

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 23, 2024 – 4:30 PM
SPECIAL MEETING

The Rockingham County Board of Elections met Tuesday, April 23, 2024 at 4:30 p.m. at the Board of Elections Office, 240 Cherokee Camp Road, Reidsville.

Board Members Present: Ophelia Wright, Chair; Sarah Totten, Secretary; Nelson Cole, Member; Thurman Hampton, Member; and Tom Schoolfield, Member.

Staff Members Present: Paula Seamster, Director and Kathy Clark, Senior Deputy Director.

ITEM #1 – MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The Board meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Chair Wright. Chair Wright welcomed the Board Members, the individuals that were present in the meeting, and those viewing via Zoom.

ITEM #2 – APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Member Cole moved, seconded by Secretary Totten to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

ITEM #3 – APPROVAL OF NOTICE OF CANDIDACY BY PETITION

Gatha Stevenson – Board of Education, District 1

The Director informed the Board that she had placed at their tables several items: North Carolina State Board of Elections Unaffiliated Candidates for Elections FAQ, North Carolina State Board of Elections Write-In Petitions for Contests in 2024 FAQ, NCGS 153-122. Unaffiliated candidates nominated by petition, and NCGS 163-123. Declaration of Intent and petitions for write-in candidates in partisan elections. She went on to say that she had highlighted a couple of things on the Unaffiliated Candidates for Election FAQ from the State Board. The first was “1) What steps are required for a person to have his or her name printed on the ballot for a general election without being affiliated with a political party?” She asked the Board to turn to the last page where it was highlighted “4) May I run as an unaffiliated candidate even if I am affiliated as a voter with a political party? Yes. An unaffiliated candidate means that your candidacy is not affiliated with a political party. Your voter registration affiliation does not affect your eligibility to be an unaffiliated candidate.”

Member Schoolfield stated that the rules say that a candidate may be listed unaffiliated. The Director responded yes.

The Director stated that Gatha Stevenson had filled out an application to run as an unaffiliated candidate for the Board of Education, District 1. She met the required signature quota and all of the signatures were turned in prior to the deadline of Tuesday, March 5, 2024 by 12:00 p.m.

Member Hampton moved, seconded by Secretary Totten to approve the Notice of Candidacy by Petition for Gatha Stevenson – Board of Education, District 1. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board congratulated Gatha Stevenson.

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ITEM #4 – ADJOURNMENT

At 4:38 p.m. **Secretary Totten moved, seconded by Member Cole to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Paula P. Seamster, Director

Ophelia Wright, Chair