Buncombe County Board of Elections
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 10, 2026

Opening

A meeting of the Buncombe County Board of Elections was called to order at 3:30 pm on Tuesday, February 10, 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) 9 virtual guests 5 in-person guests	Corinne Duncan, Director (in-person) Gabrielle Corey, Staff (in-person) Aaron Bell, Staff (in-person) Joyce Kanavel, Staff (in-person) Sasha Hetherington, Staff (in-person) Devin Whitney, Staff (in-person) Bria Bailey, Staff (in-person) Buncombe County Staff: Samantha Kirk (CAPE), in-person Amy Broughton (Legal), in-person

Item One: Approval of Agenda

- Chair Weinert requested a motion to approve the agenda for today's meeting on February 10, 2026. Director Duncan suggested an amendment to the agenda to remove the administrative voter challenge preliminary hearing as the voter cancelled their registration and a hearing is no longer needed. Member Quinn moved to approve the agenda for this meeting as presented with the exception of Item Four. 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 20, 2026 and February 3, 2026 meetings as presented. Member Quinn so moved. The motion carried with five in favor and zero against.

Item Three: Office Updates

Director Duncan gave office updates including the following:

- Secretary Mary Ann Braine has completed her State Board of Elections certification and is now a state certified board member.
- Amy Broughton, legal counsel for Buncombe County, will be attending board meetings as she can to learn more about our processes and provide support upon request.
- Early Voting starts February 12, 2026 and Director Duncan will be promoting it via Facebook live at 11:00 am that morning.

- Nineteen Absentee ballots were sent out to the Veterans Administration (VA) on January 13 and it was reported that they did not arrive. The Absentee ballots were reissued on February 6 and they have arrived at the VA. The State Board of Elections was made aware of the situation. The original ballots from January 13 were spoiled. No other issues to report.
- The State Board of Elections appeal for the Morman Candidate Challenge will be Wednesday February 11 at 10:00 am and will be live streamed.
- The new website management system, CivicPlus, is also subscription based for the Elections calendars. Be sure to sign up to receive notices for the various Elections calendar events.
- The County's Code Red text alert system has been changed to the Rave system but won't be available until the General Election this fall.
- Training continues through February 27 (six weeks total).
- The Absentee ballot request deadline is 5:00 pm on February 17.
- Chair Weinert corrected information shared at the last meeting. Evidence was emailed to Chair Weinert in advance of the hearing but she had not opened it.
- Chair Weinert stated there have been no updates from the State Auditor liaison Mr. Woodhouse.
- Chair Weinert and Member Stein are meeting with Assistant County Manager Tim Love on February 13 to continue the facilities discussion.
- Secretary Braine wanted to clarify the information request for the permanent staff budget. The Board discussed.
- Secretary Braine made a motion to request a personnel report from Buncombe County Human Resources (HR) with specifics on Election Services staff salaries and job classifications. Member Blossman seconded. The motion carried with three in favor, one opposed (Member Stein), and one abstained (Member Quinn).
- Chair Wienert added that the MOU addresses the relationship with County HR.

Item Four: Administrative Voter Challenge Preliminary Hearing

- This item was removed by amending the agenda.

Item Five: Absentee Ballot Review

- Staff Member Aaron Bell presented 89 total absentee ballots to review, 81 civilian (CIV), seven overseas (OVR) and one military (MIL).
- Total absentee ballots issued to date are 1,156.
- The Board reviewed the ballots and signed the lists.
- Chair Weinert moved to approve the voter intent of one CIV absentee ballot as reviewed by the Board. Member Quinn seconded. The motion carried with five in favor and zero against.
- Two CIV ballots required duplication. The duplication team duplicated the ballots. Chair Weinert administered the oath to the duplication team and they heard all calls, saw all marks, were satisfied, and had no questions or concerns.
- Chair Weinert requested a motion to approve all absentee ballots as presented and reviewed. Member Stein moved to approve all ballots as presented and reviewed. Member Blossman seconded. The motion carried with five in favor and zero against.
- Chair Weinert announced the next meeting will be February 17, 2026 at 3:30pm.

- Chair Weinert called the meeting to recess at 35 Woodfin St and reconvene at the warehouse at 50 Coxe Ave. The meeting will adjourn from 50 Coxe Ave and the public is welcome to attend.

Item Six: Election Day Machine Testing

The Board recessed at 5:26 pm to move to 50 Coxe Ave for Election Day machine testing. The meeting was brought back into session at 5:48 pm.

- According to NC G.S. § 163-33.2, the Board shall test voting machines, in a reasonable number of combinations, no less than ten percent (10%) of all voting machines programmed for each election.
- Each Board member selected at least two different precincts (11 precincts total) to test ballot styles. Eighty DS200 tabulators were available for Board testing. The Board tested 11 Election Day DS200 tabulators.
- The Board tested machines with the following serial numbers:

DS200 Tabulators:

DS0315350165	DS0315350097	DS0315350201
DS0315332138	DS0315350334	DS0315350350
DS0315350152	DS0315350082	DS0315350456
DS0315350195	DS0315350156	

- The Board completed a hand-eye comparison of ballots to machine tapes and found no errors.
- Member Stein moved to approve the machine testing, because all machine counts matched hand-eye counts. The motion passed with five in favor and zero against.

Item Seven: Next Meeting Date

The next Board of Elections meeting is Tuesday, February 17, 2026, at 3:30 pm at 35 Woodfin Street, Asheville, NC 28801.

- Secretary Braine made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed with five in favor and zero against.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 pm.

Minutes submitted by:

Gabrielle Corey, Clerk

Approval date: 02/17/2026

Minutes approved by:

Glenda Weinert 2/17/26
Glenda Weinert, Chair

Mary Ann Braine 2/17/26
Mary Ann Braine, Secretary

Courtney Blossman 2/11/26

Courtney Blossman, Member

Sally Stein 2/17/26

Sally Stein, Member

2/17/26

Jake Quinn, Member