

MINUTES

OF THE STATE ELECTION BOARD AT ITS MEETING

October 3, 2022

The State Election Board met in a **Special** meeting at **11:00 A.M.** in **Room G-3, State Capitol Building, 2300 N. Lincoln Blvd.,** Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105. Advance notice of the meeting was performed by filing a written notice with the Secretary of State on September 27, 2021, at 12:21 P.M.

Meeting was called to order by **Chairman Montgomery**

ROLL CALL: THOMAS MONTGOMERY-**Present**
TIM MAULDIN-**Present**
JERRY BUCHANAN- **Present** (in for Heather Cline)

Also present were Secretary Paul Ziriaux, Assistant Secretary Rusty Clark, In-House Counsel Rachel Rogers, Assistant Attorney General Bailey Warren, and Board Clerk David Dunn.

BUSINESS CONDUCTED AT THE MEETING

1. **BUSINESS CONDUCTED:** Discussion and possible action regarding the minutes of the Regular meeting held on August 30, 2022. **ACTION TAKEN:** Dr. Mauldin moved that the minutes of the Regular meeting held on August 30, 2022, be approved. Mr. Buchanan seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Mr. Montgomery-aye; Dr. Mauldin-aye; Mr. Buchanan-aye. Motion passed, 3-0.

2. **BUSINESS CONDUCTED:** Discussion and possible action regarding the minutes of the Special meeting held on September 6, 2022. **ACTION TAKEN:** Dr. Mauldin moved that the minutes of the Special meeting held on September 6, 2022, be approved. Mr. Buchanan seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Mr. Montgomery-aye; Dr. Mauldin-aye; Mr. Buchanan-aye. Motion passed, 3-0.

Possible Executive Session pursuant to 25 O.S. §307(B)(1), to discuss agenda items 3 through 6.

Assistant Attorney General Bailey Warren advised the Board that an Executive Session was necessary to discuss agenda items 3 through 6.

ACTION TAKEN: Mr. Buchanan moved to enter into Executive Session. Dr. Mauldin seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Mr. Montgomery-aye; Dr. Mauldin-aye; Mr. Buchanan-aye. Motion passed, 3-0.

3. Discuss complaints against Cary Freeman, Secretary of the Nowata County Election Board, and to discuss the possible discipline, resignation, or removal of Cary Freeman as Secretary of the Nowata County Election Board pursuant to provisions of 26 O.S. § 2-112.

4. In the event that a vacancy occurs in the office of Nowata County Election Board Secretary, to discuss the possible appointment of Assistant Secretary Loretta Haddox as acting Secretary of the Nowata County Election Board, to serve on an interim basis until such time as a Secretary is appointed to fill the unexpired term.

5. Discussion and possible action regarding the resignation of Wanda Arnold, Secretary of the Canadian County Election Board.

6. Discuss the possible appointment of Assistant Secretary Allen Arnold as acting Secretary of the Canadian County Election Board, to serve on an interim basis until such time as a Secretary is appointed to fill the unexpired term.

- a. Motion and Vote to Enter Executive Session
- b. Discussion in Executive Session
- c. Motion and Vote to exit Executive Session
- d. In Open Session, possible action and vote, if any, on matters discussed in Executive Session

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6(c). **ACTION TAKEN:** At 11:53 A.M., Mr. Buchanan moved to exit Executive Session. Dr. Mauldin seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Mr. Montgomery-aye; Dr. Mauldin-aye; Mr. Buchanan-aye. Motion passed, 3-0.

Assistant Attorney General Bailey Warren reported that no items were discussed in Executive Session, other than those listed on the agenda.

6(d). **ACTION ITEM:** Re: Agenda item 3 above, Dr. Mauldin moved to remove Mr. Cary Freeman from the position of Secretary of the Nowata County Election Board, effective immediately, pursuant to the authority granted to the State Election Board by Section 2-112 of Title 26 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Mr. Buchanan seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Mr. Montgomery-aye; Dr. Mauldin-aye; Mr. Buchanan-aye. Motion passed, 3-0.

6(d). **ACTION ITEM:** Re: Agenda item 4 above, Mr. Buchanan moved to appoint Assistant Secretary Loretta Haddox to serve as the Acting Secretary of the Nowata County Election Board, under the supervision of the Secretary of the State Election Board, to serve on an interim basis until such time as a Secretary is appointed to fill the unexpired term. Dr. Mauldin seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Mr. Montgomery-aye; Dr. Mauldin-aye; Mr. Buchanan-aye. Motion passed, 3-0.

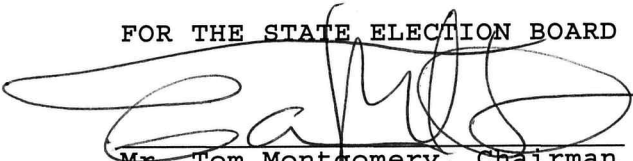
6(d). **ACTION ITEM:** Re: Agenda item 5 above, Dr. Mauldin moved that the State Election Board acknowledge the revised resignation of Wanda Arnold as Secretary of the Canadian County Election Board, which was effective September 14, 2022. Mr. Buchanan seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Mr. Montgomery-aye; Dr. Mauldin-aye; Mr. Buchanan-aye. Motion passed, 3-0. (Revised Resignation attached)


6(d). **ACTION ITEM:** Re: Agenda item 6 above, Mr. Buchanan moved to temporarily appoint Assistant Secretary Allen Arnold to serve as the Acting Secretary of the Canadian County Election Board, under the supervision of the Secretary of the State Election Board, to serve on an interim basis until such time as a Secretary is appointed to fill the unexpired term. Dr. Mauldin seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Mr. Montgomery-aye; Dr. Mauldin-aye; Mr. Buchanan-aye. Motion passed, 3-0.

7. **BUSINESS CONDUCTED:** Discussion regarding the scheduling of future meetings and requests for items to be placed on future agendas. **DISCUSSION:** The Board will meet for a Regular meeting on Nov. 15, 2022 at 5 P.M., to certify the 2022 General Election. The Board may need to hold a Special meeting in October to make appointments to fill any existing County Election Board vacancies. Mr. Dunn will contact Board members regarding possible meeting dates and locations, if needed.

8. **BUSINESS CONDUCTED:** Motion to Adjourn. **ACTION TAKEN:** Dr. Buchanan moved to adjourn until the next meeting. Dr. Mauldin seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Mr. Montgomery-aye; Dr. Mauldin-aye; Mr. Buchanan-aye. Motion passed, 3-0.

FOR THE STATE ELECTION BOARD


Mr. Tom Montgomery, Chairman


Dr. Tim Mauldin, Vice-Chairman


Ms. Heather M. Cline, Member