

MINUTES OF THE BLAINE COUNTY ELECTION BOARD

February 10, 2026

The Blaine County Election Board met in a REGULAR meeting on February 10, 2026 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 November 17, 2025 at 9:34 a.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 October 17, 2025.

ACTION TAKEN: Mrs. Melchor moved that the minutes of the meeting held October 17, 2025 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 February 10, 2026 Special Elections 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:** Opening of Absentee Ballot Boxes began at 6:01 p.m. empty boxes were shown to the Board Members. The Board members opened outer envelopes and examined the affidavits for two absentee ballots submitted by mail. There were no nursing home ballots cast.

The Board determined that the two ballots were sufficient and would be counted. Mrs. Melchor moved to accept and count the two 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, and Tonya Nix, Assistant Secretary scanned all mail ballots through the designated voting machine.

- 4. BUSINESS CONDUCTED:** Canvass the February 10, 2026 Special Election results for the following school district that Blaine County is the parent county election board:

 Canton Public Schools I-105

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

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 February 10, 2026 Special Election results for the following municipality that Blaine County is the affected county election board:

Town of Hydro

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

6. 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 February 13, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. If needed recount is February 20, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

7. BUSINESS CONDUCTED: Motion to adjourn.

ACTION TAKEN: Mrs. Melchor moved to adjourn until the next meeting which is scheduled on Friday, February 13, 2026 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 8:40 p.m.


Mike Russell, Chairman


Lana Melchor, Vice-Chairman


Brenda Rice, Secretary



Karen Gilliland, Republican Alternate

Mary Larson, Democrat Alternate