

CATAWBA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Minutes of meeting held on October 14, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. All members and the Director were present. The minutes from October 8, 2019, were approved.

In accordance with a recommendation from the State Board of Elections' General Counsel dated October 10, 2019, the Board met to conduct a discretionary recount of the votes in Hickory's Ward 3, in that two candidates tied for second place, and one-stop voting for the November election is scheduled to begin on October 16; therefore, ballots must be coded today. Candidate Jackson was present when the recount began, and candidate Hefner arrived before it ended. The number of ballots found and counted was the same as that reported on the date of the primary election. The results of the recount were the same as that of the original count; these candidates each received sixteen votes. The Board went into recess until 11:00 a.m.

At 11:00 a.m., the Board reconvened to conduct the canvass. Two supplemental absentee ballots were received, but neither could be counted; one had no postmark, and the other was received on October 14, past the Friday deadline. In each precinct, the voter history number matched the number of ballots cast. The hand-and-eye recount of the mail-in absentee ballots and the ballots cast in Highland precinct #16 matched the tabulator results found on election day.

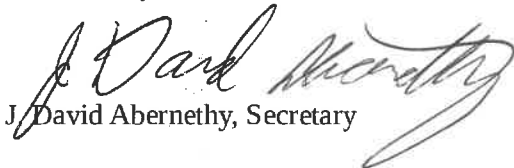
The City of Hickory primary results are as follows: In Ward 1, Eckard 77, Strickland 27, and Wood 142. In Ward 2, Masche 165, Wetmore 128, and Williams 246. In Ward 3, Hefner 16, Jackson 16, and Seaver 28. The voter turnout in the primary was 6.47%.

In accordance with G.S. 163-294(b), the winner of the tied race for second place in Ward 3 was determined by lot; a coin toss was the method used. Candidate Jackson called heads, and the result was tails. Therefore candidate Nathan Hefner was declared the second-place winner to proceed to the November election.

It will be unnecessary for the Board to meet tomorrow, as no absentee ballots for the November election have been received. The Board will next meet the Tuesday following at 8:15 a.m. to receive absentee ballots and to discuss the one-stop schedule for the year 2020.

The meeting adjourned at 11:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,


J. David Abernethy, Secretary