

WATAUGA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

County Courthouse ◆ 842 West King Street Boone, North Carolina 28607

NOVEMBER 14, 2025

AGENDA

- 1. CALL TO ORDER
- 2. PLEDGE
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 7, 2025
- 4. VOTER CHALLENGE HEARING
- 5. CANVASS REPORT
- 6. CANVASS OF BEECH MOUNTAIN, BLOWING ROCK, BOONE, AND SEVEN DEVILS MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS
- 7. ADJOURNMENT



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The Watauga County Board of Elections met on Friday, November 14, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. in the Watauga County Courthouse located at 842 West King Street, Boone, NC 28607. Board Members in attendance were Chairperson Eric Eller; Members Leta Councill, Elaine Rothenberg and Secretary Terry Cirone. Member Cline participated via Zoom. Also attending: Elections Director Matt Snyder and Deputy Director Donna Houck.

November 14, 2025

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Eric Eller called the meeting to order.

PLEDGE

All present pledged allegiance to the flag

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 7, 2025

Member Councill moved to approve the minutes from the November 7, 2025, meeting which was seconded by Member Rothenberg. There was no discussion. The minutes were approved by a 5-0 vote.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 7, 2025 CLOSED SESSION

Member Cline made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 7 Closed Session concerning Civil Action 5:25 -cv-157 which was seconded by Member Councill. There was no discussion. The minutes were approved by a 5-0 vote.

5. VOTER CHALLENGE HEARING

Director Snyder then began the Voter Challenge Hearing. The BOE challenged the ballot cast by Mr. Brooke Ronald Johnson, Sr. for the reason of the voter being deceased on Election Day. Mr. Johnson had voted by absentee ballot which was received by the BOE on October 20, 2025. The necessary paperwork to support the challenge including the Certificate of Death for Mr. Johnson was provided to the Board for review. A motion to approve the challenge was made by Member Rothenberg and seconded by Member Councill. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed 5-0.

6. DIRECTOR'S CANVASS REPORT

Director Snyder reported that there were only a few issues identified both in early voting and on Election Day. Most of them involved Ballot on Demand issues which occurred at the ASU voting location. While work arounds are available and no votes were impacted, Staff will be contacting the vendor to get to the bottom of the problem. There were also some issues (not concerning voters) with printing certain administrative reports which Staff believe have been

addressed. Overall, Staff is pleased with the DS300 and Electionware performance during this election.

Director Snyder also provided the following voter turnout statistics:

- Blowing Rock 47%
- Boone 8%
- Seven Devils 30%
- Beech Mountain 15%

A big thank you was given to all those who contributed to the successful election including election officials, candidates, other county departments and Board Members.

7. <u>CANVASS OF BEECH MOUNTAIN, BLOWING ROCK, BOONE, AND SEVEN DEVILS MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS</u>

Director Snyder then presented the Board with the Canvass documents for the Board to sign. There is an abstract for the contest total votes as a whole and then an abstract that breaks the votes out by precinct. Member Councill made a motion to approve the Canvass for Beech Mountain, Blowing Rock, Boone and Seven Devils Municipalities which was seconded by Member Rothenberg. There was no further discussion and the motion passed 5-0. There were six copies of the abstract that the BOE Members then signed (Member Cline to sign the abstracts on Monday). Each Municipality gets a copy of the signed abstract; one copy goes to the State and the Watauga BOE keeps a copy.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Member Councill made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Member Rothenberg. The motion passed 5-0.

