

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

J. Eric Elliott
CHAIR

Linda J. Sutton
SECRETARY

Jerry D. Jordan
MEMBER



Robert H. Coffman
Director of Elections

FORSYTH COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS BOARD MEETING- JANUARY 29, 2008

Present: J. Eric Elliott, Chair
Linda J. Sutton, Secretary
Jerry D. Jordan, Member

Staff: Rob Coffman, Director of Elections
Lamar Joyner, Deputy Director of Elections
Pamela Johnson, Administrative Assistant

Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 in the Cooper Cardwell Elections Room.

Approval of Minutes- January 8, 2008

The Board reviewed and discussed the minutes. Mr. Elliott and Ms. Sutton recommended a correction and an amendment. Ms. Sutton moved to approve the minutes with the correction and amendment. Mr. Elliott seconded the motion and it passed 2 – 1.

Budget Review

The Board and Staff discussed the proposed 2008-2009 budget. Mr. Coffman explained the line items to the Board. Mr. Coffman stated he is waiting on information from other departments in order to complete the proposed budget. The Board agreed to tentatively meet via teleconference on February 7, 2007 to approve the proposed budget.

The Board and Staff reviewed the Expenditure Analysis Report showing the percentage of the budget used for the 2007-2008 fiscal year.

Precinct Change Update

Mr. Coffman informed the Board of a precinct location change. He stated there have been problems with Robinwood at Kernersville (065) with the facility not being able to handle the capacity of voters. Mr. Coffman stated he was contacted by Rep. Larry Brown who recommended Kernersville Seventh Day Adventist Church. Mr. Coffman stated that he and Mr. Joyner visited the facility on several

occasions and it meets all requirements for being a precinct location. Mr. Coffman recommended that the Board approve the new location. He stated the Board of Elections office will mail new voter cards immediately once the Board approves the change. Mr. Jordan moved to approve changing the precinct location from Robinwood at Kernersville to Kernersville Seventh Day Adventist Church. The motion passed unanimously.

Kids Voting Update

Mr. Elliott discussed meeting with Daintry O'Brien and Rwany Sibaja regarding the Kids Voting Program. Ms. O'Brien and Mr. Sibaja are encouraging teachers to use the online voting feature on February 5, 2008 to cast votes for the Primary Election. There was discussion regarding the PTA helping with the Kids Voting Program. Mr. Elliott suggested getting 2-3 schools involved with participating in a Kids Voting Election on during the North Carolina Primary Election on May 6, 2008.

Voter Registration Search Issues

The Board and Staff discussed complaints from citizens regarding the voter search feature on the Forsyth County Board of Elections website. Mr. Coffman explained to the Board that there is a link on the Board of Elections website that takes citizens to the statewide voter registration search. He stated this is what most counties are using. Mr. Coffman explained that with frequent updates from the state, it makes the statewide database incompatible with the county search engine.

Other Business

Mr. Coffman and the Board discussed an upcoming question that will be published in the "Ask Sam" column in the Winston-Salem Journal. Mr. Coffman explained to the Board that a citizen inquired about no longer being able to request an absentee ballot online. He stated online requests are not compliant with state statute.

The Board discussed sending letters to the high schools regarding 17 year old citizens being able to vote in the Primary Election if he or she will be 18 years old by the General Election on November 4, 2008. Mr. Elliott suggested sending a flyer with each letter to be posted at the school.

The Board and Staff discussed One-Stop voting. The Board received a chart showing the turnout history of One-Stop voting from 1998 – 2006.

The Board and Staff discussed sites for the Primary Election. The Board discussed having locations at the Kernersville Library, Lewisville Library and possibly the Woodruff Center. The Board discussed having

the locations open the last week of One-Stop voting. Ms. Sutton suggested having all locations open from April 28, 2008 to May 3, 2008. The Board agreed to have the 3 satellite sites in addition to the Forsyth County Government Center. The Board will determine the length of time to have the satellite sites open at the next meeting.

Mr. Elliott inquired about the sign for the Cooper Cardwell Elections Room. Mr. Coffman stated there is no update at this time.

Mr. Elliott stated he would like a newsletter ready to go out to the precinct workers in March.

Adjournment

Mr. Jordan moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 5:35 PM.

S:/ J. Eric Elliott, Chair

S:/ Linda J. Sutton, Secretary

S:/ Jerry D. Jordan, Member