

Tuesday, March 11, 2008

The Graham County Board of Elections met Tuesday, March 11, 2008 at 2pm at the Board of Elections Office at 18 Court Street, Robbinsville, NC. Present were Chairman Colvard and Secretary Odom.

1. Secretary Odom made a motion to amend the agenda to include discussion about the budget. Chairman Colvard seconded the motion. Vote unanimous. Chairman Colvard made a motion to remove item number three involving the December 7 minutes from the agenda. Secretary Odom seconded this motion. Chairman Colvard suggested that budget discussion take the place of item number three on the agenda. Secretary Odom made a motion to approve the agenda. Chairman Colvard seconded this motion. Vote unanimous.
2. No public comment.
3. Director Farley presented the Board with the amount left in the budget as of January, which was \$44,000. Director Farley talked to the Board about asking the County Commissioners to amend the budget in the amount of \$18,374.76 for related 2007 referendum costs. Chairman Colvard indicated that she had already spoken with the County Manager about this and that it was her impression that they would wait until June to make the amendment.
4. Director Farley presented the Board with the voter stats. There are now 6,529 registered voters. Voter statistic reports included deceased reports as well as new voter reports.
5. Secretary Odom made a motion to hold regular Board meetings on the first Monday of every month at 5:30pm. Chairman Colvard seconded the motion. Vote unanimous. Absentee meetings will be held on April 15, April 22, and April 29 at 5pm. Special meetings for poll workers will be decided on in the future. Secretary Odom made a motion to adopt the resolution concerning the early counting of absentee ballots at 2pm on Election Day. Chairman Colvard seconded the motion. Vote unanimous.
6. After some discussion, it was decided to have 11 workers at the East and West Wards, and 9 workers at the Stecoah and Tapoco Precincts. Secretary Odom made a motion for a brief recess. Chairman Colvard seconded the motion. Secretary Odom made a motion to approve the number of workers, including judges, for the precincts. Chairman Colvard seconded the motion. Vote unanimous. Training will be for the judges only and will be held on April 28 and April 30 at 6pm. If extra training is necessary it will be held on May 2 at 6pm. Secretary Odom made a motion to approve training dates and times. Chairman Colvard seconded the motion. Vote unanimous.

7. Director Farley advised the Board that the materials needed for the Logistics and Accuracy testing have not arrived yet. Discussion followed as to where to hold the testing and when. Chairman Colvard advised Director Farley to let the Board know when the required materials came in and a special meeting would be set to deal with that.

8. Chairman Colvard made a motion to go into closed session to discuss hiring of office personnel, citing GS 143-318.11 A1 and 6. Secretary Odom seconded the motion. Back in open session, Chairman Colvard stated that the Board decided not to hire an assistant for Director Farley, but to continue to utilize Joelene Weeks and Glata Grindstaff. Director Farley is to take notes on how well they perform at their job, if they come in when they're needed, etc., for the Board to look at when they do hire someone after the Primary. Chairman Colvard stated that office help should come in when Director Farley is unable to be here, when she gets overwhelmed by the workload, and when One Stop begins, they are to be here all the time. Director Farley made the suggestion that office help begin working 12 to 4:30 until One Stop begins. Chairman Colvard made a motion to approve office help hours as Director Farley suggested. Secretary Odom seconded the motion. Vote unanimous.

Secretary Odom made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Chairman Colvard seconded the motion. Vote unanimous.

Juanita Colvard, Chairman

Steve Odom, Secretary