



FORSYTH COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
PRELIMINARY CONSIDERATION OF ELECTION PROTEST
BOARD MEETING
Agenda

November 19, 2020 – 5:30 p.m.

The Forsyth County Board of Elections will hold a virtual meeting for preliminary consideration of election protests on Thursday, November 19, 2020 at 5:30 pm. Members of the public may join the meeting by clicking on this link <https://meet.google.com/okk-hxdo-wxj>.

This Agenda Includes:

1. Meeting Called to Order
2. Preliminary Consideration of Election Protest
3. Other Business
4. Adjournment

FORSYTH COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Preliminary Consideration of Elections Protests

November 19, 2020 – 5:30 p.m.

Meeting Called to Order

A meeting of the Forsyth County Board of Elections was called to order in the Board of Elections on November 19, 2020 at 5:32 p.m. Chairperson Campbell presiding.

Board Members in attendance: Chairperson Susan Campbell, Secretary Robert Durrah, Member Stuart Russell, Member John Loughridge and Member Catherine Jourdan

Staff Members in attendance: Director Tim Tsujii, Deputy Director Michelle Bobadilla, Adam Clark and Kanitha Davis-Englebert

Guest in Attendance: Forsyth County Assistant Attorney – Lonnie Albright

Preliminary Consideration of Elections Protests

Chairperson Campbell asked Assistant Attorney Albright to enlighten the Board about the preliminary consideration for each protest and what to consider. The Forsyth County Assistant Attorney advised the Board to consider if the protestors had submitted the appropriate form and documents, if probable cause was established and, if the protests followed the law. Mr. Albright advised that evidence would not be presented as part of the preliminary hearing nor would protestors be heard; however, both documents would be considered to make future determinations.

The Board first reviewed the protest filed by Stephanie Pettit Draper. It was concluded that the protest was not filed timely in accordance with the required deadline. The deadline to file the protest was November 17, 2020 by 5:00 p.m. and the protest was received by the Board of Election at 5:07 p.m. via email. The Statute in North Carolina defines the deadline for filing a protest to be 5:00 p.m., two business days after the county Canvass meeting ([G.S. 163-182.9](#)). Secretary Durrah moved to dismiss Ms. Draper's protest; Member Loughridge seconded;

Motion carried unanimously.

The Board started to review Cheri Beasley's protest that claimed there was a violation of the election law, irregularity, or misconduct sufficient to cast doubt on the apparent results of the General Election. After discussion among the Board members, it was concluded that the filing of

the protest was timely and the correct forms were submitted. However, the Board Members could not determine probable cause for the protest based on the exhibits provided in the protest. Member Russell moved to dismiss the protest; Member Loughridge seconded; Secretary Durrah and Member Jourdan opposed. **Motion carried 3-2.**

Assistant Attorney Albright reminded the Board that the County is required to send the dismissed protest to the State Board of Election for further consideration and the protest could be appealed.

Adjournment

Member Russell moved to adjourn, seconded by Member Loughridge; **Motion carried unanimously.** Meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

Approved:

s/ Susan Campbell

Chair

s/ Robert Durrah

Secretary

s/ Stuart Russell

Member

s/ John Loughridge

Member

s/Catherine Jourdan

Member