**Buncombe County Board of Elections**
**Meeting Minutes**
**Tuesday, October 6, 2026**

## Opening

A meeting of the Buncombe County Board of Elections was called to order at 3:30 pm on Tuesday, October 6, 2026, at 35 Woodfin Street, Asheville, NC 28801.

## Attendance

| Board Members | Election Services Staff |
|---|---|
| Glenda Weinert, Board Chair (in-person)<br>Mary Ann Braine, Secretary (in-person)<br>Courtney Blossman, Member (in-person)<br>Sally Stein, Member (in-person)<br>Jake Quinn, Member (in-person) | Corinne Duncan, Director (in-person)<br>Gabrielle Corey, Staff (in-person)<br>Aaron Bell, Staff (in-person)<br>Devin Whitney, Staff (in-person)<br>Joyce Kanavel, Staff (in-person)<br>Emerson Ellis, Staff (in-person)<br>Mary Lou Surgi, MAT (in-person)<br>Christiana Kroondyk, MAT (in-person)<br>Gregg Teufel, MAT (in-person)<br>Ron Howell, MAT (in-person)<br>Terry Rafinski, MAT (in-person) |
| 3 virtual guests<br>7 in-person guests | Buncombe County Staff:<br>Samantha Kirk (CAPE), in-person<br>Angelica Tyler (CAPE), in-person<br>Amy Broughton (Legal), in-person |

## Welcome Visitors

- Chair Weinert welcomed in-person attendees and recognized the virtual attendees. Chair Wienert confirmed Early Voting machine testing by the Board occurred at 1:30pm at 50 Coxe Ave and she thanked attendees from 50 Coxe Ave.

## Item One: Approval of Agenda

- Member Quinn moved to approve the agenda as presented 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 meeting for September 29, 2026. Member Blossman so moved. The motion carried with five in favor and zero against.

- Chair Weinert requested a motion to defer the minutes of the meeting at 1:30pm today to a future meeting. Member Quinn moved to defer the minutes. The motion carried with five in favor and zero against.

**Item Three: Office Updates**

Director Duncan gave office updates including the following:

- The Board just completed Early Voting Board Machine testing has been completed successfully. All tests matched results.
- Election Day poll worker training continues.
- Unvalidated ID letters were sent out from the State Board of Elections (SBOE). This is a voluntary submission of missing or mismatched ID. This does not impact a voter's ability to vote. The Board discussed.
- Registered voters can get a free voter photo ID from the Election Services office.
- Voter registration deadline is 5pm this Friday October 9.
- Early Voting begins on Thursday, October 15 at 13 sites across the County.
- The deadline to request Absentee-by-mail ballots is October 20.
- Tabletop emergency response exercise yesterday was successful. There were over 40 attendees from different departments, including Board Chair Weinert, and Members Stein and Braine. The Board discussed.

**Item Four: Absentee Ballot Review**

- Staff Member Aaron Bell reported the total absentee ballots issued to date are 4,954: 4,239 Civilian (CIV), 31 Military (MIL), and 684 Overseas (OVR).
- Staff Member Bell presented six CIV ballots with non-curable deficiencies recommended for disapproval.
- The Board reviewed.
- Chair Weinert requested a motion to disapprove the six absentee ballots presented with non-curable deficiencies. Secretary Braine so moved. Member Stein seconded. The motion carried with five in favor and zero against. The Board signed the list.
- Staff Member Bell presented the 197 CIV, three MIL, and 67 OVR absentee ballots for the Board's review today with assistants, 267 ballots in total.
- The Board reviewed the ballots.
- Chair Weinert reported the need to leave the meeting and officially passed the gavel to Secretary Braine to finish leading the meeting.
- Twelve CIV ballots required duplication. The duplication team duplicated the ballots. Secretary Braine administered the oath to the duplication team and they heard all calls, saw all marks, were satisfied, and had no questions.
- Five CIV ballots were moved to pending status due to mismatches with the CIV number.
- Secretary Braine requested a motion to approve 192 CIV ballots, three MIL ballots, and 67 OVR ballots for a total of 262 ballots as reviewed. Member Blossman so moved. Member Stein seconded. The motion carried with four in favor and zero against.
- The Board signed the lists.
- The Board discussed the schedule next week and Secretary Braine requested a motion to do Election Day machine Board testing at 1:00 pm on Tuesday 10/13 at 50 Coxe Ave and then meet separately at 3:30 pm at 35 Woodfin for the regularly scheduled Absentee

meeting. Member Blossman so moved. Member Stein seconded. The motion carried with four in favor and zero against.

**Item Five: Next Meeting Date**

The next Board of Elections meeting is Tuesday, October 13, 2026, at 1:00 pm at 50 Coxe Avenue, Asheville, NC 28801, followed by 3:30 pm at 35 Woodfin Street, Asheville, NC 28801.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 5:33 pm.

Minutes submitted by:

Gabrielle Corey, Clerk

Approval date: 10/13/2026

Minutes approved by:

Glenda Weinert, Chair 10/13/26

Mary Ann Braine, Secretary 10/13/26

Courtney Blossman, Member 10/13/26

Sally Stein, Member 10/13/26

Jake Quinn, Member 10/13/26