

# Brunswick County Electoral Board Meeting

## August 23, 2023

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chairwoman Rene' Rice. In attendance were:

Rene' Rice, Chairwoman

Kerry Phelps, Vice Chairwoman

David Clary, Registrar

Gilbert Benjamin, Secretary

Cyliene Montgomery, Chairwoman of the Brunswick County Democratic Committee

Eric Brazeal, Chairman of the Brunswick County Republican Committee

Rebecca Mullins Officer of Election for Brunswick County

**Welcome:** The Chairwoman welcomed the EB, Registrar, and Citizens to the EB meeting.

**Adopt Agenda:** The Secretary made a motion to amend the agenda by having a special meeting address items D, E, and F second by the Vice Chairwoman.

**Adopt Minutes:** The Secretary made a motion to accept the April 19, 2023, minutes seconded by the Vice Chairwoman, and the motion was carried.

**Registrar's Update:** The Registrar informed EB that because of Virginia law changes new envelopes had to be ordered and four hundred fifty ballots had to be mailed out. He handed out unofficial sample ballots.

**Old Business:** The Chairwoman had not finalized a plan for the Verizon cell phones for EB and did not bring it to the meeting. The Secretary made a motion that the Chairwoman turn in cell phones and ask the County to put the EB on their cell phone plan seconded by the Vice Chairwoman and the motion was carried. The Chairwoman opposed.

The Secretary made a comment on the success of the CPR Training and hoped that we could do another training in the future.

### **New Business:**

- a. The Chairwoman believes there should be equal pay for the Chair and Vice Chair based on the Secretary's stipend. The Vice-Chair and Secretary disagreed based on the workload of the Secretary Further it was explained to the Chairwoman that the stipends received by the EB are assigned at the State level and that the Secretary was the only EB member eligible to receive extra pay.
- b. The Secretary gave EB a handout on the Officer of Election reassignments.

- c. The Secretary made a motion to remove Chairwoman Rene' Rice as Chairwoman of the EB seconded by the Vice Chairwoman and the motion was carried the Chairwoman opposed and said she would not resign.

The Secretary made a motion to make Vice Chairwoman Kerry Phelps Chairwoman of the EB seconded by the Vice Chairwoman Kerry Phelps and the motion carried Rene' Rice opposed. The Secretary made a motion to make Rene' Rice Vice Chairwoman seconded by Chairwoman Kerry Phelps and the motion carried.

Citizen Comments:

Eric Brazeal expressed his concerns on how Rene' Rice conducted herself as Chairwoman of the EB and he requested her to resign he also submitted a letter to the EB.

Rebecca Mullins expressed concerns over not working Early voting for more than one day her daughter not working at all and that the Officers of Election are not being treated fairly by the EB.

Cyliene Montgomery stated that she is looking forward to the business of the EB getting back to normal She also submitted a FOIA request to the EB.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:08 am  
Submitted on August 28, 2023  
Gilbert J. Benjamin, Secretary-EB