# **BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

J. Eric Elliott CHAIR

Linda J. Sutton SECRETARY

Jerry D. Jordan MEMBER



Robert H. Coffman Director of Elections

# FORSYTH COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS BOARD MEETING- APRIL 10, 2007

Present:	J. Eric Elliott, Chair Linda J. Sutton, Secretary Jerry D. Jordan, Member
Staff:	Rob Coffman, Director of Elections Terry Cox, Computer Elections Technician Pamela Johnson, Administrative Assistant

## Call To Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:09 P.M.

### Approval of Minutes- March 13, 2007

Mr. Elliott recommended a few minor changes to the March 13, 2007 minutes. Mr. Jordan moved to approve the minute with the minor changes. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments Session

There were no speakers.

# Review of Voter Registration

Mr. Elliott stated he read a newspaper article recently regarding the NC DMV issuing 27,000 drivers' licenses with false information. Mr. Elliott is concerned about these individuals possibly being registered to vote. Mr. Coffman stated the State Board of Elections has requested a list of the 27,000 licensees from the State Auditor and will check these names against the voter registration lists in North Carolina. He will update the Board as more information becomes available to him.

Mr. Elliott asked the staff to explain the voter registration maintenance procedures. Mr. Cox stated the State Board of Elections issues monthly reports for individuals who have registered to vote in other North Carolina counties and may still be registered in Forsyth County. The staff determines if the voter has a duplicate registration and if so, the voter is placed in removed status. Mr. Cox also explained that if a person registers to vote in another state, the Board of Elections receives a notice from that state and the voter can be placed in removed status based on that information.

Mr. Cox explained there are other reports issued for the purpose of voter registration maintenance. One report is in regards to deceased individuals in Forsyth County. Additionally, we receive a monthly felony report from the Clerk of Court. These lists are cross checked with the voter registration records to determine if someone should be removed. Voters can also be removed if they are inactive for 2 Federal General Elections.

Mr. Elliott and the Staff discussed increasing voter registration efforts.

Mr. Elliott and the Staff discussed kidsvoting.org. This program is currently being used in 20 counties throughout North Carolina. It is intended to educate children about voting. Mr. Elliott would like to see Forsyth County participate in the program.

Mr. Elliott stated he would like to see a letter go out to senior citizens prior to the Presidential election next fall to let them know how they can register to vote and the options they have for voting.

#### Website and Communications Update

Mr. Coffman stated the updates are still in progress.

#### May Pollworker Recruitment Meeting Review

The Board and Staff discussed the Pollworker Recruitment Meeting that will take place on May 8. Mr. Cox stated the meeting should not be a Board of Elections meeting. Mr. Elliott agreed and stated he wanted it to be more of an informal gathering. Mr. Elliott stated he would like to give notice to the parties of the meeting so they can attend. Mr. Elliott also stated he would like to place a notice in the paper regarding the meeting. Ms. Sutton moved to purchase an ad for the May meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

### Preparations for State Board of Elections Wellness Check

Mr. Coffman stated the State Board of Elections would be conducted a Wellness Check on April 23 at 1:00 P.M. He stated the check will be done by Don Wright, State Board of Elections Attorney. He explained to the Board that a preliminary check was done with the District Election Technician.

### Precinct 808 Discussion

The Board and Staff discussed precinct 808, Country Club Fire Station. The Board of Elections has received complaints from voters regarding precinct 808. There are parking issues as well as safety issues. The precinct is on the corner of a very busy intersection and parking creates a problem for the voters as well as the firefighters. The Fire Chief has asked that the Board of Elections find another location for the precinct. Mr. Coffman stated he drove the entire precinct area and there is no other suitable location to use as a precinct. Mr. Coffman proposed using a facility outside the precinct boundary, which State law allows with State Board of Election approval. He stated there is a church just outside the precinct boundary that would make a suitable precinct. Mr. Coffman states he is in the process of contacting the church regarding the use of the building. He stated that if the location is approved, voters will receive voter cards indicating their new precinct location and signs will be posted at the old precinct telling voters where the new precinct is.

Mr. Coffman stated there are 5 precincts that have 3,000 or more registered voters. He stated he would like to investigate the possibility of splitting these larger precincts since it is not feasible to run a precinct with such a high number of voters. Mr. Coffman explained that state statute allows the splitting of precincts as long as the precincts follow the census tracks.

Mr. Elliott stated he would like to see precinct 604 moved. He stated the School Administration Building has terrible parking and is hard to find.

Mr. Coffman stated Representative Larry Brown wants to move a few precincts in Kernersville. He stated Rep. Brown has found alternative locations for these precincts.

#### Legislative and Legal Updates

Mr. Elliott asked if there were any updates on the Motsinger lawsuit. Mr. Coffman stated there are none.

#### Staff Updates

Mr. Coffman stated he has hired a trainer and the individual will be starting on April 23. He stated that the voter registration position has been filled. Mr. Coffman explained that he has eliminated 2 part-time positions to allow for a full time Tech position. He will be posting the Deputy Director of Elections position in the near future.

#### Other Business

Mr. Coffman stated the State Board of Elections has asked that counties who share jurisdictions formalize an Inter-County Election Agreement. Forsyth and Stoke Counties share the city of King. Stokes County administers the election for both counties. A pollbook of registered voters in the city is sent to the Stokes County Board of Elections and the pollbook is returned to Forsyth County so voters may receive voter history. Mr. Jordan moved to approve the agreement between Forsyth County and Stokes County. The motion passed unanimously.

<u>Adjournment</u>

Mr. Jordan moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 P.M.

J. Eric Elliott

Linda J. Sutton

Jerry D. Jordan