

Eddie L. Edwards III

Chairman

Jimmy E. Hull

Secretary

Nicki T. Artis

Member

Bridgette C. Cowan

Member

Charles Wright

Member

Anne C. Risku

Director

County of Wayne

Board of Elections

Wayne County Board of Elections Board Meeting November 18, 2022

Eddie L. Edwards, III, Chairman

Nicki T. Artis, Member

Charles Wright, Member

Anne Risku, Director

Jimmy E. Hull, Secretary

Bridgette C. Cowan, Member

Andrew Neal, Staff Attorney

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Mr. Edwards.

I. Approval of November 18, 2022 Meeting Agenda

- Ms. Cowan made a motion to approve the November 18, 2022 meeting agenda. Mr. Artis seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

II. Absentee ballot challenge hearings: Carey Eugene Bostic and J.B. Price

- Ms. Risku informed the Board that both voters are being challenged as they are deceased. Both voted by mail earlier in the election cycle but the Board received notice via the Register of Deeds office that they passed away prior to Election Day. Both were sent notice of the challenge and hearing via certified mail.
- Mr. Edwards opened the floor for anyone wishing to speak to either challenge. No one presented to speak. Ms. Cowan made a motion to sustain both challenges. Mr. Wright seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

III. Signing of *Final Pollbook of Absentee Voters*

- The Board signed the *Final Pollbook of Absentee Voters*.

IV. Canvass of November 8, 2022 Election

- Ms. Risku presented the Board with the final canvass documents for their review and signature.
- Ms. Risku informed the Board that 35,459 ballots were cast in the election and 35,459 voters had voter history. 12,884 voters voted on Election Day, 21,416 voted during Early Voting, 1,073 voted Absentee by Mail and 86 voted Provisional ballots.
- Mr. Hull made a motion to canvass the November 8, 2022 election. Ms. Cowan seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

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- Ms. Risku informed the Board that there were only 4 Precinct Official errors for a 99.99% success rate – all of which were corrected by staff. Precinct Officials worked very hard in an extremely difficult environment and still gave us perfect results.

V. Public Comment

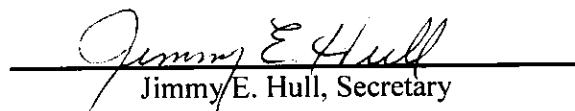
- Barbara Dantonio of 152 Parks Rd, Goldsboro, NC 27534 stated that she was asked by Democracy North Carolina to observe the process in Wayne County. She thanked the Board and staff for their hard work and stated that everyone did a great job.

VI. Board Comments

- Mr. Artis thanked the staff for a job well done. He stated that he was appointed after the 2020 election and didn't understand how much work went into conducting a large election.
- Mr. Hull thanked the staff for a job well done.
- Ms. Cowan echoed Mr. Hull's sentiments and thanked everyone for their commitment to working together.
- Mr. Wright thanked the staff for a job well done under very difficult circumstances. He suggested that the staff prepare an after action report noting the staff's hard work and accomplishments to be presented to the Board of Commissioners.
- Mr. Edwards acknowledged Ms. Risku's leadership and noted that she is recognized across the state for her knowledge and abilities. Mr. Edwards thanked Ms. Risku and Mr. Sullivan on behalf of the citizens of Wayne County for leading the large and diverse group of people that make democracy happen in Wayne County.
- Mr. Artis and Mr. Edwards thanked Mr. Neal for his service to the Board and the citizens of Wayne County.

VII. Adjournment:

- With all business having been conducted, Mr. Wright made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Artis seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.



Jimmy E. Hull
Jimmy E. Hull, Secretary