Buncombe County Board of Elections
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 28, 2026

Opening

A meeting of the Buncombe County Board of Elections was called to order at 3:32pm on Wednesday, January 28, 2026, at 35 Woodfin Street, Asheville, NC 28801.

Attendance

Board Members	Election Services Staff
Glenda Weinert, Board Chair (in-person) Courtney Blossman, Member (in-person) Mary Ann Braine, Secretary (in-person) Sally Stein, Member (in-person) Jake Quinn, Member (in-person) 7 virtual guests 2 in-person guests	Corinne Duncan, Director (in-person) Gabrielle Corey, Staff (in-person) Rachael Wonderlich, Staff (in-person) Karen Rae, Staff (in-person) Aaron Bell, Staff (in-person) Joyce Kanavel, Staff (in-person) Sasha Hetherington, Staff (in-person) Devin Whitney, Staff (in-person/remote) Bria Bailey, Staff (in-person) Buncombe County Staff: Samantha Kirk (CAPE), in-person

Welcome Visitors

- Chair Weinert welcomed in-person attendees and recognized the virtual attendees.

Item One: Approval of Agenda

- Chair Weinert requested a motion to approve the agenda for today's meeting on January 28, 2026. Member Stein moved to approve the agenda for this meeting. The motion carried with five in favor and zero against.

Item Two: Minutes

- Chair Weinert requested a motion to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2026 meeting and the January 15, 2026 meeting. Member Blossman so moved. The motion carried with five in favor and zero against.

Item Three: Office Updates

Director Duncan gave office updates including the following:

- Welcome Rachael Wonderlich, the new Recruiting and Outreach Coordinator!
- Media availability has begun.
- The State Board of Elections (SBOE) winter virtual conference has been rescheduled to February 5 and 6, 2026.

- The voter registration deadline for the upcoming Primary Election is Friday, February 6 at 5:00pm.
- Early Voting starts February 12, 2026.
- Early Voting training has concluded and we are now training for Election Day at 200 College St instead of 40 Coxe Ave due to storm preparedness efforts.

Item Four: Report on Filling Poll Worker Vacancies

- Staff member Rachael Wonderlich presented a report of Election Day poll worker vacancies filled to date, per Resolution 2025-09. The Board discussed.

Item Five: Resolution for Counting Absentee Ballots

- Director Duncan presented the resolution as required by General Statute to start counting absentee ballots on Election Day at 2:00 pm.
- The Board discussed the resolution.
- Member Quinn moved for adoption of the resolution as presented. Secretary Braine seconded. The motion carried with five in favor and zero against.

Item Six: Absentee Ballot Review

- Staff Member Aaron Bell reviewed the absentee ballot review process. Today, there are 11 total ballots to review, eight civilian (CIV) and three overseas (OVR).
- Total ballots issued to date are 667: 615 CIV, 51 OVR, and one MIL. Another number to note will be pending cures (zero today).
- Staff Member Bell went over the absentee review guide.
- Staff Member Bell presented the eight civilian (CIV) and three overseas (OVR) absentee ballots for the Board's review.
- The Board reviewed the ballots and signed the lists.
- Chair Weinert requested a motion to approve the absentee ballots as presented. Member Stein moved to approve eight CIV ballots and three UOCAVA ballots for a total of 11 ballots as reviewed. Member Quinn seconded. The motion carried with five in favor and zero against.
- One CIV ballot required duplication. The duplication team duplicated the ballot. Chair Weinert administered the oath to the duplication team and they heard all calls, saw all marks, were satisfied, and had no questions.

Item Seven: Next Meeting Date

The next Board of Elections meeting is Tuesday, February 3, 2026, at 3:30 pm at 35 Woodfin Street, Asheville, NC 28801.

- Member Quinn made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried with five in favor and zero against.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:28 pm.

Minutes submitted by:

Gabrielle Corey, Clerk

Approval date: 02/03/2026

Minutes approved by:

Glenda Weinert 2/3/26
Glenda Weinert, Chair

Mary Ann Braine 2/3/2026
Mary Ann Braine, Secretary

Courtney Blossman 2/3/26
Courtney Blossman, Member

Sally Stein 2/3/26
Sally Stein, Member

2/3/26
Jake Quinn, Member

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-02

RESOLUTION FOR SETTING TIME AND PLACE FOR THE PURPOSE OF COUNTING ABSENTEE BALLOTS FOR THE MARCH 3, 2026, PRIMARY ELECTION

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 163-234(2), the county board of elections may begin counting absentee ballots issued under Article 21A of this Chapter between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. and may begin counting all absentee ballots between the hours of 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. upon the adoption of a resolution wherein the hour and place of counting absentee ballots shall be stated; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Buncombe County Board of Elections as follows:

1. The Buncombe County Board of Elections shall meet and convene at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday March 3, 2026, in the Board Room at 35 Woodfin Street, Asheville, North Carolina, for the purpose of counting military, overseas, and civilian absentee ballots, except those which may have been challenged according to law.

2. That this resolution shall be effective upon its adoption.

3. That a copy of this resolution shall be published once a week for two weeks prior to the election as required by law.

This 28th day of January 2026.

BUNCOMBE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

BY: Glenda Weinert

Glenda Weinert, Chair