



# McDowell County Board of Elections

## OFFICERS

Dean Buff, Chairman  
JR Hachadurian, Secretary  
Kim Welborn, Director of Elections

## MEMBERS

Dean Buff  
JR Hachadurian  
Tom Cline  
Kay House  
Della Watson

**Meeting Date:** Tuesday, March 22, 2022

**Board Members Present:**

Dean Buff *DB*  
Tom Cline *TC*  
Della Watson *DW*  
JR Hachadurian *JRH*  
Kay House *KH*

**Staff Present:**

Kim Welborn, Director  
Jane Propst, Deputy Director

**Public Attendees:**

none

**Opening**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

**Minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting, March 14, 2022 were presented. Tom Cline motioned to approve, seconded by JR Hachadurian. No discussion. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.

**Old Business**

- a. Petition pages for the Randy Branton for Unaffiliated Candidate for Sheriff was presented to the board to examine the signatures that look to be signed by the same individual. Della Watson motioned to accept all the signatures as approved, seconded by Tom Cline. The motion carried unanimously 5-0. Branton has 388 valid signatures, Edwards has 121 as of this date.

**New Business**

- b. The process of placing pollworkers in precincts was discussed. A question has been raised by Michelle Price, Democrat Party Chair to not use pollworkers that have worked in the past, and choose from their current list only. Both Democrat and Republican lists received are used to place these workers in positions within the precincts as well as utilizing workers that have worked in the past. In addition, voters can mark on their voter registration forms if they would be interested in working at the polls which those names are compiled and the Democracy Heroes campaign from the state names are submitted to the counties with a list being kept and used to fill those positions as well. Also, to clarify that all training sessions with the pollworkers are not public meetings to be attended by the general public, however, the materials used to train are public and can be used for information purposes.

- c. HB 243 moving the second primary to July 26 was signed by the governor.
- d. Karen Burrell will be leaving and going to Senior Center March 31. Carrie Beth Hathcock was introduced to the board as our temporary part-time employee during the Primary preparations. The Elections Assistant position will be posted after the new budget year in hopes for a comparable salary once budget is approved.
- e. The 2022-2023 budget year was discussed. Staff has gathered information concerning Director and staff salary studies from counties of similar size, McDowell County salaries, etc. Kay House motioned to approve the salary recommendations presented to the board for all staff, seconded by Della Watson. The motion carried unanimously 5-0. Kay House motioned to approve the \$10,000 increase to election expense line item to use as pollworker compensation commensurate with other counties across the state, seconded by JR Hachadurian. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.

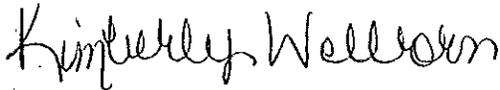
**General Discussion**

**Public Comments**

**Adjournment**

Kay House motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:20 a.m. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Kimberly Welborn, Director

March 22, 2022