

Tuesday October 27, 2009

The Graham County Board of Elections met for an absentee meeting on Tuesday, October 27 at 5:00 pm at the Board of Elections Office; located at 18 Court Street, Robbinsville, NC. Present were Chairman Cody via telephone, Secretary Colvard, Member Ditmore, Director Farley, Attorneys Steve Krake and Mack Tallant with McKinney and Tallant Law Firm.

1. Secretary Colvard called the meeting to order and read the agenda. Chairman Cody suggested the agenda be amended to sign the resolution on the voter challenge. This was added as item 2a. Chairman Cody made a motion to add item 2b to the agenda to hear from the attorneys on the status of their conversation with the county attorney. Secretary Colvard made a motion to add the items, Chairman Cody seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.
2. No public comment.
 - (a) Secretary Colvard asked for a motion to approve the resolution as written, Chairman Cody made the motion, Member Ditmore seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous.
 - (b) Attorneys Tallant and Krake gave updates on meeting with county attorney. Budgetary concerns of the Commissioners were discussed. The commissioners are concerned that hiring two employees would result in a deficit in the budget, asked for clarification on the number of hours each new employee would be working, and if that could fit in the existing budget. Chairman Cody stated it could fit in the original budget. A decision was made to provide an estimate of time, plus a comparison of how cost efficient two part time employees would be relative to one full time employee. Attorney Tallant stated that the commissioners would need data to show why the budget should be returned to the original amount. Secretary Colvard stated that they needed to get back to the memorandum of understanding to create a better understanding and to prevent further disagreements or litigation. The Board thanked the attorneys for their help. The attorneys stated they would talk with the county attorney on Wednesday and report back to the board members. Chairman Cody asked the attorneys to try and make sure the new employee would get paid.

3. The Board reviewed three Absentee One Stop applications. Applications, 104-4, 104-5, and 104-6 were approved. Member Ditmore made a motion to approve all applicants. Chairman Cody seconded. Vote was unanimous.

4. Member Ditmore made a motion to adjourn. Chairman Cody seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous.

Dirk Cody, Chairman

Juanita Colvard, Secretary

Billy Ditmore, Member