$157,000. available in CARES funding that Laura Dell, Security Support Technician had told him about but he could not at that time provide written proof to the board. Further discussion was possible use if that money was available.

Member Purgason also mentioned she had requested at the October 13, 2020 Absentee Board Meeting a copy of the letter from Laura Dell, Security Support Technician for the State Board

and Karen Brinson Bell, NC State Board Executive Director of Communication that was to be read into the minutes of the called October 5, 2020 meeting. Member Purgason stated she has requested these letter 15 times. She hopes in the near future to be receiving copies of these letters.

Member Purgason also wanted to discuss the deep cleaning of the Board of Elections office. Member Purgason and Member Lawson agreed to meet with vendors to do the deep cleaning and come back with the Board with recommendations.

ITEM #8 - NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

ITEM #9 - EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Richardson asked the County Attorney if there was any additional requirement to be made regarding statutes for Executive Session other than citing the statutes and reason. Attorney Morris replied no.

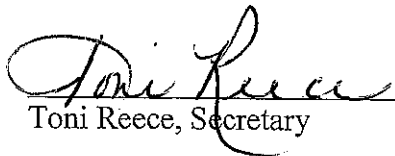
Motion made by Member Purgason at 4:03 pm to go into Executive Session pursuant to GS143-318-11(a)(6) Personnel and GS143-318-11(a)(3) Consult with Attorney. Motion was seconded by Secretary Reece.

Chairman Richardson announced the meeting was back in open session.

ITEM #10 -ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Member Purgason and seconded by Member Lawson to adjourn at 5:33 pm.

Respectfully Submitted.


Toni Reece, Secretary


Royce Richardson, Chair

RECOUNT SURVEY BEASLEY VERSUS NEWBY

NOVEMBER 19, 20, AND 23

BONNIE

ROYCE

HOURS 433.75

376.25

TOTAL \$6,051.43

\$5,134.12

PERSONNEL \$5,603.18

\$4,860.40

SUPPLIES \$448.25

\$273.72 (BASED ON FIRST REPORT)

DIFFERENCE \$917.31

DIFFERENCE HOURS 57.5