Buncombe County Board of Elections
Meeting Minutes
Friday, March 6, 2026

Opening

A meeting of the Buncombe County Board of Elections was called to order at 1:00 pm on Friday, March 6, 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) 8 virtual guests 4 in-person guests	Corinne Duncan, Director (in-person) Gabrielle Corey, Staff (in-person) Devin Whitney, Staff (in-person) Aaron Bell, Staff (in-person) Joyce Kanavel, Staff (in-person) Sasha Hetherington, Staff (in-person) Rachael Fortune, Staff (in-person) Ray Kull, Staff (in-person) Margot Searson, Staff (in-person) Dave Epley, MAT (in-person) Terry Rafinski, MAT (in-person) Chris Berger, MAT (in-person) Christiana Krooyndyk, MAT (in-person) Ron Howell, MAT (in-person) Gregg Teufel, MAT (in-person) Donna Setzer, MAT (in-person) Martha Vining, MAT (in-person) Nathaniel Speier, Staff (in-person) Victoria Pickens, Staff (in-person) 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 March 6, 2026. Member Blossman 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 continue the minutes to a future meeting. Secretary Braine so moved. Member Quinn seconded. The motion carried with five in favor and zero against.

Item Three: Office Updates

Director Duncan gave office updates including the following:

- The first pass on all voting types is complete for the audit which keeps processes on schedule. All supplies and equipment have been returned to the warehouse.
- Today's meeting includes ballot challenges, supplemental absentee lists and abstract, and provisional applications. Devin Whitney will be presenting the challenges, how voters are notified, and their process. Voters whose ballots are challenged can come to the hearing on canvass day. Tuesday, March 10 at 5:00 pm is the official deadline for entering challenges.
- To date, 143 absentee ballots were received in the mail after Election Day that will be presented for disapproval before canvass on Friday, March 13.
- Provisionals will take up the rest of today's meeting and will be the last significant addition to the election results. Provisional results will be posted to the website today.
- The sample audit is Monday, March 9 at 10:00 am at 35 Woodfin St. This is an open process. Election Day precincts 55.1 and 59.1 were randomly selected by the State Board of Elections.
- Thursday, March 12 at 5:30 pm is the pre-canvass meeting. Any remaining eligible UOCAVAs will be reviewed.
- Friday, March 13 at 11:00 am is canvass where the final audit is presented for board certification.

Item Four: Ballot Challenges

- Staff Member Devin Whitney explained the ballot challenge process and then presented three ballot challenges. One voter was already registered in the county and filled out a Same Day Registration (SDR) during Early Voting and changed their party affiliation to choose a ballot style unavailable to them. Numbered memo 2022-05 was referenced as guidance. The voter was notified. If the challenge is entered, then the decision would be made on canvass.
- Chair Weinert requested a motion to sustain the challenge. Secretary Braine made a motion to enter the challenge on the ballot with the incorrect ballot style. Member Stein seconded. The motion carried with five in favor and zero against. Chair Weinert signed the voter challenge form.
- One voter had the incorrect ballot style (was handed the wrong ballot on the first day of Early Voting and voted). The voter was notified and then voted provisionally. The provisional application is listed as recommended for approval.
- Chair Weinert requested a motion to sustain the challenge. Secretary Braine made a motion to enter the challenge on the ballot with the incorrect ballot style. Member Quinn seconded. The motion carried with five in favor and zero against. Chair Weinert signed the voter challenge form.
- One voter voted absentee-by-mail but then passed away. It was processed on the February 10 absentee meeting. This would require an absentee disapproval first, then the challenge could be entered. The notification to the voter/household is in the mail.

- Chair Weinert requested a motion to disapprove the absentee ballot as presented. Secretary Braine moved to disapprove the absentee ballot of the deceased voter. Member Quinn seconded. The motion carried with five in favor and zero against.
- Secretary Braine made a motion to enter the challenge on the ballot due to the voter passing away. Member Quinn seconded. The motion carried with five in favor and zero against. Chair Weinert signed the voter challenge form.
- The Board took public comment from Cathy Walsh.

Item Five: Supplemental List of Absentee Ballots (cures and UOCAVA mailed)

- Staff Member Aaron Bell reviewed the process if any cures were received (there were no cures to review today). The supplemental CIV absentee list from Election Day does need to be approved. The Board reviewed the list.
- Chair Weinert requested a motion to approve the supplemental CIV absentee ballot list as presented and reviewed. Member Blossman so moved. Member Quinn seconded. The motion carried with five in favor and zero against.
- Chair Weinert read the oath and Director Duncan notarized it.

Item Six: Provisional Review

- Director Duncan gave an overview of the provisional ballot process. There are 304 provisional applications for the Board to review. The Board discussed.
- Staff Member Bria Bailey presented the zero supplemental absentee abstract list in triplicate for the Board to review and sign. Staff Member Bailey notarized the lists.
- Chair Weinert requested a motion to approve the zero supplemental absentee abstract. Member Blossman so moved. Member Quinn seconded. The motion carried with five in favor and zero against.
- Chair Weinert requested a motion to allow the Board to initial the provisional envelopes as the Board reviews them. Member Quinn moved to delegate authority to any board member with authorization from the chair to initial provisional envelopes. Secretary Braine seconded. The motion carried with five in favor and zero against.
- Staff Member Nathaniel Speier presented the provisional process in detail, including why someone would vote provisionally and how the application is researched. The Board discussed.
- Staff Member Speier presented three pending provisional applications to review due to missing photo ID exception forms that were located after being filed by poll workers in the incorrect location. The Board reviewed the three pending provisional applications.
- Member Stein made a motion to approve the three photo ID exception forms. Member Blossman seconded. The motion carried with five in favor and zero against.
- Staff Member Speier presented one pending provisional application to review due to the voter requesting the party affiliation be changed in 2016 but the change did not occur. They voted again in 2024 with a different party ballot than registered. They voted provisionally in this election with the comment they believed current registered party affiliation was an error.
- Chair Weinert requested a motion. Secretary Braine made a motion to put the one pending provisional ballot into the approved category for review due to consistent voter intent. Member Blossman seconded. Member Quinn called for discussion. The Board discussed. Secretary Braine restated the motion to move the pending provisional

application to the approval list due to consistent voter intent and for staff to follow up with the voter to update their registration. The motion carried with five in favor and zero against.

- Staff Member Speier presented 21 provisional applications recommended for partial approval. The Board reviewed the provisional applications with provisional team member assistance. The duplication teams duplicated ballots.
- Staff Member Speier presented 155 provisional applications recommended for full approval. The Board reviewed the provisional applications with provisional team member assistance.
- The Board reviewed three ballots that had been presented for full approval but upon opening the ballot it was found they did not have the correct ballot style and should be moved to the partial approval category.
- The Board reviewed one ballot that had been presented for full approval but upon opening the ballot it was found it did not have the correct ballot style and should be moved to the disapproval category.
- Staff Member Speier presented 129 provisional applications recommended for disapproval. The Board reviewed the provisional applications with provisional team member assistance.
- The duplication team duplicated 26 ballots. Chair Weinert confirmed with the duplication teams that all calls and marks were clearly heard and seen, the duplication teams were satisfied with the duplications, and they had no concerns. The provisional team assistants were dismissed.
- The Board signed the list of 24 partially approved provisionals. Chair Weinert requested a motion for the 24 partially approved ballots. Member Quinn made a motion to partially approve 24 provisional ballots as presented by staff. Secretary Braine seconded. The motion carried with five in favor and zero against.
- The Board signed the list of 151 fully approved provisionals. Chair Weinert requested a motion for the 151 fully approved ballots. Member Quinn made a motion to approve 151 provisional ballots recommended for full approval by staff. Secretary Braine seconded. The motion carried with five in favor and zero against.
- The Board signed the list of 129 disapproved provisionals. Chair Weinert requested a motion to approve the disapproved 129 provisional ballots. Member Blossman so moved. Member Quinn seconded. The motion carried with five in favor and zero against.
- In total, 175 provisional ballots were approved.
- Staff Member Bailey presented the updated but unofficial election results to the Board for review. The provisional results were posted before the 5:00 pm deadline at 4:47 pm.

Item Seven: Next Meeting Date

The Sample Audit is Monday, March 9, 2026 at 10:00 am at 35 Woodfin Street, Asheville, NC 28801.

The next Board of Elections meeting is Tuesday, March 10, 2026, at 3:30 pm at 35 Woodfin Street, Asheville, NC 28801 (if needed) or Thursday, March 12, 2026, at 5:30pm at 35 Woodfin Street, Asheville, NC 28801 for pre-canvass.

- Member Blossman moved to adjourn the meeting. Member Quinn seconded. The motion carried with five in favor, zero opposed.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:51 pm.

Minutes submitted by:

Gabrielle Corey, Clerk

Approval date: 04/21/2026

Minutes approved by:

Glenda Weinert, Chair 4/21/26

Mary Ann Braine, Secretary 4/21/26

Courtney Blossman, Member 4/21/26

Sally Stein, Member 4/21/26

Jake Quinn, Member 4/21/26