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MCDOWELL COUNTY
BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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

McDowell County Board of Elections

Meeting Minutes
October 06, 2026
9:00 a.m. – 10:02 a.m.

Board Members Present: Chair Barbara Hilty, Secretary Kay House, Member Chris Wall, Member Della Watson

Board Members Absent: Member Tracey Bolick

Staff Present: Elections Director Jane Propst, Deputy Director Baylie Davis, Elections Assistant Jocelyn Childres

Guests in Attendance: Susan Elliott, Suzanne Fisher, Elizabeth Gibbs, Trish Williams

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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 **September 29, 2026,** meeting were presented.

Motion: House
Second: Wall
Discussion: None
Vote: Unanimous, 4 –0
Action: Minutes approved as presented.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was presented to the Board.

Motion: House
Second: Hilty
Discussion: Wall proposed moving public comment to the beginning of the agenda. The request could not be accommodated because doing so would be inconsistent with the established public comment policy.
Vote: Unanimous, 4–0
Action: Agenda approved as presented.

Directors Report

The 2026 November 3 Mock Election was conducted on Thursday, October 1, 2026. The results from the mock election were compared with the Logic & Accuracy (L&A) Testing completed on September 21, 2026, and all results matched exactly. No discrepancies or errors were identified on any reports. McDowell County successfully reported results for all 17 precincts, achieving 100% reporting. All required uploads were completed successfully. Voter Registration Deadline is Friday, October 9 at 5 p.m. The Absentee Ballot Request Form Deadline is Tuesday, October 20 at 5 p.m.

New Business

1. 2026 General Election Absentee Ballot Applications

Per Numbered Memo 2020-25, the "meaningful number" for the October 6, 2026 meeting is 13.

Motion: Hilty
Second: Wall
Discussion: None
Vote: Unanimous, 4-0
Action: The meaningful number was established as 13 for the October 6, 2026 meeting.

Director Jane Propst presented 11 CIV absentee ballots.

Motion: Wall
Second: Watson
Discussion: None
Vote: Unanimous, 4-0
Action: The Absentee ballots were accepted as presented. The ballots were tabulated.

Director Jane Propst presented 2 CIV absentee ballots.

Motion: House
Second: Hilty
Discussion: None
Vote: Unanimous, 4-0
Action: The Absentee ballots were accepted as presented. The ballots were tabulated.

Director Jane Propst presented 2 OVR absentee ballots.

Motion: Hilty
Second: Watson
Discussion: None
Vote: Unanimous, 4-0
Action: The Absentee ballots were accepted as presented. The ballots were tabulated.

Old Business

1.2026 General Election Day Precinct Officials

An updated list of 2026 Election Day Election Officials was presented.

Motion: Hilty
Second: Watson
Discussion: None
Vote: Unanimous, 4-0

Action: 2026 Election Day Elections Officials List approved as presented.

General Discussion

1. Next Meeting
The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 13, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.

Public Comments

Suzane Fisher addressed the Board during the public comment period.

Adjournment

Motion: Hilty
Second: House
Meeting adjourned at **10:02 a.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Baylie Davis

Baylie Davis, Deputy Director
October 6, 2026