

MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
JUNE 9, 2020- 9:00 AM
(VIA CONFERENCE CALL)
WARRENTON, NC

PRESENT: Debbie Formyduval, Ebony Talley Brame, Adrian Williams (Democracy NC), Edith Henderson, Cosmos George, Henry Durham, Esther Terry, John Mooring, Shauna Davis, Tanja Douse, Steven Mullenix, Sara Moseley, Yarbrough Williams, James Roberts.

Chair Esther Terry called the meeting to order at 9:04 AM.

Following welcome to all attendees, Chair Terry recommended that the Board adopt the agenda as presented adding discussion for the One-Stop Voting Implementation Plan following public comment. Steven Mullenix made a point of order that the items added or changed should follow the approval of the minutes for the June meeting and Directors Report.

Steven Mullenix made a motion to approve the minutes of June 11, 2020 as presented. The motion was seconded by James Roberts and passed unanimously.

Steven Mullenix made a motion to approve the Director's Report as presented. The motion was seconded by James Roberts and passed unanimously. (Attachment 1)

Chair Esther Terry opened the floor for citizen comment asking each to speak for no more than 3 minutes. The following comments were heard;

Comments were heard from:

Cosmos George-Good Morning!

My name is Dr. Cosmos George, NAACP

As a physician, I strongly urge the Warren County Board of Elections to provide multiple Early Voting sites during the election because of the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Having multiple sites would provide added social distancing and avoid crowding. Thus, both Poll workers and voters would have less exposure to the corona virus and less risk of contracting and spreading the disease. Not to mention the risk of dying if Covid-19 is contracted by an individual. The cost of adding an extra voting site is much less than treating a hospitalized case of Covid-19.

Areas for consideration for an added site would include Arcola, Manson-Drewery, Afton and Norlina-Wise which are far from downtown Warrenton.

An extra voting site is like an insurance policy. It shows the community that this board cares about the community's health and democratic rights by deciding to implement Covid-19 preventive measures.

Thus, based on the health benefits, I highly recommend opening additional Early voting site(s) for the 2020 election.

The disease that is prevented or the life that is saved could be your own! Thank you

Yabrough Williams representing the Warren County Democratic Party indicated that he agreed with the comments of Dr. George.

Ebony Brame -spoke on behalf of her sorority and indicated that she was in agreement with previous comments.

Shauna Davis echoed her sentiments that more voting sites were needed.

Tonya Douse spoke on behalf of a sorority and indicated that she would like to see Sunday voting added.

Adrian Williams indicated that she was in agreement with previous citizens comments and asked the board to consider a site for Norlina, where adequate parking and curbside voting could be held. She also asked that Arcola be considered for a site in light of the fact that many do not have adequate transportation in the area.

Sara Moseley indicated that we waived any comments and that she felt that the BOE staff could assist her with her request.

At this point, Chair Terry thanked the ones that shared comments and opened the floor for discussion among board members. Steven Mullenix suggested more weekend hours. Debbie provided information regarding staffing. Esther asked the Board to keep in mind budget cost associated with adding additional sites.

Henry Durham recommended two additional sites based on highest number of early voting and that the possibility of utilizing Vaughan Elementary school as a site to serve the eastern portion of Warren County. James Roberts indicated that he felt the fire department would be a good site.

Steven Mullenix made a motion to amend the one stop voting site to include:

All Saturday voting 10/17/2020 and 10/24/2020 until 7:00 PM

Note the final Saturday of operations is set for closing at 3 pm by statute.

To add 2 additional early voting sites to be located at Vaughan Elementary School pending approval by the Warren County Board of Education and Norlina Volunteer Fire Department-Annex Building. The motion was seconded by Henry Durham and passed unanimously.

Director Formyduval reviewed the Precinct official list with board members and noted that the requirements for Chief Judge and Judges of Election had been satisfied and with the few assistant positions available that there is always last-minute request to work and this is where new staffers are placed. Henry Durham made a motion to approve the Notice of Precinct officials as presented. The motion was seconded by Steven Mullenix and passed unanimously. (see attachment 2)

Being no further business before the board, Chair Esther Terry adjourned the meeting at 10:10 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

(Seal)

James Roberts-Secretary

ATTEST:
