

BOTETOURT COUNTY ELECTORAL BOARD

February 4, 2021

On February 4, 2021 a regular meeting of the Botetourt County Electoral Board was held in the county Registrar's office in Fincastle. All members were present, as was Traci Clark, the GR/DOE. Chairman John Rader called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

Vice Chairman Steve Vaughn moved for approval of the minutes from the meeting held on December 10, 2021. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board then considered the appointment of Election Officers for 2021 as required by sec. 24.2-115 of the Code of Virginia. Traci presented the Board with a list of 203 candidates. Following discussion, Secretary Buck Heartwell made a motion to approve those listed for a term of one year. The motion passed unanimously.

Traci then advised the Board that the old Colonial Elementary School, which had served as the polling place for Blue Ridge precinct for many years, was now closed. The new Colonial Elementary was not in the Blue Ridge precinct. After an extensive investigation, Traci felt that the Colonial Baptist Church might best serve as the new polling place. She said that she would talk to those in authority at the church, personally inspect the premises, and report back to the Board at its next meeting.

Next, Traci recommended that the new Colonial Elementary be chosen to replace Rainbow Forest Baptist Church as the polling place in the Rainbow Forest Precinct. There were space issues in the Church which would be corrected by moving to the new school. Following discussion, Steve moved that the Board designate the new Colonial Elementary School as the polling place in the Rainbow Forest precinct. The motion passed unanimously.

As an informational item, Traci informed the Board that even though this year's primaries are now set for June 8th they may be reset for August in hopes of taking advantage of the newly reapportioned districts. The efforts to make this change however has been hampered because no one knows exactly when the census results will be final. Traci provided the board a list of all the offices which would be up for election this year.

Traci also provided the Board with a written summary of all the election- related proposed legislation which was being considered by the General Assembly in this session. This precipitated a lengthy discussion, but no Board action was taken.

Finally, Traci brought the Board up to date on the remodeling of her office. Things are currently in disarray, but she remained optimistic that the new layout would result in greater efficiency and convenience.

The Board's next meeting, which would be its organizational meeting, will be held on March 1st at 3:00 pm. There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Buck Heartwell, Secretary

