



**BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES
OF SEPTEMBER 8, 2025**

Members: Charlie Burnham, Darcie Abbene, Donnie Blake, Ed Wilson, Judy Bickford, Julia Compagna, Leah Hollenberger, Monte Mason, Richard Craig, Shelley Nolan, Siri Rooney, Urban Martin, Yvette Mason*, and Sara Haskins (Clerk).

Absent: Don McDowell, George Cormier, Laura Streets, Roland Billings, Shap Smith

Guest:

participating via zoom*

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Donnie Blake called the Board of Abatement meeting to order at 7:15 PM at the Morrystown Municipal Building.

AGENDA CHANGES/ADDITIONS

None

APPROVE MINUTES

1. Approve minutes of June 23, 2025

Motion made by Shelley Nolan to approve the minutes of June 23, 2025. Motion seconded by Charles Burnham. Motion carried. (13/0/1) Judy Bickford abstained.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. Review checklist changes

Sara Haskins presented a list of changes to the voter checklist since the last time it was reviewed on June 17, 2025. There have been 75 new voter registrations, 6 voters challenged, 21 voters purged and 41 voters transferred to other towns in Vermont. There are currently 4329 voters on the checklist.

The BCA reviewed the changes and offered additional names to review. *Motion made by Judy Bickford to accept the list as presented with amendments. Motion seconded by Richard Craig. Motion carried (14/0).*

2. Biennial checklist review

The BCA performed the biennial review of the voter checklist and confirmed the names to be challenged. *Julia Compagna made a motion to instruct the Town Clerk to send out challenge letters to the voters indicated on the challenge list and report the findings to the Secretary of State's Office. Leah Hollenberger seconded the motion. Motion passed (14/0)*

OTHER BUSINESS

1. Updates regarding U.S. Election Assistance Commission Local Leadership Council & U.S. Alliance for Election Excellence Pathfinder Cohort.

Sara Haskins provided a brief overview of the national election groups in which the Town is currently involved.

U.S. Election Assistance Commission Local Leadership Council

Sara Haskins was appointed as one of two Vermont representatives to the U.S. Election Assistance Commission's Local Leadership Council. In July, she attended the *2025 Data Summit: Election Administration by the Numbers* at MIT and a Region 5 Council Meeting. The summit featured panel discussions with election leaders from across the country on a wide range of topics. The EAC also provided training on properly tracking the chain of custody for election materials. Sara shared insights on how election administration is carried out in Vermont. All travel and participation costs for these meetings are covered by the U.S. government.

U.S. Alliance for Election Excellence – Pathfinder Cohort

The Town of Morristown was selected to join the U.S. Alliance for Election Excellence Pathfinder Cohort, which provides nonpartisan support for strong election administration. The Alliance has developed 26 standards based on five core values: high integrity, comprehensive preparedness, voter-centricity, proactive transparency, and continuous improvement.

Morristown is currently working toward certification in two communication-focused standards: **plain language** and **information design**. The program lasts about 18 months, with the goal of earning certification in these areas. The strategies learned will also strengthen the Town's broader communication practices, beyond just election-related materials.

ADJOURN

Motion made by Richard Craig to adjourn. Motion seconded by Judy Bickford. Motion carried. (14/0)

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 PM.

Submitted and filed this September 9, 2025.

Sara Haskins, Clerk

Please note all minutes are in Draft form and are subject to approval at the next Board of Civil Authority meeting.