

# **BOTETOURT COUNTY ELECTORAL BOARD**

## **June 22<sup>nd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> 2022**

On June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022, a post-election meeting of the Botetourt County Electoral Board was held in the Registrar's Office in Fincastle. All members of the Electoral Board were present, as was Traci Clark, the GR/DOE. Chairman John Rader called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

Vice-Chairman Steve Vaughn then moved to approve the minutes from the April 28, 2022, meeting which had been previously submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

Traci then gave the Board a report on the Republican Primary Election which had been held on the preceding day, June 21, 2022. There had been no significant problems with the conduct of the election, she said. Secretary Buck Heartwell added that every precinct had been visited by the Board, and that no problems had been reported or observed.

Traci pointed out that the deadline for the certification of all of the candidates who were running in the November general election had now passed. Candidates who qualified to run in the special election for Treasurer would have until August 19<sup>th</sup> at 5pm to submit their paperwork. Traci presented the Board with a hand-out naming all the general election candidates. No candidate had sought to run for Mayor of Buchanan and that office would have to be filled by write-in votes.

Traci then asked the Board to go into closed session to consider the one provisional ballot which had been cast in the primary. Buck made the motion to do so pursuant to 24.2-653.01(B) of the Code of Virginia. The motion passed unanimously. After a brief period, the Board returned to open session. A roll-call vote was taken certifying that (1) only public business lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements and (2) only such matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed session, were heard, discussed or considered.

Steve then moved that the provisional ballot which the Board had discussed, be counted. The motion passed unanimously, and Traci was directed to amend the vote totals accordingly.

Traci then provided each Board member with a printed unofficial summary of the primary election totals. The Board proceeded to canvass the votes by comparing the totals, which had been taken from the Statement of Results tabulated in the precincts, with the totals shown on the digital tapes produced by the voting machines. The figures reconciled perfectly.

Following this process, the canvass was continued until Friday, June 24<sup>th</sup>, when the absentee ballots bearing postmarks no later than June 21<sup>st</sup> would be canvassed, along with any other lawful votes received at that time.

On June 24, 2022 the continued post-election meeting of the Botetourt County Electoral Board was held in the Registrar's Office in Fincastle. Chairman John Rader called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

Traci gave each Board member an updated election totals summary. She presented evidence of seven additional votes. Three were mailed absentee ballots postmarked not later than June 21, 2022. Four were voted by depositing them timely in an official precinct drop box. These votes, plus the provisional vote previously approved by the Board, had been added to the updated summary. After discussion, Buck moved that the election be certified in accordance with the updated summary. The motion passed unanimously. The Board directed Traci to file copies of the election abstracts, and a copy of the final updated vote summary, In the Board's minute book.

The Board's next meeting was scheduled for July 28, 2022, at 2:00 pm. There being nothing further to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:52 pm.

Buck Heartwell, Secretary