

MINUTES OF THE STATE ELECTION BOARD

April 16, 2026

The State Election Board met in a **Special** meeting on **Thursday, April 16, 2026, at 9:00 A.M.** at the State Capitol Building, Room 535, 2300 N Lincoln Blvd, Oklahoma City, OK 73105. Advance notice of the meeting was performed by filing a written notice with the Secretary of State on April 9, 2026 at 2:19 P.M.

Meeting was called to order by **Heather Cline**

ROLL CALL: Heather Cline, Chair- **Present**

Tim Mauldin, Vice-Chair- **Present**

Mignon Lambley, Member- **Present**

Also present were Secretary Paul Ziriaux, Assistant Secretary Rusty Clark, Deputy Attorney General Niki Batt, Director of Policy and Legal Affairs Rachel Rogers, Director of Election Services Kelly Stambaugh, Assistant Director of Election Services Alvin Mills, Court Reporter Susan Narvaez, and Board Clerk Sierra Jones. **NOTE:** Alternate State Election Board Members Debi Thompson and Jerry Buchanan were also present, yet did not participate in the meeting.

BUSINESS CONDUCTED AT THE MEETING:

1. Call to Order, determination of a quorum, and certification of Open Meeting Act compliance.
2. Remarks and introductions by Secretary of the State Election Board/Chair of the State Election Board/Office of Attorney General regarding hearing procedure.
3. Docket Call

ACTION TAKEN: The Chair announced all causes and took announcements from parties and counsel present on the matters set for hearing.

4. **Hearing and Decision-** *In the matter of the Contest of Candidacy of Ted Riley for the office of State Representative, House District 34, Ranson v. Riley. Cause No. 2026-02.* Petitioner State Representative Trish Ranson, appeared by counsel, Alana Haynes. Contestee Ted Riley failed to appear or answer and did not submit a cashier's or certified check in the amount of \$250.00, as allowed under 26 O.S. § 5-129. The Petition was timely filed and Notice of Hearing issued on Tuesday, April 7, 2026. The board received proof from the Petitioner that service was completed within 24 hours of setting the Petition for hearing, as required by 26 O.S. § 5-124. The Petitioner delivered the executed return of service to the Secretary of the State Election Board on the date of the hearing. **ACTION TAKEN:** The Board finds and concludes that the factual allegations set forth in the Petition constitute appropriate grounds for disqualification pursuant to 26 O.S. § 5-130. Ms. Cline moved to sustain the Petition and strike the Contestee as a candidate from the ballot. Ms. Lambley seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Ms. Cline-aye; Dr. Mauldin-aye; Ms. Lambley-aye. Motion passed, 3-0.

5. **Hearing and Decision-** *In the matter of the Contest of Candidacy of Adam Pugh for the office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Hasenbeck v. Pugh. Cause No. 2026-03.*

Petitioner State Representative Toni Hasenbeck, appeared by counsel, Spencer Habluetzel. Contestee State Senator Adam Pugh, appeared by counsel, Denise Lawson and Mike Fields. Contestee Pugh presented Secretary Ziriaux with a cashier's check in the amount of \$250.00, as required under 26 O.S. § 5-129. The Petition was timely filed and Notice of Hearing issued on Tuesday, April 7, 2026. The board received proof from the Petitioner that service was completed within 24 hours of setting the Petition for hearing, as required by 26 O.S. § 5-124. The Petitioner delivered the executed return of service to the Secretary of the State Election Board. The Board admitted into evidence the Joint Stipulations agreed upon by the parties as Board's Exhibit No. 1. The parties agreed that no witnesses or additional evidence would be presented based upon the joint stipulations.

ACTION TAKEN: At approximately 9:20 A.M. Ms. Cline moved to recess until 9:35 A.M. Ms. Lambley seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Ms. Cline-aye; Dr. Mauldin-aye; Ms. Lambley-aye. Motion passed, 3-0.

ACTION TAKEN: At approximately 9:35 A.M. Ms. Lambley moved to reconvene. Dr. Mauldin seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Ms. Cline-aye; Dr. Mauldin-aye; Ms. Lambley-aye. Motion passed, 3-0.

The Board heard argument from both the Petitioner and the Contestee.

ACTION TAKEN: Ms. Cline asked counsel if it would be appropriate for the Board to enter into executive session. Deputy Attorney General Niki Batt stated that a possible executive session was listed on the Agenda, pursuant to 25 O.S. § 307(B)(8), so if the Board deemed it appropriate an executive session would be in order. At approximately 10:53 A.M. Ms. Cline moved to enter into executive session. Dr. Mauldin seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Ms. Cline-aye; Dr. Mauldin-aye; Ms. Lambley-aye. Motion passed, 3-0.

ACTION TAKEN: At approximately 12:03 P.M. Dr. Mauldin moved to exit executive session. Ms. Lambley seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Ms. Cline-aye; Dr. Mauldin-aye; Ms. Lambley-aye. Motion passed, 3-0. Deputy Attorney Niki Batt said she would like to state for the minutes that during executive session, no items were discussed that were not listed on the agenda and no actions were taken.

ACTION TAKEN: Ms. Cline moved to deny the Petition, and retain the Contestee as a candidate on the ballot. Dr. Mauldin seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Ms. Cline-aye; Dr. Mauldin-aye; Ms. Lambley-aye. Motion passed, 3-0.

6. **Hearing and Decision-** *In the matter of the Contest of Candidacy of Dalton Gau for the office of State Representative, House District 83, Roberts v. Gau. Cause No. 2026-05. **ACTION TAKEN:** No action taken. The Petition was withdrawn by the Petitioner before the date of the hearing.*
7. **BUSINESS CONDUCTED:** Final instructions/closing comments by Secretary of the State Election Board/Chair of the State Election Board/Office of Attorney General.
8. **BUSINESS CONDUCTED:** Motion to adjourn. **ACTION TAKEN:** At approximately 12:08 P.M. Dr. Mauldin moved to adjourn. Ms. Lambley seconded the motion. **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Ms. Cline-aye; Dr. Mauldin-aye; Ms. Lambley-aye. Motion passed, 3-0.

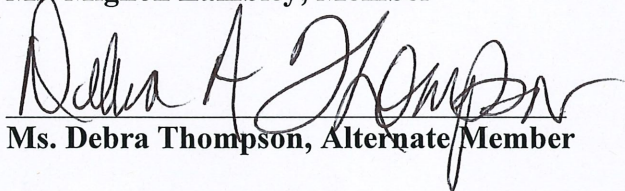
FOR THE STATE ELECTION BOARD



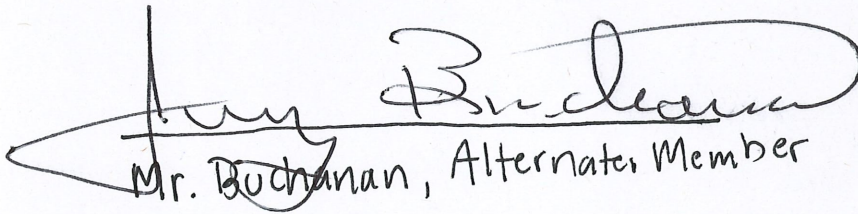
Ms. Heather Cline, Chair

Dr. Tim Mauldin, Vice-Chair

Ms. Mignon Lambley, Member



Ms. Debra Thompson, Alternate Member



Mr. Buchanan, Alternates Member

