

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF CARTERET
BOARD OF ELECTIONS
1510 LIVE OAK STREET
BEAUFORT, NC 28516
May 6, 2009**

The Carteret County Board of Elections met this date for a regular meeting. All three board members were present along with Director Lindy Lewis and Deputy Director Sharon Lewis.

Member Verdon made a motion to approve minutes from the February 4, 2009 meeting.

No public comment.

A draft, of our Disaster Plan that we have been working on since 2008, was presented to the board for recommendations and revisions. The document details plans regarding safekeeping of voting records and emergency procedures at the polling places in the event of a disaster on Election Day. Small revisions were made and staff was directed to seek input from Emergency Management personnel and Sheriff's office. Plan will be discussed again at the June meeting. Once approved, the plan will be utilized during training of precinct officials. The plan addresses three scenarios including precinct evacuation, BOE evacuation and disruption of election tally and reporting. Staff will also make inquiries regarding any requirements to submit minutes for archive.

Staff recommended that the board temporarily close Newport # 2, Wildwood and North River precincts during the November 3, 2009 Municipal Elections. Newport # 2 and Wildwood were closed during the 2007 Municipal Elections and past elections that did not include any countywide ballot item. The board was advised that the Newport #2 precinct has 47 voters and Wildwood precinct has 88 voters who reside within the Newport municipality. These voters will be notified by mail and directed to the Newport #1 polling site. The Wildwood precinct also has 17 voters who reside within the Morehead City municipality. These voters will be directed to the Morehead #4 precinct. North River has never had any registered voters listed within Beaufort's municipal lines until this year. There are currently 2 voters residing within this precinct. Staff recommended that these voters be directed to the Beaufort #2 precinct and North River polling site be closed for the upcoming election. Temporarily closing these precincts for a small number of voters is a great way to save dollars and pass the savings on to the municipalities who reimburse the county for their elections. Member Verdon made the motion to accept the plan recommended by staff regarding temporarily closing the Newport #2, Wildwood and North River precincts for the November 3, 2009 Municipal Elections. Motion passed 3-0.

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The board was advised that we have 26 voters who are registered in the Beaufort #1 precinct but live within the Morehead City municipality. (Radio Island-causeway) We have 112 voters who are registered in the Bogue precinct who live within the Cape Carteret municipality. All of these voters have previously been mailed voter registration cards which list this information. However, staff requested the board's approval to mail these voters a reminder that they will need to vote in their assigned precinct and appropriate municipal ballots will be available for them. Chairman Henderson made a motion that the voters referenced above be sent letters to clarify the correct voting procedure during the upcoming municipal elections. Motion passed 3 – 0.

Chairman Henderson made a motion that the time for absentee meetings be set at 3PM for dates listed for the October and November Elections. (See attached resolution). Motion passed 3 – 0.

Chairman Henderson made a motion to change the time for counting absentee ballots from 2 PM (default time) to 4 PM on October 6, 2009 and November 3, 2009. (See attached resolution).

The board discussed travel in the upcoming budget year. In our budget request, our department reduced this line item and discussed ways to make certain that board members and staff are able to maintain current certifications and receive adequate training yet reduce the number of dollars spent. Board asked that staff contact the SBOE and ask that agendas for meetings be made available as soon as possible before a conference in order for board and staff to review for needed attendance.

Staff submitted a revised one-stop absentee voting plan for approval by the board. Any time there are changes to the plan, the local BOE must approve a revised plan and submit to the NCSBOE for approval. Staff recommended that one-stop absentee voting take place only at the BOE office for the October 6, 2009 Atlantic Beach Municipal Election and that the BOE office and Western Park be the two sites open for one-stop absentee voting during the November 3, 2009 Municipal Elections. We will plan to staff both sites with the minimum number of workers to adequately operate but also to cut costs. Chairman Henderson made the motion that the one-stop plan be approved with administrative revisions as discussed. Motion passed 3 – 0.

There being no further business, Chairman Henderson adjourned the meeting.

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Respectfully submitted,

Bill Henderson, Chairman

Ben Day, Secretary

Sue Verdon, Member