

MCDOWELL COUNTY

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Board Members:
Barbara Hilty, Chair
Tracey Bolick, Member
Kay House, Member
Della Watson, Member
Vacant, Member



McDowell County Board of Elections

Meeting Minutes

September 1, 2026

9:00 a.m. – 9:42 a.m.

Board Members Present: Member Tracey Bolick, Chair Barbara Hilty, Secretary Kay House, Member Della Watson

Board Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Elections Director Jane Propst, Deputy Director Baylie Davis

Guests in Attendance: Susan Elliott, Elizabeth Gibbs, Janet McGinnis, Joan Messner, Chris Wall, Trish Williams

Meeting Opening

Chair Barbara Hilty called the meeting to order at **9:00 a.m.**

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was observed.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the **August 21, 2026**, meeting were presented.

Motion: House

Second: Watson

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous, 4–0

Action: Minutes approved as presented.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was presented to the Board. Director Jane Propst proposed changing the New Business item to “Appointment of 2026 General Election Early Voting Officials (Old Fort Early Voting Site).”

Motion: House

Second: Watson

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous, 4–0

Action: The Board approved changing the New Business item to “Appointment of 2026 General Election Early Voting Officials (Old Fort Early Voting Site).”

Director Propst proposed adding the 2026 general election student precinct officials to the agenda under new business.

Motion: Hilty

Second: House

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous, 4-0

Action: The board approved adding the 2026 general election student precinct officials to the agenda.

The amended agenda was presented to the board.

Motion: Hilty

Second: Watson

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous, 4-0

Action: Agenda approved as amended.

Directors Report

Director Propst reported that the first batch of absentee ballots will be mailed by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, September 4. As of August 31, there are 73 CIV and 13 UOCAVA absentee ballots. The office will be closed to the public on Monday, September 7, for Labor Day. Precinct Official training is scheduled for the week of September 21, with Logic and Accuracy Testing on September 21, which is open to public observation. The first Absentee Review Meeting will be held September 29 at 9:00 a.m. The voter registration deadline is Friday, October 9, at 5:00 p.m.

Old Business

None

New Business

1. Appointment of 2026 General Election Early Voting Officials (Old Fort Early Voting Site)

The 2026 General Election Early Voting Officials for the Old Fort site were presented

Motion: Hilty

Second: Bolick

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous, 4-0

Action: The 2026 General Election Early Voting Officials for the Old Fort site were approved as presented.

2. 2026 General Election Student Election Officials

The 2026 General Election Student Election Officials were presented

Motion: House

Second: Hilty

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous, 4-0

Action: The 2026 General Student Election Officials were approved as presented.

3. 2026 General Election Day Election Officials

The 2026 General Election Officials were presented

Motion: Hilty

Second: Watson

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous, 4-0

Action: The 2026 General Election Officials were approved as presented.

General Discussion

None

Public Comments

None

Adjournment

Motion: Bolick

Second: Watson

Meeting adjourned at **9:42 a.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Baylie Davis".

Baylie Davis, Deputy Director
September 1, 2026