



**CURRITUCK COUNTY
NORTH CAROLINA**

Minutes - Regular Meeting of the Board of Elections

March 11, 2025, 10:00 a.m.

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| Present: | Edward Ponton Eldon Miller Chris Hooper Dorothy "Dot" Johnson Alice Malesky | Chair Secretary Board Member Board Member Board Member |
| Staff Present: | Kimberly Twine | Board of Elections Director |

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Edward Ponton, Chair.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance

3. Attendance Roll

Attendance was called.

4. Review and Approval of February 11, 2025 Minutes

After reviewing the previous minutes, Eldon Miller motioned to approve, a second motion was made by Dorothy Johnson. Minutes dated 02/11/2025 were unanimously approved.

MOVER: Eldon Miller

SECONDER: Dorothy "Dot" Johnson

AYES (5): Edward Ponton, Eldon Miller, Chris Hooper, Dorothy "Dot" Johnson, and Alice Malesky

RESULT: Approved (5 to 0)

5. Review of Upcoming Events

- A budget meeting for fiscal years 2026-2027 will take place on Wednesday, March 12th. Ponton will attend Twine's presentation. The new budget includes requests for increased poll worker pay; 2 additional tabulators; 2 additional ExpressVote machines. Twine reminded the board that Currituck County has reallocated 33 laptops for elections as we transition to e-poll books.
- NCOA mailing: March 17th. The National Change of Address mailings are done bi-annually.
- 2 Photo ID events scheduled for March 18th Barco & 19th Moyock libraries. Elections Specialist, Lilienthal will conduct these events. Per Miller's recommendation at the previous meeting, Twine has a promotion running on the county's cable channel.
- The NCADE Conference in Durham, March 23-25 (Kim Twine and Beth Gettens will both attend).
- A Mock Election will be held in April at CCHS-Government Class. Twine is in discussions with teacher, Joanna Blume.
- Director Twine will attend a class through UNC School of Government class: Performance Management in Elections. This should be helpful when planning the 2027 budget.
- The "I Voted" Sticker Swap and Clearie Award. Currituck has submitted an entry in the U.S Election Assistance Commission (EAC) national contest. The winner will be announced in April. Twine shared that other stickers from participating states/counties are still arriving at our office.
- CCBOE to host the NCADE District 8 meeting, June 20, 2025. Approximately 15 directors will attend a meeting in our office, followed by lunch at an area restaurant. These meetings generally occur quarterly and are very informative for the directors.

6. New Business

- Board Chair, Ponton shared information from his discussion with County Manager, Rebecca Gay regarding the director's pay for additional hours worked. Ponton is also awaiting a response from NCSBE Counsel, Paul Cox, regarding this matter. County manager Gay wants to see proof of other counties paying directors for additional hours worked. Director Twine said she will reach out to other counties to obtain proof. Currituck is refusing to comply with NC Statute 163-35(c) regarding extra hours worked during an election cycle. The CCBOE has been presented with a list of extra hours worked by Twine during the 2024 election cycle. The number of hours and rate of pay for the additional hours worked was previously approved and recorded by this board. Chair, Ponton shared Gay's suggestion for the director to take off the month of December in lieu of pay which this board and the director agree is not a practical solution. Regarding the upcoming budget meeting, Twine also mentioned having some difficulty drafting the 2026/2027 fiscal budget as she is still learning the Munis system. Also, some items have been paid for from the incorrect line items in recent years. Twine is trying to clean that up. The director also mentioned she and Deputy Director Gettens will execute L&A testing for the next election cycle in 2026, saving the county the cost of contractor fees.
- Director Twine shared information about the possibility of a second early voting location on the beach, with limited days/hours for the location. This will depend on NCSBE approval for Currituck to add this remote early voting location.
- Review of current Precincts vs County Commissioner Districts. The County Board of Commissioners is looking to change voting to "district specific". This will impact at least two precincts and the ballot ordering. It will also require work with GIS to determine the exact Commissioner district lines. Greatest impact: Powells Point and Poplar Branch. Director Twine shared a map she requested from GIS, and she described how ballots could be printed to accommodate the districts if approved.
- Ponton mentioned inviting County Attorney Morgan to CCBOE meetings in hope of the county having a better understanding of the needs of this department. Director Twine said she has been invited to attend.
- The director mentioned the county's pay study has been completed but not fully shared with departments. Ponton brought up a comparison of Currituck County to the Hampton Roads area.
- Election Board Meeting in Edenton-The NC Election Board Association is preparing for new county board members throughout the state. Training classes for new board members will begin this summer. Director Twine recommends Currituck County Board of Elections to renew its support of (eba-nc.org). Annual membership is set at \$125 and will cover all five local

board members. Ponton moved the board join the EBA, Malesky gave the second. This was approved unanimously.

- Director seeks the board's approval to host a poll worker appreciation banquet. This will include food/beverage costs which the county previously complained about. The board chair agreed that anything that can be done to stay connected and create positive relations with the poll workers would be beneficial. Chris Hooper suggested having a sign-in sheet for all who are fed. This is what he previously did for the Bulls and BBQ Rodeo. The county manager previously suggested hosting a potluck, but Twine expressed her concern for sharing homecooked food with everyone. Twine feels that a meal which is professionally prepared is safer. Ponton called for a motion to approve. Johnson gave a first, and a second was given by Miller. The board approved unanimously.
- Twine shared information about special election lapel pins for poll workers as we will be celebrating the 250th anniversary of the USA. She shared sample pins and asked for the board's approval to purchase the pins for the 2026 election. Malesky made a motion to approve; a second was given by Ponton. The board approved unanimously

7. Reminder: 2026 Election Dates

- March 3, 2026
- May 12, 2026 (if a runoff is required)
- November 3, 2026

8. Reports

- None to attach

9. Next Meeting

General Business Meeting – Tuesday, April 8, 2025, at 10:00 AM.

10. Adjourn

The motion to adjourn today's meeting was made at 11:30 a.m. and passed unanimously.

AYES (5): Edward Ponton, Eldon Miller, Chris Hooper, Dorothy "Dot" Johnson, and Alice Malesky

RESULT: Approved (5 to 0)