

Brunswick County Electoral Board Meeting

September 29, 2021

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:04 am, in attendance was:

Monica McMillan, Chairwoman

David Clary, Registrar

Gilbert Benjamin, Secretary

Rene Rice

Cyliene Montgomery, Chairwoman of Brunswick County Democratic Committee

Gwendolyn McMillan, Chairwoman of NAACP

Adopt Agenda: Rice made a motion to accept the agenda, seconded by Benjamin and the motion carried.

Welcome: Chairwoman welcomed Rene Rice and visitors.

Registrar Update: David had picked up the rental voting machine. Benjamin made a motion for the payment, seconded by Rice motion carried. David informed EB that a FOIA request was made by Charles King and Eric Brazeal, Republican Committee Chair.

New Business: Because of Judge's ruling, the EB had to revote on Souls to the Polls on October 17, 2021, from 12 pm to 4 pm. Benjamin made a motion to accept this date, seconded by Rice and the motion carried. All the EB agreed to be present on that day.

Officers of Electoral Board Review: Because of the Judge ruling the positions of the EB had to be revoted on.

Benjamin made a motion that Monica McMillan be Chairwoman seconded by Rice and the motion carried.

Rice made a motion that Gilbert Benjamin remains as Secretary second by Benjamin and the motion carried. The Chairwoman informed Rice that because she declined the Secretary position that she needed to submit a letter to that effect.

Benjamin made a motion that Rene Rice be Vice Chairwoman seconded by McMillan and the motion carried.

Officers of Election Review: The Officers of Election list was accepted on the January 12, 2021, meeting and did not need to be revoted on. Wally Sayko was on EB on that date. Monica McMillan made a motion that Benjamin make necessary changes to Officers of Election List when needed and update EB when changes are made, seconded by Rice and the motion carried.

Other Business Before the Board: The Chairwoman asked Benjamin to explain the reason for changes to Officers of Election to the Tillman Precinct and early voting assignments. Benjamin stated that the Democratic and Republican parties viewed us as not being in compliance with code, the same code 24.2-115 Article 5 that Mr. King brought to our attention at the meeting. After further review, Charles King was not on neither of the lists that were submitted by both parties, therefore, I removed Charles King as Chief of Tillman and informed him as such and made him a regular Officer of Election. The early voting dates, October 20, 25, & 26, 2021, were needed to give newly appointed Assistant Chiefs experience in working the poll books.

As requested, Mr. Charles King was given the floor to address the EB. He stated that we were wrong and had not followed code 24.2-115 concerning him. Please see the attached statement.

The EB had a lengthy discussion about 24.2-115 Article 5.

Cyliene Montgomery explained both the Republican and Democratic process for getting on their Officers of Election list. Rice asked Cyliene if she would consider reaching out to Charles King, and Cyliene stated that she “would not and would not add him to the Democratic list.”

Gwendolyn McMillan said she has known Charles King for years and that he was a good worker, but we need to follow the process.

The chairwoman said change is good and everyone must change, and change is needed to take place for us to do an effective job.

The EB agreed to compensate Rebecca Mullins \$50.00 because of an error in scheduling, Benjamin made the motion, seconded by Rice and the motion carried.

There was a situation that happened 3 months ago at the King’s Store Precinct that was just brought to the EB’s attention both the Chairwoman and Benjamin spoke to the Chief and he stated there was no problem. Rice suggested that we meet with the Alberta and King’s Store Precincts.

Chairwoman asked that we contact Wally Sayko to inquire if he had turned in his keys and to whom.

Benjamin asked if October 13, 2021, meeting could be changed because of a personal reason. The EB agreed.

Electoral Board discussed that all Officers of Election should be trained on the poll books in the future.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 am.

Submitted on September 6, 2021

Gilbert J. Benjamin, Secretary-EB