VOTE

Blaine County Election Board

COURTHOUSE - 212 N. WEIGLE AVENUE
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MINUTES OF THE BLAINE COUNTY ELECTION BOARD

June 16, 2026

The Blaine County Election Board met in a REGULAR meeting at 10:00 a.m. in the County Election Board office, Room 6, Blaine County Courthouse, 212 N. Weigle, Watonga, Oklahoma 73772. Advance notice of the meeting was performed by filing a written notice with the County Clerk on November 17, 2025 at 9:34 a.m. and by posting an agenda at the County Election Board office on Wednesday, May 27, 2026 at 9:47 a.m. One copy each of the notice and agenda is attached.

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. ROLL CALL VOTE: Mr. Russell-present Mrs. Melchor -present Miss Rice-present. Quorum of 3. ACTION TAKEN: The meeting was called to order by Chair Mr. Russell at 10 a.m. with a quorum present.

2. BUSINESS CONDUCTED: Discuss and approve the minutes for the meeting held April 10, 2026. **ACTION TAKEN:** Mrs. Melchor moved that the minutes of the meeting held April 10, 2026 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 absentee ballots for the June 16, 2026 Primary Election including opening the returns envelopes, examining the ballot affidavits envelopes for sufficiency, removing the ballot affidavit envelopes, opening the secrecy envelopes, and counting the ballots for Primary Election returns for federal, state and county offices. There were 57 absentee ballots received for processing including two fax ballots received by Military voters. After opening the outer envelopes and examining the affidavits, the Board determined that one physically incapacitated affidavit must be rejected due to lack of missing date. The Board remade two ballots received via fax from Military voters. The Substitute Ballot Record has been signed by the County Election Board and attached to these minutes. **ACTION TAKEN:** Mrs. Melchor moved to reject one affidavit because it wasn't properly completed and to accept and count 56 properly completed and attested affidavits. Mr. Russell seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Mr. Russell-yes, Mrs. Melchor-yes, Ms. Rice-yes. Motion passed: three to zero.

The properly completed and attested affidavits were opened and the ballots removed from the secrecy envelopes. The ballots were then turned over to Clerk Jennifer Lang to read ballots into eScan and were counted using a voting device designated for absentee ballots. The board members observed the counting process.

ACTION TAKEN: Mrs. Melchor moved to recess the meeting at 11:09 a.m. and to reconvene at 7:00 p.m. in the same location; seconded by Mr. Russell. ROLL CALL VOTE: Mr. Russell-yes, Mrs. Melchor-yes, Ms. Rice-yes. Motion passed: three to zero.
ACTION TAKEN: The meeting was called back to order by Chair Mr. Russell and reconvened at 7:00 p.m. in the County Election Board office with a quorum present.

4. BUSINESS CONDUCTED: Canvass the June 16, 2026 Primary Election returns for federal, state, judicial and county offices; and all state questions. The 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 election results reports, and the transfer of sealed ballot transfer cases containing ballots from each precinct to the custody of the Sheriff. Following an MBB audit to determine that all MBBs written for the election were counted and tallied, the board verified correct results were reported by the Hart system, MESA system, and State Election Board website and were reported on the unofficial certification report.
ACTION TAKEN: None. Board action not required.

5. BUSINESS CONDUCTED: Secretary's report to the Board about current and upcoming election events, and discussion regarding future meeting dates. The Secretary announced the next meeting is June 19, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. If needed recount is June 25, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.
ACTION TAKEN: None. Board action not required.

6. BUSINESS CONDUCTED: Adjourn meeting.
ACTION TAKEN: Mrs. Melchor moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Russell seconded the motion. ROLL CALL VOTE: Mr. Russell-yes, Mrs. Melchor-yes, Ms. Rice-yes. Motion passed: three to zero. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Mike Russell, Chairman

Lana Melchor, Vice-Chairman

Mary Larson, Alternate Chairman

Karen Gilliland, Alternate Vice-Chairman

Brenda Rice, Secretary

OFFICIAL SEAL BLAINE COUNTY STATE OF OKLAHOMA ELECTION BOARD