



McDowell County Board of Elections

OFFICERS

Dean Buff, Chair
Jimmie Hachadurian, Secretary
Kim Welborn, Director of Elections

MEMBERS

Dean Buff
Jimmie Hachadurian
Tom Cline
Della Watson
Michelle Price

The McDowell County Board of Elections met Tuesday, October 6, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

Members Present: Dean Buff- absent-out of town

Tom Cline *TC*

Della Watson *DW*

JR Hachadurian *JR Hachadurian*

Michelle Price

Kim Welborn, Director (had to leave at 10:15 a.m. due to family illness)

Jane Dale Propst

Observers present: Kate Lis, Ken Michael, Melody Pajek-McDowell County Democrat Party Vice-Chair

The meeting was called to order.

The minutes of the previous meeting, September 29, 2020 were presented. Michelle Price motioned to change the use of acronyms such as in point 7 (and to capitalize cares act and hava funds) and to change in point 11 that her motion was not clear. Tom Cline motioned to approve minutes as read and received with no changes, seconded by Della Watson. The motion carried.

Old Business:

New Business:

- 1) Thirteen student election assistants were presented- Sierra Carr; Paige Shaw; Claire Hollifield; Madilyn Smith; Owen Cook; Madison Lytle; Elaina Rampey; Daisy Rice; Allison Duckworth; Ella Pyatt; Savannah Henline; Naliyah Boyce; Payton Koone; Michelle Price motioned to approve, seconded by Tom Cline. The motion carried.
- 2) Melody Pajek- McDowell County Democrat Party Vice-Chair attended the meeting to represent Leighann Briggs who could not attend. Questions concerning the appointment of MAT team members from the Democrat Party were discussed. The two names from the Democrat Party that were submitted in January, 2020 were contacted and training dates were set. One name never returned the phone calls, and the other one never showed for three trainings, even though the Republican representative was in attendance and the training had to be rescheduled. The board was informed and Dean Buff, Board Chair tried to contact the Democrat Party chair to discuss this situation. Training of all the pollworkers is being conducted at this time, as well as one-stop preparations, additional MAT team training is hard to fit in at this time. The team is set to go to Autumn Care of Marion on October 13. The board explained that additional names could be submitted, but training is the issue at this late date.



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The current MAT team will be comprised of one Republican and one Unaffiliated when sent to assist voters.

In addition a concern that a response was never received about a submission for a Freshman in College to serve as a Student Election Assistant. An email response was sent to Ms. Briggs and a copy of the response was given to Vice-Chair. Student election assistants are 17 and in high school. The Freshman in College could serve as a regular pollworker.

- 3) The ballots tabulated at the last board meeting, September 29, 2020 were off by 2 votes in the tabulator. The staff examined all the envelopes, no errors were found. Michelle Price motioned to recount the ballots to verify there is 759 ballots, and then to run ballots back through tabulator, seconded by Della Watson. The motion carried. The staff cleared the totals on the tabulator, ballots were counted and there were 759 ballots which is the correct number.

At this point in the meeting, Kim Welborn, Director received a call and had to leave due to her mother being gravely ill. Jane Propst, Deputy Director continued with the count of the ballots on the tabulator.

- 4) The ballots were scanned in the tabulator and the correct number is 759. Michelle Price motioned to adjourn for lunch until 12:50 p.m. seconded by Tom Cline. The motion carried.
Started the meeting back.
- 5) The civilian absentee ballots were presented. Each ballot was opened and inserted into tabulator. There were 16 accepted cures on the list (see attached) but cannot be counted until the guidance is received from the state. 8 of the ballots would not go through the tabulator, so these were duplicated and placed in the tabulator. During the spot check of the envelopes 1 additional ballot was found that needed cure letters, however, this is on hold until further guidance from the state is received.
- 6) The tabulator count with all ballots inserted came to 1113 which is correct. The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Welborn

Kimberly Welborn, Director

Jane Dale Propst

Jane Dale Propst, Deputy Director

October 7, 2020