

# MINUTES OF THE BLAINE COUNTY ELECTION BOARD

**June 18, 2024**

The Blaine County Election Board met in a SPECIAL meeting on June 18, 2024 at 10:00 a.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 April 17, 2024 at 9:20 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 10:00 a.m. with a quorum present.

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

**ACTION TAKEN:** Mrs. Melchor moved that the minutes of the meeting held March 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 June 18, 2024 Primary 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 forty-one absentee ballots submitted by mail. There were no nursing home ballots cast.

Rejection # 1: When opening the envelopes, the Board rejected a Physically Incapacitated ballot because the voter didn't have witness signatures.

Rejection # 2: When opening the envelopes, the Board rejected a Physically Incapacitated ballot because the voter didn't have witness signatures.

The Board determined that thirty-nine ballots were sufficient and would be counted. Mrs. Melchor moved to accept and count the thirty-nine 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:** Mrs. Melchor made a motion to recess the meeting at 10:29 a.m. and reconvene the meeting at 6:45 p.m. 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 reconvened at 6:45 p.m. in the County Election Board office and called to order by Mr. Russell. All members were present.

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 June 18, 2024 Primary Election results.

**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 June 21, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. and 4:45 p.m. If needed, recount on June 28, 2024 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, June 21, 2024 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 8:44 p.m.

  
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Mike Russell, Chairman

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Mary Larson, Alternate Chairman

  
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Lana Melchor, Vice-Chairman

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Karen Gilliland, Alternate Vice-Chairman

  
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Brenda Rice, Secretary

