

# **DRAFT**

## **BOTETOURT COUNTY ELECTORAL BOARD**

### **MINUTES**

**NOVEMBER 7-16, 2017**

This is a recodation of official activities of the Botetourt County Electoral Board in the period of Tuesday, November 7, through Thursday, November 16, 2017, regarding the General Election of November 7, 2017.

***Tuesday, November 7, 2017—***

Chairman John W. Rader and Vice-Chairman William L. Heartwell, III, met at 7:00 a.m. in the facilities provided for the Department of Elections and Voter Registration on Court House Square in Fincastle, Virginia, to begin an inspection and liaison tour of the ten sited voting precincts in Botetourt County. This was completed in mid-afternoon. No significant problem was encountered, and they reported high morale and enthusiasm evident among the well-organized cadre of precinct workers. Concurrently, Secretary Paul E. Fitzgerald was assigned to maintain ready response availability if required at the Department's offices.

Chairman Rader and Vice-Chairman Heartwell returned to the Department's offices that evening to observe and assist in the return of reports and equipment from the ten precincts.

***Wednesday, November 8, 2017—***

Chairman Rader, Vice-Chairman Heartwell, and Secretary Fitzgerald, assisted by Traci S. Clark, the Director of Elections and General Registrar (DoE/GR), met in the Second Floor Conference Room of the Botetourt County Court House in Fincastle, Virginia, to canvass the vote. For the duration of the meeting, those four persons were the only persons present. No visitor and no observer attended.

The meeting was called to order at 10:36 a.m.

The Electoral Board unanimously approved the minutes of the meeting of October 12, 2017.

The DoE/GR presented eight provisional ballots with accompanying information to the Electoral Board, which took the following actions:

- ❖ Dayna Ash-Leigh Harlow, Eagle Rock Precinct, absentee ballot requested by voter not received by voter and not cast with the Botetourt County Department of Elections. On a motion by Vice-Chairman Heartwell, the Electoral Board voted unanimously that the provisional ballot should be counted.
- ❖ Peter Albert Krimski, Blue Ridge Precinct, requested absentee ballot not received by voter and not cast with the Botetourt County Department of Elections. On a motion by Vice-Chairman Heartwell, the Electoral Board voted unanimously that the provisional ballot should be counted.
- ❖ Timothe Phillip Carpenter, Blue Ridge Precinct, registration was incorrectly cancelled as the result of an administrative error. On a motion by Vice-Chairman Heartwell, the Electoral Board voted unanimously that the provisional ballot should be counted.
- ❖ Sharon Semones O'Donnell, Cloverdale Precinct, clerical error resulted in an improper poll book entry indicated that she had already voted. On a motion by Vice-Chairman Heartwell, the Electoral Board voted unanimously that the provisional ballot should be counted.
- ❖ Donald Wilson Walker, Buchanan Precinct, death information received at the state level erroneously resulted in cancellation of his voter registration. On a motion by Vice-Chairman Heartwell, the Electoral Board voted unanimously that the provisional ballot should be counted.
- ❖ Matthew Douglas Dewhurst, Daleville Precinct, voter registration administratively cancelled for failure to vote in two federal elections. On a motion by Vice-Chairman Heartwell, the Electoral Board voted unanimously that the provisional ballot should be denied.
- ❖ Dollie M. Jones Adams, Troutville Precinct, ID provisional ballot because of absence of photo-identification. Electoral Board action was deferred due to statutory grace-period giving challenged voters until noon on Monday, November 13, 2017, to present photo-identification to the DoE/GR. [See below.]
- ❖ Mary Stewart Atwell, Buchanan Precinct, ID provisional ballot because of absence of photo-identification. Electoral Board action was deferred due to statutory grace-period giving challenged voters

until noon on Monday, November 13, 2017, to present photo-identification to the DoE/GR. [See below.]

The Vote Canvass was completed at 1:30 p.m. and the meeting was continued until 2 p.m. on Monday, November 12, 2017, in the Department's offices on Court House Square in Fincastle, Virginia, for action on the two ID Provisional Ballots and completion and certification of the Voting Abstracts, at the Department's offices.

***Monday, November 13, 2017—***

Chairman Rader, Vice-Chairman Heartwell, and Secretary Fitzgerald reconvened at 2 p.m. on Monday, November 13, 2017, in the Department's offices, where they were informed by the DoE/GR that both voters involved in the two unresolved ID Provisional Ballots failed to appear and present photo-IDs prior to the deadline established by law.

On a motion by Vice-Chairman Heartwell, the Electoral Board voted unanimously that the two ID Provisional Ballots should be denied.

The three members of the Electoral Board, collectively and individually, reviewed and certified the official Abstracts of Voting, and adjourned at 2:27 p.m.

***Tuesday, November 14, 2017—***

Secretary Fitzgerald completed certifications of inventories of the various styles of ballots at 2:17 p.m., on Tuesday, November 14, 2017.

***Thursday, November 16, 2017—***

Secretary Fitzgerald authenticated Certificates of Election, beginning at 3:04 p.m. and ending at 3:17 p.m. on Thursday, November 16, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul E. Fitzgerald, Secretary