



WATAUGA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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

February 24, 2026

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. PLEDGE
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 17, 2026
4. NEW REGISTRATIONS AND STATISTICS
5. DIRECTOR'S UPDATE
6. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF ABSENTEE ENVELOPES
7. ADJOURNMENT



WATAUGA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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

County Board of Elections

The Watauga County Board of Elections met on Tuesday, February 24, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. in the County Courthouse at 842 West King Street, Boone, NC 28607. Board Members in attendance were Members Leta Councill, Elaine Rothenberg, Pam Cline and Secretary Terry Cirone. As Chairman Perry Yates was unable to attend, Secretary Cirone filled in as Acting Chairman. Also attending: Elections Director Matt Snyder and Deputy Director Donna Houck.

February 24, 2026

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Acting Chairperson Terry Cirone called the meeting to order.

2. PLEDGE

All present pledged allegiance to the flag.

3. MOTION TO AMEND MEETING AGENDA

Acting Chairperson Cirone requested that the meeting agenda be amended to provide for the approval of the February 20th and February 23rd emergency meeting minutes. Member Councill made a motion to approve both the February 20th and 23rd meeting minutes that was seconded by Member Rothenberg. There was no discussion and the minutes were approved by a 4-0 vote.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 17, 2026

Member Cline moved to approve the minutes from the February 10, 2026, meeting which was seconded by Member Rothenberg. There was no discussion. The minutes were approved by a 4-0 vote.

5. NEW REGISTRATIONS AND STATISTICS

There were nineteen (19) new registrations from February 17, 2026, to February 24, 2026. These were same day registrations. There are a total of 44,524 voters in Watauga County of which 38,121 are active. Member Councill made a motion to accept the report, pending review, and the motion was seconded by Member Rothenberg. There was no discussion. The motion passed 4-0.

6. DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

Director Snyder provided the following information:

- He had received positive feedback from poll workers that they appreciated that Early Voting had been cancelled for February 23rd and delayed for February 24th due to weather and safety concerns.

- Staff received the ESS training video for the DS300 and now the final check to ESS will be released.
- All pre-printed ballots have been received with the remaining BOD stock enroute.
- The BOD system will be used by two precincts on Election Day.
- There will be a Watauga County Budget Meeting on March 2 (Board of Elections budget is subject to the Watauga County Board of Commissioners). The budget is due March 13, 2026.

7. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF ABSENTEE ENVELOPES

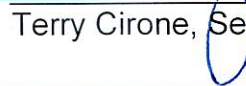
There were seventeen (17) civilian ballots and two (2) overseas ballots for a total of nineteen (19) ballots that were received by Staff. Out of the seventeen (17) civilian ballots, two (2) had ID exception forms that were received by Staff and reviewed by the Board. After all Board members had reviewed the Exception Forms, Member Rothenberg made a motion for acceptance of all the ID exceptions which was seconded by Member Council. There was no discussion and the motion passed 4-0.

A motion to then approve all ballots received and to accept the cumulative number of fifty-eight (58) as provided by the DS300 and was made by Member Rothenberg and seconded by Member Cline. There was no discussion. The motion passed 4-0.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Member Rothenberg made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Member Cline. The motion passed 4-0.


Perry Yates, Chair


Terry Cirone, Secretary


Pam Cline, Member


Leta Council, Member


Elaine Rothenberg, Member


Matthew Snyder, Director