Jane Dale Propst, Director
2458 NC 226 S., Marion, NC 28752
PO Box 1509 Marion, NC 28752
www.mdowellcountyboenc.gov
828-659-0834

MCDOWELL COUNTY
BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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

McDowell County Board of Elections

Meeting Minutes
November 9, 2026
9:00 a.m. – 10:10 a.m.

BAH KBH JB

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

Board Members Absent: Member Della Watson

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

Guests in Attendance: Susan Elliott, Suzanne Fisher

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 **November 3, 2026,** meeting were presented.

Motion: House
Second: Bolick
Discussion: None
Vote: Unanimous, 3–0
Action: Minutes approved as presented.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was presented to the Board.

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

Directors Report

Director Propst reported that 16,448 of the 31,354 registered voters (52.46%) voted in the November 3, 2026 General Election. There are 94 provisional ballots and approximately nine UOCAVA absentee ballots that may be returned by mail by 5:00 p.m. on the day prior to canvass.

New Business

1. November 3, 2026 Election Sample Hand-to-Eye Audit

Director Propst informed the Board that staff members Jocelyn Childres (Unaffiliated) and Kathy Wright (Democrat), along with trained counters Michael Bryant (Democrat) and Barry Welborn (Republican), conducted the sample hand-to-eye audit count for the U.S. Senate race in Precincts Pleasant Gardens 6 and Marion 1, using bipartisan teams, in accordance with N.C. Gen. Stat. § 163-182.2(b)(2), for the November 3, 2026, General Election. No discrepancies were found between the machine tabulation and the hand-to-eye count.

Old Business

None

General Discussion

1. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 10, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.

Public Comments

None

Adjournment

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Baylie Davis

Baylie Davis, Deputy Director
November 9, 2026