

A stylized graphic on the left side of the image features a yellow ballot box with three blue squares and horizontal lines, resting on a red and blue base. In the top right corner, there is a yellow silhouette of the state of North Carolina. The background is a solid light purple color.

2021 COUNTY

Board of Elections (BOE) Monitor

BASIC TRAINING

demnc.co/boemonitor

DEMOCRACY

NC

**WHO
WE
ARE**





DEMOCRACY **NC**

**WHO
WE
ARE**

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**YOUR
RMOS**

WHAT YOU GET:

- ✓ Q&As
- ✓ Recording
- ✓ Slides
- ✓ Hub
- ✓ Resources
- ✓ Report Form

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POLL:

**How many of you
have attended
CBOE meetings
before?**

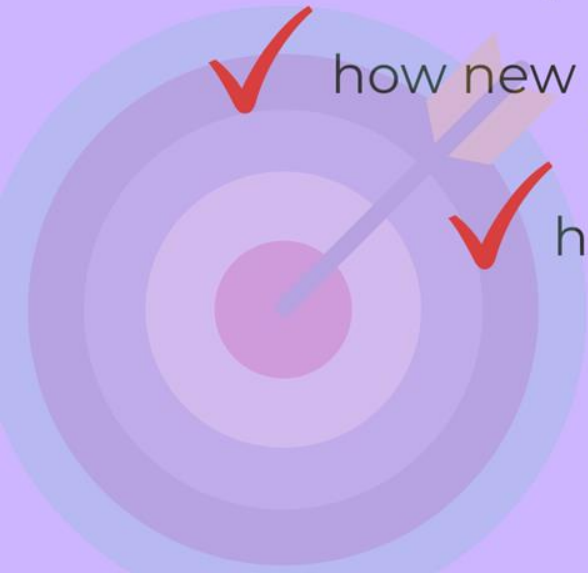


PHASE II: PURPOSE

✓ what we accomplished together
in the unprecedented election year that was 2020

✓ how new elix rules and developments for 2021
will make this year different

✓ how a CBOE membership will
conduct business in 2021



DEMOCRACY NC

In the past ten years, CBOE Monitoring has:

- ✓ won strong early voting plans
- ✓ significantly increased Sunday voting
- ✓ defeated efforts to cut voting access
- ✓ encouraged transparency
- ✓ made sure county elections are properly funded
- ✓ assured poll workers are adequately trained
- ✓ verified all eligible votes are counted

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ **ROWAN COUNTY: Supplies for safe voting!**
- ✓ **ROCKINGHAM COUNTY: Poll workers for more access!**
- ✓ **MECKLENBURG & FORSYTH: Eligible votes counted!**

2020

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

✓ Voter turnout was up in all 100 counties and more than 75% of registered voters cast a ballot, setting a new record.

✓ More early voting,
including the most sites ever (471),
the most hours ever (77,887)

✓ more weekend options than ever,
including Sunday voting in the majority of counties

✓ a record 1+ million votes by mail cast,
with over 1.4 million requested.

More of every voter voted.

NEW RULES?

- ✓ **Poll worker precinct recruitment flexibility expires?**
- ✓ **Single witness signature requirement expires?**
- ✓ **Online Absentee Ballot Request Portal expires?**

LIST MAINTENANCE

- ✓ **Black registered voters were more likely to be removed.**
- ✓ **Multiracial voters, Indigenous voters, and Latinx voters were also over-represented in the removals.**
- ✓ **Younger adults were particularly impacted.**

REDISTRICTING



Who Decides?

Appointed State Board Members

5 members

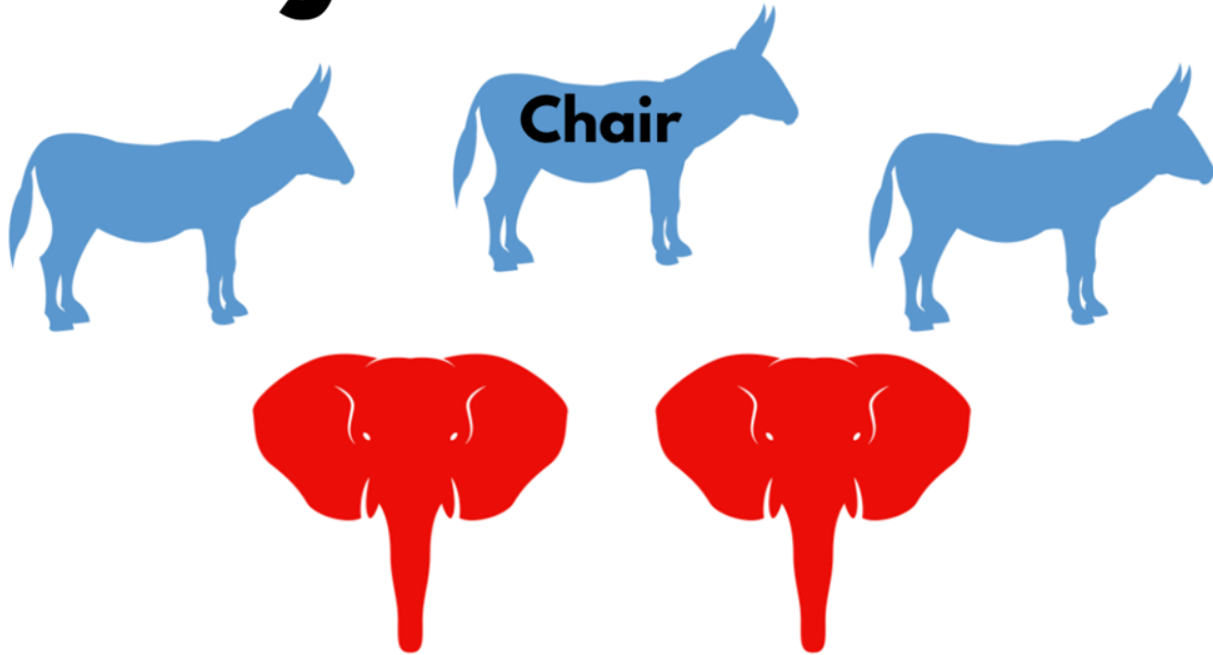
Appointed County Elections Board

5 members

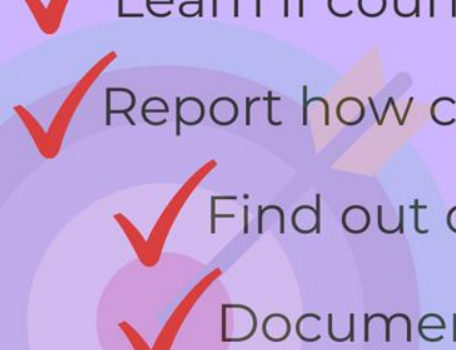
Paid County Elections Staff

includes the county director

County BOE Structure



PHASE I: GOALS


- 
- A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide consists of several concentric circles in shades of purple and blue. An arrow, colored in a light orange or tan, points from the outer circles towards the center, passing through the middle of the list of goals.
- ✓ Make sure counties are providing notice and access to meetings and opportunities for public comment
 - ✓ Learn if counties are educating voters about county removals
 - ✓ Report how counties are responding to election rules changes
 - ✓ Find out county plans to fund elections and how much
 - ✓ Document changes to BOE membership and impacts

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elections@democracync.org

POLL 2:

**How many of you know
whether your town
or city is supposed to have
an election this year
and when it is?**



Q&A

FIRST CHANCE

PHASE III: SHARED GOALS



Building Education, Advocacy, and Relationships

- Contact your county: specific questions, meeting times and election info
- Witness elections process (decisions, policies and administration)
- Attend meetings and observe topics closely
- Speak out during public comment (e.g. budgets, voting access)
- Takes notes on meeting agenda topics
- Use our BOE Monitoring Report Form to report back



PHASE III: SHARED GOALS



Election Admin “Fixes”

- Onslow County: worked with the USPS to prevent additional costs for mailing an absentee ballot to the CBOE
- Caswell County: advocated that SBOE increase resources for the county so the office could stay open longer, and with more staffing
- Cabarrus County: proactively worked with the Chair to correct an issue of miscoded absentee ballots erroneously sent to some voters

PHASE III: SHARED GOALS

✓ What we do with the info you gather

- Redirect problems to the attention of elections officials
- Identify trends, or solutions, that can help your county or others
- Help advocates advance legislation or litigation

PHASE IV: EXPECTATIONS

✓ What to Expect when you Call

Now you're ready to call your county to determine things like:

- When will our county meet again?
- Will they offer virtual options for meeting/comment? What?
- When will budgets be discussed?
- Will the county be hosting municipal elections this year? What?

PHASE IV: EXPECTATIONS

✓ What to Expect at the Meetings

Ready to attend a county BOE meeting to determine things like:

- Your county budget for elections?
- When the county commission may meet to discuss it?
- Latest expenditures, including list maintenance education?
- How the director/members are talking about municipal elections and other election changes?

Who Decides?

Appointed State Board Members

5 members

Appointed County Elections Board

5 members

Paid County Elections Staff

includes the county director

PHASE IV: EXPECTATIONS

✓ What to Expect at the Meetings

- These are public meetings. We're entitled to attend, but the boards may not be used to people caring about what goes on, esp. at these preliminary meetings.
- Don't be intimidated. You have a right to be there and observe.
- Don't be afraid to ask county board staff if there are any mechanisms for public input. This can be phrased delicately, e.g., "Can we ask a question if we can't understand what is being said, so the public can follow what is happening?"

PHASE IV: WHAT TO DO!

✓ Getting Intel — Reporting Back

- Contacting your county
- Taking notes
- Reporting out (demnc.co/boemonitor)
- Be a success

POLL 3:

How many of you feel anxiety about contacting your county board officials to find out info or attending meetings?



Q&A

SECOND CHANCE

FUN PART:

**Meet your
regional contact —
(choose your region)**



WHAT'S NEXT?

- ✓ Recorded training
 - ✓ Slide deck
- ✓ BOE Monitoring Hub
 - ✓ Resources
 - ✓ Report Form

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CONTACT US:

elections@democracync.org



POLL 4:

How many of you feel more confident with CBOE Monitoring now than before this training?



Q&A

LAST CHANCE:
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**THANK
YOU!!!!**

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