

# SALEM VA



SALEM CITY ELECTORAL BOARD  
CALLED MEETING MINUTES  
Friday, October 14, 2022  
Salem City Council Chambers  
114 North Broad Street  
Salem, VA 24153

**Attendees:** Elizabeth Bowles, Faye Curran and Chris Thomas – Salem Republican Committee  
Nathan Auldrige, Teresa Auldrige, Shirley Everett, Bob Hunt – Salem Democratic Committee  
Zach Agee – Electoral Board Chair, Katherin Elam - Electoral Board Secretary, Steve Smeltzer -  
Electoral Board Vice Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 10:16am by the Electoral Board Chair Agee for the purpose of reviewing the appointed officers of election for November 8.

Ms. Curran was concerned about the listing of appointed officers of election that had blanks or listed as UAB. Those blanks and UAB equate to being listed as an Independent Party voter. The major concern from the Republican Party was with the Central Absentee Precinct (CAP) and the appointment of three officers of election with each one representing the Democratic, Republican and Independent parties not being accurate. The Electoral Board is not in a position to challenge any voters' political party choice.

Mr. Smeltzer shared the state form that citizens fill in if they are interested in becoming officers of election, that provides three political party options. This form is used in aligning officers of election from all parties to the precincts. There will remain three officers of election for the CAP and each party can have an observer in the CAP on election day with a letter from their party to see how the process works.

The Mr. Agee will ask the Director of Elections to produce the listing of officers of election and their assigned precinct for November 8 to each of the political parties.

An additional concern was brought up by Ms. Curran and that was the security of the CAP from September 23 until November 8. The same officers of election appointed to the CAP work in the Director of Elections office daily until the close of voting November 8. The security in question is moving the voting equipment and mailed ballots from the Director of Elections office to the CAP location on November 8 into the Council Chambers. Until the City of Salem

can find an adequate space for all phases of the election process year-round, the only solution is to physically move the CAP.

To ensure that this move is secure observers are invited from each political party to make the move with the machine in the early hours of November 8.

The meeting attendees each found the information on the CAP mobility concerning and will craft letters to the City Council asking for immediate attention to finding adequate space under one roof for the Director of Election staff, voting equipment and voter data.

The motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Elam and second by Mr. Smeltzer at 11am.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherin A. Elam

Katherin A. Elam, Secretary

Zach Agee

Zach Agee, Chair

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Steve Smeltzer, Vice Chair