## MINUTES OF THE BLAINE COUNTY ELECTION BOARD

## August 23, 2022

The Blaine County Election Board met in a REGULAR meeting at 5:30 p.m., in Basement Room 6 of the Blaine County Courthouse. Advance notice of the meeting was performed by filing a written notice with the County Clerk on November 8, 2021 at 10:22 a.m. and by posting an agenda at the County Election Board office on July 22, 2022 at 8:01 a.m. One copy each of the notice and agenda is attached. The following members were present: Mike Russell, Chairman; Lana Melchor, Vice-Chairman; and Brenda Rice, Secretary, Tammy Edsall, Assistant Secretary, Jana Loewen, Clerk were also present. Mr. Russell called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

## BUSINESS CONDUCTED AT THE MEETING

1. BUSINESS CONDUCTED: Discuss and approve the minutes for the meeting held July 1, 2022.

**ACTION TAKEN:** Mrs. Melchor moved that the minutes of the meeting held July 1, 2022 be approved. Mr. Russell seconded the motion. ROLL CALL VOTE: Mr. Russell-yes, Mrs. Melchor-yes, Ms. Riceyes. Motion passed: three to zero.

**2. BUSINESS CONDUCTED:** Process mail and nursing home absentee ballots submitted for the August 23, 2022 Runoff Primary Elections including opening the outer envelopes and examining the affidavits for sufficiency, removing the affidavit envelope, opening the secrecy envelope, and counting the ballots. The process began at 5:31 p.m.

**ACTION TAKEN:** The Board members opened outer envelopes and examined the affidavits for sixty-five absentee ballots submitted by mail and two nursing home ballots.

Rejection # 1: When opening the envelopes, the Board rejected a Standard ballot because the notary didn't sign the affidavit.

The Board determined that sixty-six ballots were sufficient and would be counted. Mrs. Melchor moved to accept and count the absentee ballots and to reject the one ballot that was not signed by a notary. Mr. Russell seconded the motion. ROLL CALL VOTE: Mr. Russell-yes, Mrs. Melchor-yes, Ms. Rice-yes. Motion passed: three to zero.

The Board members then followed established procedures to prepare the ballots for counting. The Board observed as County Election Board Vice-Chairman Lana Melchor, Jana Loewen, Clerk scanned all nursing home and mail ballots through the designated voting machine.

**3. BUSINESS CONDUCTED:** Canvass the August 23, 2022 Runoff Primary Election results for federal, state and county offices.

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.

**4. BUSINESS CONDUCTED**: Canvass the August 23, 2022 Special Election for the Geary School District I-80 proposition.

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

**5. BUSINESS CONDUCTED**: Canvass the August 23, 2022 Special Election for the City of Watonga proposition.

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

6. BUSINESS CONDUCTED: Discuss dates and times for future County Election Board Meetings.

**ACTION TAKEN:** The Secretary informed the Board Members that the next County Election Board Meeting will be Friday, August 26, 2022 at 4:30 p.m. and if needed a Recount Hearing on August 31, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. in the main courtroom.

7. BUSINESS CONDUCTED: Adjournment.

**ACTION TAKEN:** Mrs. Melchor moved to adjourn until the next meeting which is scheduled on Friday, August 26, 2022 at 4:30 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 8:49 p.m.

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Mike Russell, Chairman

Mary Jac Rauh, Alternate Chairman

Lana Melchor, Vice-Chairman

Farrol Boyd, Alternate Vice-Chairman

Brenda Rice, Secretary