

# MINUTES OF THE BLAINE COUNTY ELECTION BOARD

**April 1, 2025**

The Blaine County Election Board met in a REGULAR meeting on April 1, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at the Blaine County Election Board, Room 6, Blaine County Courthouse, 212 N. Weigle, Watonga, Oklahoma. Advance notice of the meeting was given by filing a written notice with the Blaine County Clerk on December 12, 2024 at 1:58 p.m.

Present: Mike Russell, Chair  
Lana Melchor, Vice Chair  
Brenda Rice, Secretary

## BUSINESS CONDUCTED AT THE MEETING

**1. BUSINESS CONDUCTED:** Call to Order and announcement of a quorum. **ACTION TAKEN:** Mr. Russell, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with a quorum present.

**2. BUSINESS CONDUCTED:** Discuss and approve the minutes for the meeting held November 8, 2024.

**ACTION TAKEN:** Mrs. Melchor moved that the minutes of the meeting held November 8, 2024 be approved. Mr. Russell seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Mr. Russell-yes, Mrs. Melchor-yes, Ms. Rice-yes. Motion passed: three to zero.

**3. BUSINESS CONDUCTED:** Process mail and nursing home absentee ballots submitted for the April 1, 2025 Board of Education General/Municipal General Election including opening the outer envelopes and examining the affidavits for sufficiency, removing the affidavit envelope, opening the secrecy envelope, and counting the ballots.

**ACTION TAKEN:** The Board members opened outer envelopes and examined the affidavits for twelve absentee ballots submitted by mail. There were no Nursing Home Ballots received. This process began at 6:05 p.m.

Rejection # 1: When opening the envelopes, the Board rejected an Incapacitated ballot because the voter failed to write their name on the top line.

The Board determined that eleven ballots were sufficient and would be counted. Mrs. Melchor moved to accept and count the eleven absentee ballots. Mr. Russell seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Mr. Russell-yes, Mrs. Melchor-yes, Ms. Rice-yes. Motion passed: three to zero.

The Board observed as County Election Board Vice-Chairman Lana Melchor, Tammy Edsall, Assistant Secretary and Tonya Nix, Clerk scanned all mail ballots through the designated voting machine.

**4. BUSINESS CONDUCTED:** Recess meeting, if necessary, and reconvene. **ACTION TAKEN:** No Action.

Throughout the evening, Board members were present and observed the processes and procedures involved in the receipt of voting devices, election supplies, and ballots from Inspectors; the tabulation of election results and production of tabulation reports and summary results reports; the transfer of sealed



ballot transfer cases from precincts and sealed ballot transfer cases containing counted absentee ballots into the custody of the Sheriff. The Board also examined tabulation reports and unofficial certification reports.

**5. BUSINESS CONDUCTED:** Canvass the April 1, 2025 Board of Education General Election results for the following school districts that Blaine County is the affected county election board:

Caddo-Kiowa Technology Center # 26  
Cimarron School District I-092

**ACTION TAKEN:** None. No motions were made and no votes taken in connection with these activities.

**6. BUSINESS CONDUCTED:** Canvass the April 1, 2025 Municipal General Election for the following municipalities that Blaine County is the parent county election board:

City of Watonga  
City of Geary  
Town of Canton

**ACTION CONDUCTED:** None. No motions were made and no votes taken in connection with these activities.

**7. BUSINESS CONDUCTED:** Canvass the April 1, 2025 Municipal General Election results for the following municipality that Blaine County is the affected county election board:

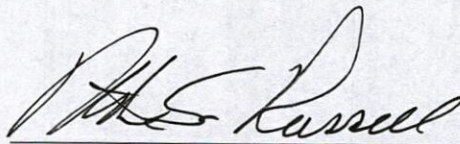
Town of Hydro

**8. BUSINESS CONDUCTED:** Secretary's report to the Board about current and upcoming election events, and discussion regarding future meeting dates.

**ACTION TAKEN:** The Secretary announced the next meeting is April 4, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. and 4:45 p.m. If needed, recount on April 11, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

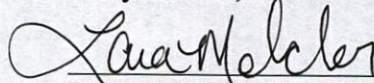
**9. BUSINESS CONDUCTED:** Motion to adjourn.

**ACTION TAKEN:** Mrs. Melchor moved to adjourn until the next meeting which is scheduled on Friday, April 4, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. Mr. Russell seconded the motion. ROLL CALL VOTE: Mr. Russell-yes, Mrs. Melchor-yes, Ms. Rice-yes. Motion passed: three to zero. Meeting Adjourned at 8:31 p.m.



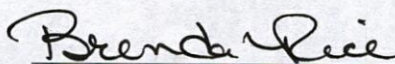
Mike Russell, Chairman

Mary Larson, Alternate Chairman



Lana Melchor, Vice-Chairman

Karen Gilliland, Alternate Vice-Chairman



Brenda Rice, Secretary

