



Board for Registration of Voters

Tuesday, July 7, 2026, 6:00 PM

MINUTES OF MEETING

Police Department Community Room, 1 North Ave, Burlington, VT, 05401 OR remotely via Zoom.

1. Call Meeting to Order

Lesley Gendron, temporary vice chair, called the meeting to order at 6:05pm.

Members in attendance: Alison Harte, Adam Franz, Colleen Montgomery, Janet Stambolian, Jeanne Keller, Kevin Lewis, Lauren Ebersol (remote), Karen Rowell, Lesley Gendron, Annie Schneider, Miriam Stoll, and Youth Member Will Cunningham

Members absent: Michelle Lefkowitz

Also present: Tenzin Chokden, Associate City Clerk, and Grace Grundhauser

2. Agenda

Motion to adopt agenda made by Alison Harte, seconded by Colleen Montgomery.

3. Introductions

All members introduced themselves and welcomed new member Miriam Stoll.

4. Announcements

No announcements besides that Miriam has joined the board.

5. Meeting Length

Meeting was set to end at 7pm.

6. Public Forum

Motion to move Public Forum up next in the agenda made by Adam Franz, seconded by Janet Stambolian. Passed unanimously.

Grace Grundhauser spoke about how much it meant to her to serve on the board for many years. She suggested that the board should nominate Lesley and Lauren to co-chair.

6. Member Position Nominations

Chair: Colleen Montgomery nominated Lesley Gendron and Lauren Ebersol as co-chairs. Seconded by Janet Stambolian. Passed unanimously.

Vice Chair: The board discussed nominating Michelle Lefkowitz in absentia. Colleen nominated Annie Schneider; Annie declined. Jeanne nominated Michelle Lefkowitz with the understanding that she may choose to decline to position. Seconded by Karen Rowell. Passed unanimously.

Parliamentarian: Kevin Lewis nominated Adam Franz. Annie asked if Adam would continue to serve on the board if he is elected to the State House; Adam replied he will if it is legally permissible. Passed unanimously.

Outreach Coordinator: Jeanne Keller nominated Miriam Stoll. Seconded by Janet Stambolian. Passed unanimously, except one abstention by Karen Rowell.

Volunteer Coordinator: Janet Stambolian nominated Alison Harte. Seconded by Colleen Montgomery. Passed unanimously.

Language Access Coordinator: The board agreed to leave this position vacant.

Student Liaison: Will Cunningham suggested combining the two roles of High School Student Liaison & College Student Liaison into one role of Student Liaison. Adam agreed; Annie asked if Will is interested in the combined role. Colleen Montgomery nominated Will Cunningham. Seconded by Janet Stambolian. Passed unanimously.

Resource Coordinator: Lesley Gendron nominated herself. Seconded by Kevin Lewis. Passed unanimously.

7. Adopt Minutes

7.1 Motion to adopt previous meeting's minutes

Grace Grundhauser clarified that new members should train for 2 elections, not 3 as was recorded in the June minutes. Colleen moved that the board should amend the minutes to reflect 2 rather than 3 training sessions. Passed unanimously, except one abstention from Miriam.

Colleen Montgomery moved to adopt the minutes as amended. Seconded by Karen Rowell. Passed unanimously, except three abstentions from Miriam, Alison, and Jeanne who were not at the last meeting.

8. Clerk's Report

Tenzin Chokden reported that there are 29,589 registered voters on the checklist. Out of these voters, 6,368 are currently challenged. In June, 115 new voters were registered, 22 voters were removed from the checklist, and 103 voters were transferred from Burlington to other Vermont towns.

August state primary election updates as of July 2: 663 voters have been issued ballots, 71 have returned their ballots, and 2 returned ballots are defective. The Ward 6 polling place will still be Edmunds Elementary for the August primary, the only change being that all voters will enter through the front doors instead of the back doors. There will be Main St. parking for voters.

Miriam asked how a voter is challenged. Tenzin responded that voter challenges can be triggered in several ways, including if a voter's ballot is returned as undeliverable, or if property transfer records indicate a voter has moved. The Clerk's Office sends out voter challenge letters to request updated information before a voter is removed from the checklist. Miriam and other members remarked that the current number of 6,368 seems like a high number of challenged voters. Tenzin replied that after the local City elections in March there were a number of new challenges. Lesley added that normally the Board would receive a list of challenged voters to approve at the meeting but not when it is so close to an election – there is a state mandated grace period before an election. Jeanne added that many challenges are due to change of address.

9. State Primary Election Prep

Annie and Lesley will be out of town for the August 11 primary. Coverage is needed in Ward 4; Kevin and Adam will double up to cover Ward 4. Lesley suggested conducting outreach with former board members who might be able to volunteer on election day. Lauren has heard back from a handful of people who can volunteer on different shifts.

Usually there is a 2-hour training the Wednesday or Thursday evening before the election. Lesley will work to get the training session scheduled.

Election assignments:

Ward 1: Colleen Montgomery

Ward 2: Lauren Ebersol

Ward 3: Michelle Lefkowitz, Miriam Stoll (afternoon)

Ward 4: Kevin Lewis, Adam Franz (morning)

Ward 5: Jeanne Keller, Miriam Stoll (morning)

Ward 6: Alison Harte

Ward 7: Karen Rowell

Ward 8: Janet Stambolian, Will Cunningham

Tenzin is aware of and working on issues with the BRV laptops from the March election.

Grace Grundhouser asked if there will be a separate local ballot or just the state ballot. Tenzin Chokden replied there is only a state ballot for the primary so there will be no legal resident voting.

10. New Business

Colleen Montgomery shared that she has been talking with Michelle at the Fletcher Free Library to secure a monthly tabling slot for voter registration. Anyone who is interested in tabling should share their availability. Lesley is curious when the library's busy hours are.

Jeanne Keller brought up the idea of working with the Department of Corrections to do voter registration within the Chittenden Correctional Facility. Jeanne also shared that several members of the board were tabling at the City Juneteenth Festival to register new voters. The board will follow up with Sarah Montgomery about a process for checking that voters are registered to their current address. Tenzin shared that the Clerk's Office already receives new voter applications from the Chittenden Correctional Facility due to registration work from

the League of Women Voters. The group brainstormed other locations to do registration drives within Burlington.

11. Adjournment

Kevin Lewis made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Alison Harte seconded. Passed unanimously.