



WATAUGA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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

OCTOBER 21, 2025

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. PLEDGE
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 7, 2025
4. NEW REGISTRATIONS AND STATISTICS
5. DIRECTOR'S UPDATE
6. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF ABSENTEE ENVELOPES
7. ADJOURNMENT



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County Board of Elections

The Watauga County Board of Elections met on Tuesday, October 21, 2025, at 5:00 p.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, Pamela Cline, Elaine Rothenberg and Secretary Terry Cirone. Also attending: Elections Director Matt Snyder and Deputy Director Donna Houck.

October 21, 2025

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Eric Eller called the meeting to order.

2. PLEDGE

All present pledged allegiance to the flag

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 7, 2025

Member Councill moved to approve the minutes from the October 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 OCTOBER 7, 2025 CLOSED SESSION

Member Cline moved to amend the minutes from the Closed Session to reflect that a motion to adjourn the Closed Session had been made, seconded and approved by a vote of 5-0. The motion was seconded by Member Councill. There was no discussion. The motion passed 5-0. Member Rothenberg then moved to accept the amended minutes from the October 7, 2025, Closed Session which was seconded by Member Councill. The amended minutes were approved by a 5-0 vote.

5. NEW REGISTRATIONS AND STATISTICS

There were fifty-eight (58) new registrations from October 7, 2025, to October 21, 2025. There are a total of 44,491 voters in Watauga County of which 38,073 are active. There was a brief discussion addressing the fact that while registration for voting in the Municipal election has ended there are still registrations being processed for individuals outside of the Municipal voting jurisdictions. Member Councill made a motion to accept the report, pending review, and the motion was seconded by Member Rothenberg. The motion passed 5-0.

6. DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

Early Voting at both the County Administration Building and ASU Student Union has begun. Director Snyder reported that on the first day of early voting there had been an issue with the

Ballot on Demand equipment failing to print several ballots. Preprinted ballots were provided in those cases. On the second day there was a power issue with the DS300 equipment but a workaround was utilized to fix that problem. The DS300 vendor will be providing a new board to replace what they believe is a faulty board which caused this problem. Additional Ballot on Demand issues are occurring, which is of concern given the low number of ballots that have been issued since voting began. The State, County and vendor have been made aware of the problems. The vendor will be coming to the County next Thursday to investigate the issue. Director Snyder will keep Board Members apprised of how this issue is progressing. Voting has not been impacted because preprinted ballots can be provided when the Ballot on Demand equipment is not performing as needed. Additionally, this does not impact the ability to verify voting statistics (number of ballots issued, ATVs issued etc.).

7. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF ABSENTEE ENVELOPES

There were thirteen (13) civilian and one overseas ballot that were received since the last Board meeting. Five of the civilian ballots had exception forms. A spoiled ballot envelop was utilized for one ballot after the Board agreed on voter intent and a duplicate ballot was voted. A motion to approve all ballots received and to accept the total number of fifteen (15) as provided by the DS300 was made by Member Rothenberg and seconded by Member Cline. The motion passed 5-0.

8. ADJOURNMENT

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



Eric Eller, Chair



Terry Cirone, Secretary



Pam Cline, Member



Leta Council, Member



Elaine Rothenberg, Member



Matthew Snyder, Director