Buncombe County Board of Elections
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 27, 2026

Opening

A meeting of the Buncombe County Board of Elections was called to order at 3:33 pm on Tuesday, October 27, 2026, at 35 Woodfin Street, Asheville, NC 28801.

Attendance

Board Members	Election Services Staff
Glenda Weinert, Board Chair (in-person) Mary Ann Braine, Secretary (in-person) Courtney Blossman, Member (in-person) Sally Stein, Member (in-person) Jake Quinn, Member (in-person) 5 virtual guests 10 in-person guests	Corinne Duncan, Director (in-person) Gabrielle Corey, Staff (in-person) Aaron Bell, Staff (in-person) Bria Bailey, Staff (in-person) Rachael Wonderlich, Staff (in-person) Joyce Kanavel, Staff (in-person) Emerson Ellis, Staff (in-person) Mary Lou Surgi, MAT (in-person) Christiana Kroondyk, MAT (in-person) Gregg Teufel, MAT (in-person) Ron Howell, MAT (in-person) Terry Rafinski, MAT (in-person) Buncombe County Staff: Angelica Tyler (CAPE), in-person Amy Broughton (Legal), in-person

Welcome Visitors

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

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 asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting for October 20, 2026. Member Quinn so moved. Member Blossman seconded. The motion carried with five in favor and zero against.

Item Three: Office Updates

Director Duncan gave office updates including the following:

- As of yesterday, overall Early Voting turnout was almost 63,400 voters. Early Voting ends this Saturday, October 31 at 3:00 pm. The last Saturday is open from 8:00 am until 3:00 pm and that is also the last day before Election Day to get a free voter photo ID from Election Services at 35 Woodfin. The Board discussed.
- Absentee ballots must be received by 7:30 pm on Election Day, November 3. They can also be turned in at any Early Voting site or at Election Services office at 35 Woodfin during office hours. They cannot be turned in at Election Day sites.
- Election day is one week from today! The meeting schedule through Canvass was discussed.
- Staff Member Rachael Wonderlich provided an updated list of poll workers. The Board discussed.
- The Board discussed sample ballots at Early Voting sites. Early Voting sites have 32 sample ballot styles, there is a poster with QR codes, laminated copies, and poll workers can print a sample ballot if needed.
- The Board took public comment from Melissa Cole Essig.

Item Four: Absentee Ballot Review

- Staff Member Aaron Bell presented one civilian (CIV) ballot for Board consideration. The Board reviewed the ballot, updated the precinct, and it will be reviewed with the other CIV ballots this meeting.
- Staff Member Bell presented 28 CIV ballots with non-curable deficiencies recommended for disapproval. The Board reviewed.
- Chair Weinert requested a motion to disapprove the 28 CIV ballots presented with non-curable deficiencies that have been reissued. Member Blossman so moved. Member Stein seconded. The motion carried with five in favor and zero against. The Board signed the list.
- Staff Member Bell reported that the total number of Absentee ballots issued to date are 6,774: 5,803 CIV, 67 military (MIL), and 904 overseas (OVR).
- Staff Member Bell presented 791 total absentee ballots for Board review with assistants: 649 CIV, eight MIL, and 134 OVR.
- The Board reviewed the ballots.
- Two ballots (one MIL and one OVR) were checked in for this board meeting by mistake and will be reviewed at the next meeting on Monday, November 2 at 2:00 pm.
- The Board recessed at 5:00 pm.
- The Board came back into session at 5:32 pm. The Board continued reviewing ballots.
- The Board reviewed a CIV ballot for voter intent. Member Quinn moved to approve the ballot as presented. Member Stein seconded. The motion carried with five in favor and zero against. The ballot will be scanned as is.
- Three CIV ballots were moved to pending status due to mismatches with the CIV number.
- Fourteen 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.
- Chair Weinert requested a motion to approve the absentee ballots as presented. Member Quinn moved to approve 646 CIV, seven MIL, and 133 OVR ballots for a total of 786

ballots as reviewed. Member Blossman seconded. The motion carried with five in favor and zero against.

- The Board signed the lists.

Item Five: Next Meeting Date

The next Board of Elections meeting is Monday, November 2, 2026, at 2:00 pm at 35 Woodfin Street, Asheville, NC 28801. This is followed by another meeting at 5:30 pm same day.

- Member Quinn made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 pm.

Minutes submitted by:

Gabrielle Corey, Clerk

Approval date: 11/02/2026

Minutes approved by:

Glenda Weinert 11/2/26
Glenda Weinert, Chair

Mary Ann Braine 10/2/26
Mary Ann Braine, Secretary

Courtney Blossman, Member

Sally Stein 10/2/26
Sally Stein, Member

Jake Quinn 11/2/26
Jake Quinn, Member