



WATAUGA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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

JANUARY 13, 2026

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. PLEDGE
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 9, 2025
4. NEW REGISTRATIONS AND STATISTICS
5. DIRECTOR'S UPDATE
6. ABSENTEE BOARD MEETINGS RESOLUTION
7. EARLY VOTING AND ELECTION DAY BUFFER ZONES
8. EARLY VOTING CHIEF JUDGE AND JUDGE APPOINTMENTS
9. ELECTION DAY TRANSFER SITE LOCATION
10. PUBLIC COMMENT
11. ADJOURNMENT



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County Board of Elections

The Watauga County Board of Elections met on Tuesday, January 13, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. in the County Courthouse at 842 West King Street, Boone, NC 28607. Board Members in attendance were Chairperson Perry Yates via Zoom; Members Leta Council, Pam Cline and Secretary Terry Cirone. Member Elaine Rothenberg was unable to attend. Also attending: Elections Director Matt Snyder and Deputy Director Donna Houck.

January 13, 2026

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Perry Yates called the meeting to order.

2. PLEDGE

All present pledged allegiance to the flag.

3. Amendment of Agenda and Motion to go into Closed Session

Member Cline made a motion to amend the agenda to include a Closed Session - Attorney Consultation in regard to CV 5:25-cv-157 which was seconded by Member Council. The Motion passed 4-0. The members then moved to a separate room to discuss the legal matter with the County Attorney.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM December 9, 2025

Member Cline moved to approve the minutes from the December 9, 2025 meeting which was seconded by Member Council. There was no discussion. The minutes were approved by a 4-0 vote.

5. NEW REGISTRATIONS AND STATISTICS

There were three hundred eighty-seven (387) new registrations from December 9, 2025, to January 13, 2026. There are a total of 44,668 voters in Watauga County of which 38,209 are active. Member Cline made a motion to accept the report, pending review, and the motion was seconded by Member Council. The motion passed 4-0.

6. DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

Director Snyder reported on the following items:

- In the event of inclement weather during the Early Voting time period, the Board will need to hold individual emergency meetings via Zoom or telephone to discuss poll site logistics and a two (2) hour notice period is required.
- The first Absentee by Mail ballots (32) were sent out on January 12th.
- A Printelect technical representative will be working with staff to address ballot on demand issues prior to early voting.

- The SBE Conference is scheduled for January 26th-27th. Board Members can attend via Zoom.
- L&A testing is scheduled for January 16th at the Ag Center. The test ballot deck will consist of 978 ballots for administrative precincts.
- Per the state campaign finance record retention requirements (G.S. -163-278.40) addressing the destruction of said records the following individual campaign finance records were destroyed:
 - o Ron Henries – Board of Education
 - o Ron Cutlip- Board of Education
 - o Benjamin Ray- Boone Town Council
 - o Eric Brown- Boone Town Council
 - o Diane Deal- Clerk of Courts
 - o Jeffrey Williams- Seven Devils Town Council
 - o Erin Gonyea- Beech Mountain Town Council
 - o David Blust- County Commissioner
 - o Perry Yates – County Commissioner
 - o Joey Clawson -Soil & Water
 - o Ballard Reynolds- Soil & Water

7. ABSENTEE BOARD MEETING RESOLUTION

This resolution establishes that the Watauga County Board of Elections will meet at 4:00 pm in the Watauga County Courthouse to approve absentee by mail ballots on March 3, 2026. Member Council made a motion to approve the resolution which was seconded by Member Cline. There was no discussion and the resolution was approved 4-0.

8. EARLY VOTING AND ELECTION DAY BUFFER ZONES

Director Snyder provided the Board with a list of buffer zones for both early voting and election day polling places. These buffer zones are the same as the ones previously approved and used in years past. Member Council made a motion to approve the early voting and election day buffer zones which was seconded by Member Cline. There was no discussion and the motion was approved 4-0.

9. EARLY VOTING AND CHIEF JUDGE AND JUDGE APPOINTMENTS

Director Snyder provided a list of Early Voting and Election Day Judges and Chief Judges for the board to review. He explained that the list was not final as they were still in the process of adding more individuals to the list but that he was requesting that the Board approve the current slate as provided. Member Cline made a motion to approve the current slate of Early Voting Chief Judge and Judge appointments which was seconded by Member Council. There was no discussion and the motion was approved 4-0.

10. ELECTION DAY TRANSFER SITE LOCATION

Director Snyder explained that in the past the Watauga County Courthouse has been utilized as the Election Day Transfer Site location and he recommended that it continue to be utilized as the transfer site. Member Council made a motion to approve the County Courthouse as the Election Day Transfer Site which was seconded by Secretary Cirone. There was no discussion and the motion was approved 4-0.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

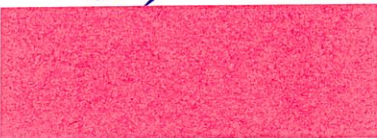
There was no public comment provided at the meeting.

12. ADJOURNMENT

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



Perry Yates, Chair

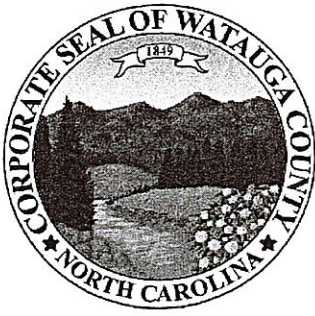
Terry Cirone, Secretary

Pam Cline, Member

Leta Council, Member

Elaine Rothenberg, Member

Matthew Snyder, Director



WATAUGA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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January 13, 2026

Be it resolved that the Watauga County Board of Elections will meet at 4:00 p.m. in the Watauga County Courthouse to approve absentee by mail ballots on March 3, 2026

Perry Yates, Chair

Pam Cline, Member

Terry Cirohe, Secretary

Leta Council, Member

Elaine Rothenberg, Member

WATAUGA COUNTY ELECTION DAY POLLING PLACE BUFFER ZONES
MARCH 3, 2026 PRIMARY

Old Mountain Precinct: Todd Fire Department – 50 feet from side door entrance.

Beaver Dam Precinct: Beaver Dam Fire Department - 50 feet from back door entrance.

Blowing Rock: Blowing Rock American Legion Building – 50 feet from front door.

Blue Ridge Precinct: Laurel Fork Baptist Church- Campaigning 100 feet from Fellowship Hall door, signs 200 feet from Fellowship Hall door (per agreement).

Boone 1 Precinct: Watauga County Admin Building- 50 feet from King Street entrance.

Boone 2 Precinct: Plemmons Student Union-50 feet from building entrance by Blue Ridge Ballroom and adjacent hallways to the Blue Ridge Ballroom.

Brushy Fork Precinct: Caldwell Community College 460 Building - 50 feet from entry door

Boone 3 Precinct: Agricultural Conference Center- 50 feet from entry door.

Cove Creek Precinct: Zionville Fire Station #2 – 50 feet from front door.

Elk Precinct: Stewart Simmons Fire Department -50 feet from front door.

Laurel Creek Precinct: Cove Creek Fire Department – 50 feet from last door on the left

Meat Camp Precinct: Meat Camp Fire Department – 25 feet from back door.

New River 1 Precinct: Boone Town Hall Council Chambers- 50 feet from front door.

New River 2 Precinct: Three Forks Baptist Association- 25 feet from side door.

New River 3 Precinct: Watauga Recreation Center- 50 feet from entry door

North Fork Precinct: Edgar Eller's Garage – 50 feet from entry door to voting enclosure.

Shawneehaw Precinct: Matney Community Center - 50 feet from entry door to Community Center.

Stony Fork Precinct: Deep Gap Fire Department – 50 Feet from rear exit door.

Watauga Precinct: Foscoe Christian Church – 50 feet from front door.

Beech Mountain Precinct: Buckeye Recreation Center – 50 feet from front door.

EARLY VOTING SITES

Watauga County Admin Building- 50 feet from King Street entrance

Blowing Rock American Legion Bldg – 50 feet from front door

Shmmons Student Union-50 feet from building entrance by Blue Ridge Ballroom and adjacent hallways.

Deep Gap Fire Department – 50 Feet from rear entry door

Meat Camp Fire Department – 25 feet from back door.

Western Watauga Community Center – 25 feet from front door

§ 163A-1134. Limitation on activity in the voting place and in a buffer zone around it.

(a) Buffer Zone. - No person or group of persons shall hinder access, harass others, distribute campaign literature, place political advertising, solicit votes, or otherwise engage in election-related activity in the voting place or in a buffer zone which shall be prescribed by the county board of elections around the voting place. In determining the dimensions of that buffer zone for each voting place, the county board of elections shall, where practical, set the limit at 50 feet from the door of entrance to the voting place, measured when that door is closed, but in no event shall it set the limit at more than 50 feet or at less than 25 feet.

Early Voting - Primary 2026		
Name	Party	Polling Place
Sarah Hill	Una	Admin Building
Dennis Noonan	Dem	Admin Building
Kathy Winebarger	Dem	Admin Building
Jay Guild	Rep	Admin Building
Debbie Hartley	Dem	Admin Building
Rebecca Hutchins	Dem	Admin Building
Joanna Roberts	Rep	Admin Building
Bob Southwick	Una	Admin Building
Jim Prather	Dem	Admin Building
Betsy Lowman	Una	Admin Building
Patti Hensley	Rep	Admin Building
Rebecca Cairns	Dem	Admin Building
Katherine Logan	Dem	Admin Building
Susan Lawrence	Dem	Admin Building
Toni Hicks	Una	Admin Building
Peter Nesbitt	Una	ASU/Plemmons Student Union
Cameron St Clair	Una	ASU/Plemmons Student Union
Mary Irish	Dem	ASU/Plemmons Student Union
Pat Von Ronn	Una	ASU/Plemmons Student Union
Sherry Street-Tobin	Dem	ASU/Plemmons Student Union
Saniya Bennett	Una	ASU/Plemmons Student Union
Angie Pharr	Una	ASU/Plemmons Student Union
Andrew Ethridge	Una	ASU/Plemmons Student Union
Bob Cherry	Dem	ASU/Plemmons Student Union
Lisa Hypes	Dem	ASU/Plemmons Student Union
Sharlie Siegmund	Dem	ASU/Plemmons Student Union
Rebecca Moore	Dem	ASU/Plemmons Student Union
Bill Boykin	Rep	ASU/Plemmons Student Union
Connie Maddux	Dem	ASU/Plemmons Student Union
Candace Tippet	Dem	ASU/Plemmons Student Union
Cynthia Fox	Dem	ASU/Plemmons Student Union
Cathrine Barry	Rep	ASU/Plemmons Student Union
Paige Finney	Una	ASU/Plemmons Student Union
Gloria Eggers	Rep	ASU/Plemmons Student Union
Stephen Sorrell	Una	ASU/Plemmons Student Union
Jan Woods	Rep	ASU/Plemmons Student Union
Gwyn Barfoot	Rep	Blowing Rock American Legion
Holly D'Addurno	Dem	Blowing Rock American Legion
Margaret Headrick	Rep	Blowing Rock American Legion
Kim Chasteen	Rep	Blowing Rock American Legion
Margaret Stumb	Dem	Blowing Rock American Legion
Paul Higgins	Una	Blowing Rock American Legion

Linda Campbell	Dem	Blowing Rock American Legion
Lance Campbell	Una	Blowing Rock American Legion
Ron Fitzwater	Una	Blowing Rock American Legion
Maggie Vilott	Rep	Blowing Rock American Legion
Joe Lowman	Una	Blowing Rock American Legion
Audrey Hartley	Dem	Deep Gap Fire Dept
Ardease Greene	Rep	Deep Gap Fire Dept
Donna Gragg	Rep	Deep Gap Fire Dept
Marsha Fletcher	Una	Deep Gap Fire Dept
Sali Gill-Johnson	Dem	Deep Gap Fire Dept
Connie Stock	Dem	Deep Gap Fire Dept
Peri Morte	Una	Deep Gap Fire Dept
Kay Campany	Dem	Deep Gap Fire Dept
Jamie Critcher	Rep	Deep Gap Fire Dept
Julie Mullis	Una	Deep Gap Fire Dept
Joan Golds	Rep	Deep Gap Fire Dept
Paula Devitt	Rep	Meat Camp Fire Dept
Cheryl Jones	Rep	Meat Camp Fire Dept
Becky Todd	Una	Meat Camp Fire Dept
Peggy Benton	Dem	Meat Camp Fire Dept
Matt Jennison	Dem	Meat Camp Fire Dept
Charlotte Norris	Rep	Meat Camp Fire Dept
Melanie Trado	Rep	Meat Camp Fire Dept
Elizabeth Faison	Dem	Meat Camp Fire Dept
Kathy Mangum	Dem	Meat Camp Fire Dept
Amy Lunceford	Dem	Western Watauga Community Center
Ray Reid	Dem	Western Watauga Community Center
Ginny Nilles	Dem	Western Watauga Community Center
Pat Vines	Dem	Western Watauga Community Center
Beth Ball	Una	Western Watauga Community Center
Mary Britt	Una	Western Watauga Community Center
Susan Musilli	Una	Western Watauga Community Center
Floyd Benfield	Una	Western Watauga Community Center
Deborah Arnette	Dem	Western Watauga Community Center
Eric Prugh	Rep	Western Watauga Community Center
Rebecca Ashworth	Rep	Western Watauga Community Center

Election Day - Primary 2026

Hollie Stanbery	Rep	Bald Mtn
Charlotte Norris	Rep	Bald Mtn
Cheryl Jones	Rep	Bald Mtn
Brenda Farthing	Rep	Beaver Dam
Jay Guild	Rep	Beaver Dam
Mary Irish	Dem	Beaver Dam
Rochelle Eisenberger	Una	Beaver Dam
Patricia Wade	Rep	Beaver Dam
Miranda Schooly	Una	Beaver Dam
Gwyn Barfoot	Rep	Blowing Rock
Linda Campbell	Dem	Blowing Rock
Aaron Miller	Rep	Blowing Rock
Connie Goff	Rep	Blowing Rock
Paul Higgins	Una	Blowing Rock
Jim Weeks	Dem	Blowing Rock
Ronald Fitzwater	Una	Blowing Rock
Holly D'Addurno	Dem	Blue Ridge
Kim Chasteen	Rep	Blue Ridge
Margaret Stumb	Dem	Blue Ridge
Margaret Headrick	Rep	Blue Ridge
Lance Campbell	Una	Blue Ridge
Amber Dollyhigh-Kwong	Una	Blue Ridge
Betsy Lowman	Una	Blue Ridge
Joe Lowman	Una	Blue Ridge
Angie Pharr	Una	Blue Ridge
Lynn Campbell	Rep	Blue Ridge
Sarah Hill	Una	Boone 1
Timothy Smith	Rep	Boone 1
Wanda Henries	Rep	Boone 1
Bob Southwick	Una	Boone 1
Rebecca Cairns	Dem	Boone 1
Stephen Sorrell	Una	Boone 1
Jim Fisher	Una	Boone 1
Debbie Lentz	Rep	Boone 1
Sharon Brooks	Dem	Boone 1
Jim Prather	Dem	Boone 1
Peter Nesbitt	Una	Boone 2
Cameron St Clair	Una	Boone 2
Candace Tippet	Dem	Boone 2

Gloria Eggers	Rep	Boone 2
Patricia Von Ronn	Una	Boone 2
Saniya Bennett	Una	Boone 2
Wilma Rucker	Una	Boone 2
Maxine Crowe	Una	Boone 2
Andrew Ethridge	Una	Boone 2
Malik Harris	Una	Boone 2
Ray Reid	Dem	Brushy Fork
Deborah Arnette	Dem	Brushy Fork
Janet Woods	Rep	Brushy Fork
Kathy Winebarger	Dem	Brushy Fork
Pat Vines	Dem	Brushy Fork
Tracy Koontz	Una	Brushy Fork
Jonathan Firmin	Una	Brushy Fork
Cynthia Fox	Dem	Brushy Fork
Shana Scott	Rep	Cove Creek
Donna Linenby	Una	Cove Creek
Joel Williams	Dem	Cove Creek
Mark Flahart	Rep	Cove Creek
Terri Brown	Una	Cove Creek
Mary Britt	Una	Cove Creek
Rebekah Sims	Rep	Elk
Beckie Fuller	Una	Elk
Janette Leavitt	Una	Elk
Rich Cheek	Dem	Laurel Creek
Kristin Harmon	Dem	Laurel Creek
Patti Hensley	Rep	Laurel Creek
Laura Johnson	Dem	Laurel Creek
Leslie Snipes	Una	Laurel Creek
JD (Jearl) Norris	Rep	Meat Camp
Sherry Tobin	Dem	Meat Camp
Joshua Moretz	Una	Meat Camp
Paul Siegel	Una	Meat Camp
Richard Davenport	Rep	Meat Camp
Matt Jennison	Dem	Meat Camp
Charlie Lentz	Rep	Boone 3
Katharine Johnson	Dem	Boone 3
Connie Maddux	Dem	Boone 3
Debbie Hartley	Dem	Boone 3
Lani Arsenault	Dem	Boone 3
Flo Hollingsworth	Rep	Boone 3

Nicholas Henson	Una	Boone 3
Debbie Berry	Rep	Boone 3
Audrey Hartley	Dem	New River 1
Rebecca Moore	Dem	New River 1
David Clyde	Dem	New River 1
Beth Ball	Una	New River 1
Brian Mulkey	Dem	New River 1
Lee Stroupe	Dem	New River 2
Bob Cherry	Dem	New River 2
Joanna Roberts	Rep	New River 2
Melanie Trado	Rep	New River 2
Becky Todd	Una	New River 2
Kathy Deas	Rep	New River 2
Peggy Benton	Dem	New River 2
Ardease Greene	Rep	New River 3
Kay Campany	Dem	New River 3
Susie Robinson	Dem	New River 3
Chelsea Cannon	Dem	New River 3
Katherine Logan	Dem	New River 3
Kathy Moorman	Una	New River 3
Rebecca Hutchins	Dem	New River 3
Donna Gragg	Rep	New River 3
Sheri Stroyek	Una	New River 3
Virginia "Ginny" Nilles	Dem	North Fork
Frank Bolick	Rep	North Fork
Bart Walker	Rep	North Fork
Bill Boykin	Rep	Shawneehaw
Walter Browning	Dem	Shawneehaw
Lisa Hypes	Dem	Shawneehaw
Eddie Norris	Rep	Stony Fork
Jamie Critcher	Rep	Stony Fork
Dawn Snotherly	Dem	Stony Fork
Sali Gill-Johnson	Dem	Stony Fork
Peri Moretz	Una	Stony Fork
Julie Mullis	Una	Stony Fork
Peggy Weltz	Una	Stony Fork
Dennis Noonan	Dem	Watauga
Catherine Barry	Rep	Watauga
Maggie Vilott	Rep	Watauga
Dave Brewer	Una	Watauga

Floyd Benfield	Una	Watauga
Susan Musilli	Una	Watauga
Susan Lawrence	Dem	Watauga
Sharon Canella	Dem	Beech Mtn
Amy Lunceford	Dem	Beech Mtn
Fred Phofl	Dem	Beech Mtn
Dawn Dalgleish	Rep	Beech Mtn
Cameron St Clair	Una	Transfer
Kathy Mangum	Dem	Transfer
Heidi Ann Campbell	Dem	Transfer
Connie Stock	Dem	Transfer
David Hill	Una	Transfer
Stephen Collins	Una	Transfer
Steven Moody	Una	Runner
Stephen Poulos	Dem	Runner