

MACON COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
Absentee Ballot Board Meeting, 26 October 2021, 5 PM

Participants: Melanie Thibault, Gary Tallent, Kathy Tinsley, Gary Dills, John Vanhook, Jeff Gillette and Lynne Garrison.

Call to Order: Chair Tinsley called the meeting to order at 5 PM.

1. Review of minutes: Mr. Gillette made a motion to accept the 12 October minutes as written. Mrs. Garrison seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved the motion. Attachment 1. Mr. Vanhook made a motion to accept the 15 October minutes as written. Mrs. Garrison seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved the motion. Attachment 2. Mr. Gillette made a motion to accept the 19 October minutes as written. Mrs. Garrison seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved the motion. Attachment 3.
2. Review Absentee Ballots: The Board received six (6) ballots to date. Each Board member reviewed the ballot envelope. Mr. Vanhook made a motion to accept all ballots as valid. Mrs. Garrison seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved the ballots for counting. The Director opened each ballot. Mr. Vanhook entered the ballots into the machine whose starting count was zero (0). Mr. Gillette assisted Mr. Vanhook while the remaining Board members observed. After the last ballot was entered, the count on the machine was 6.
3. Invoice: The Director provided an invoice (\$228) for Gibson Lock and Key to install new locks on the community building one stop center and, at the conclusion of early voting, to remove the locks. The Board reviewed the invoice and the Chair signed. Attachment 4.
4. Budget: The Director provided the current budget report which shows us on track for the year. Attachment 5.
5. Pay Study Information: The Director presented documents provided by the County outlining the newly approved pay scales (Attachment 6) and the County Manager's plan for the distribution of the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 known as the Premium Pay Policy for Essential Work (Attachment 7). Mr Dills made a motion to accept both the pay scale and the Pay Policy as

written. Mr Gillette seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved the motion.

6. NC State Board of Elections Memo: The Director provide a copy of the NC State Board of Elections (NCSBOE) response to Rep Cleveland concerning the need for an audit. The memorandum provides information to the requestor which outlines the many checks and balances present in the NC elections process. Attachment 8.
7. Public Service Announcements (PSA): Mr. Dills made a motion that the Board provide a series (up to six) press releases with the goal of better informing the public on how the NC election process works. These could include the process of filing for office, how a primary works, what happens to your ballot when you vote, request for poll workers, etc. The first of these PSAs should be available not later than January 2021 and conclude at the beginning of early voting for the primary. Mr. Gillette seconded the motion and the Board approved unanimously.
8. Adjourn: With no further business, Mr. Vanhook made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Garrison seconded the motion and the Board approved unanimously. The Board will reconvene at 5 PM on 1 November 2021. The Board adjourned at 6:15 PM.

Attachments

1. Minutes from 12 October 2021
2. Minutes from 15 October 2021
3. Minutes from 19 October 2021
4. Invoice for Gibson Lock
5. Current budget report
6. County revised pay scale
7. Premium Pay Policy for Essential Work
8. NCSBOE memo 18 October 2021