



Dave Boliek
State Auditor

Easy to Vote, Hard to Cheat

NC Trivia Question #1

- Which North Carolina island was once home to an abandoned whaling station and later became known for wild horses?



NC Trivia Question #1

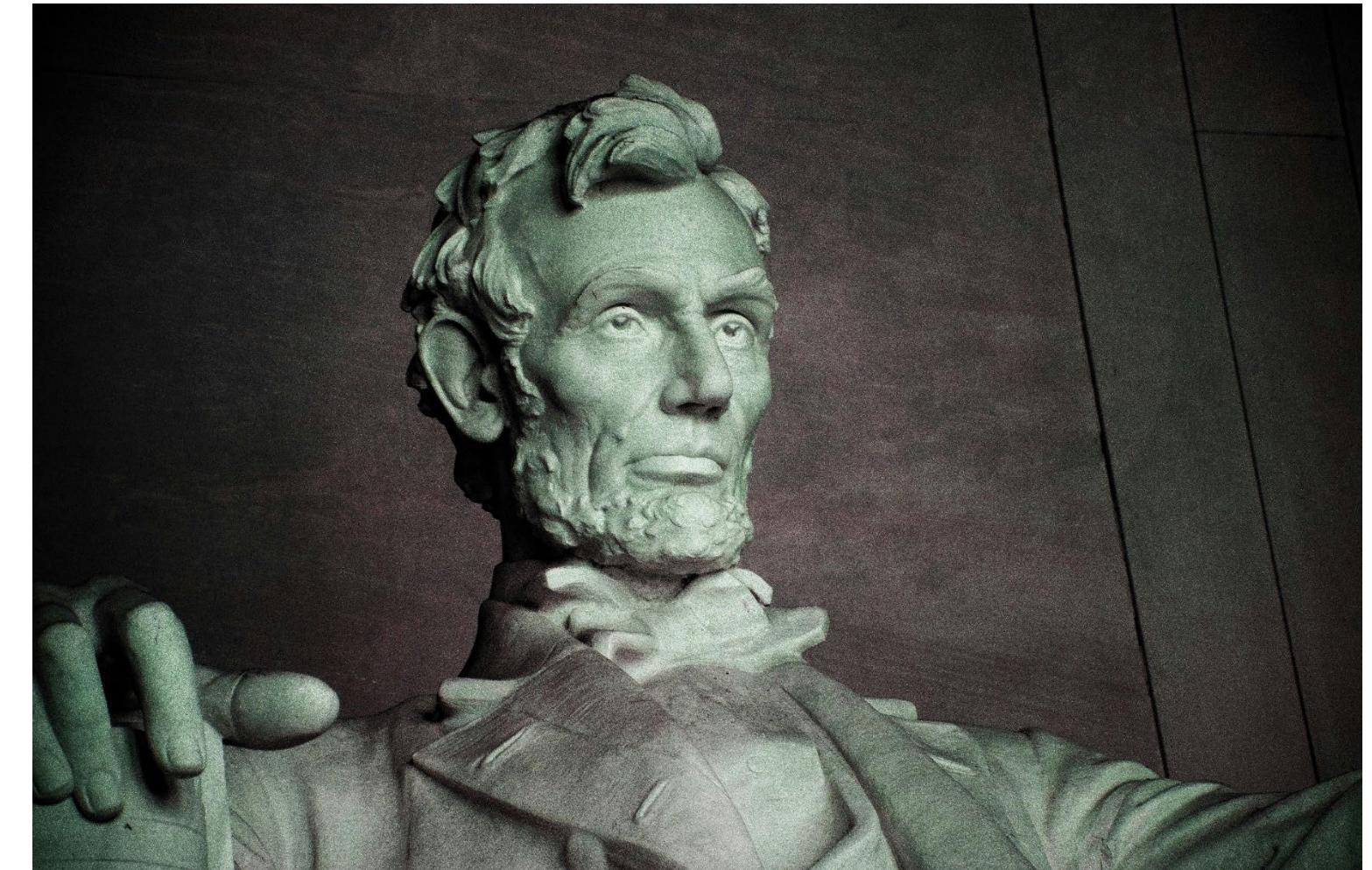
- Answer:
- Shackleford Banks



North Carolina Trivia

Question # 2

- Folks in what N.C. county make a strong case that Abraham Lincoln was not, in fact, born in Kentucky, but rather in a log cabin In North Carolina.
- They are so convinced of it that they opened a museum dedicated to the evidence that they've collected over the years.



NC Trivia Question #2

- Answer: Rutherford County

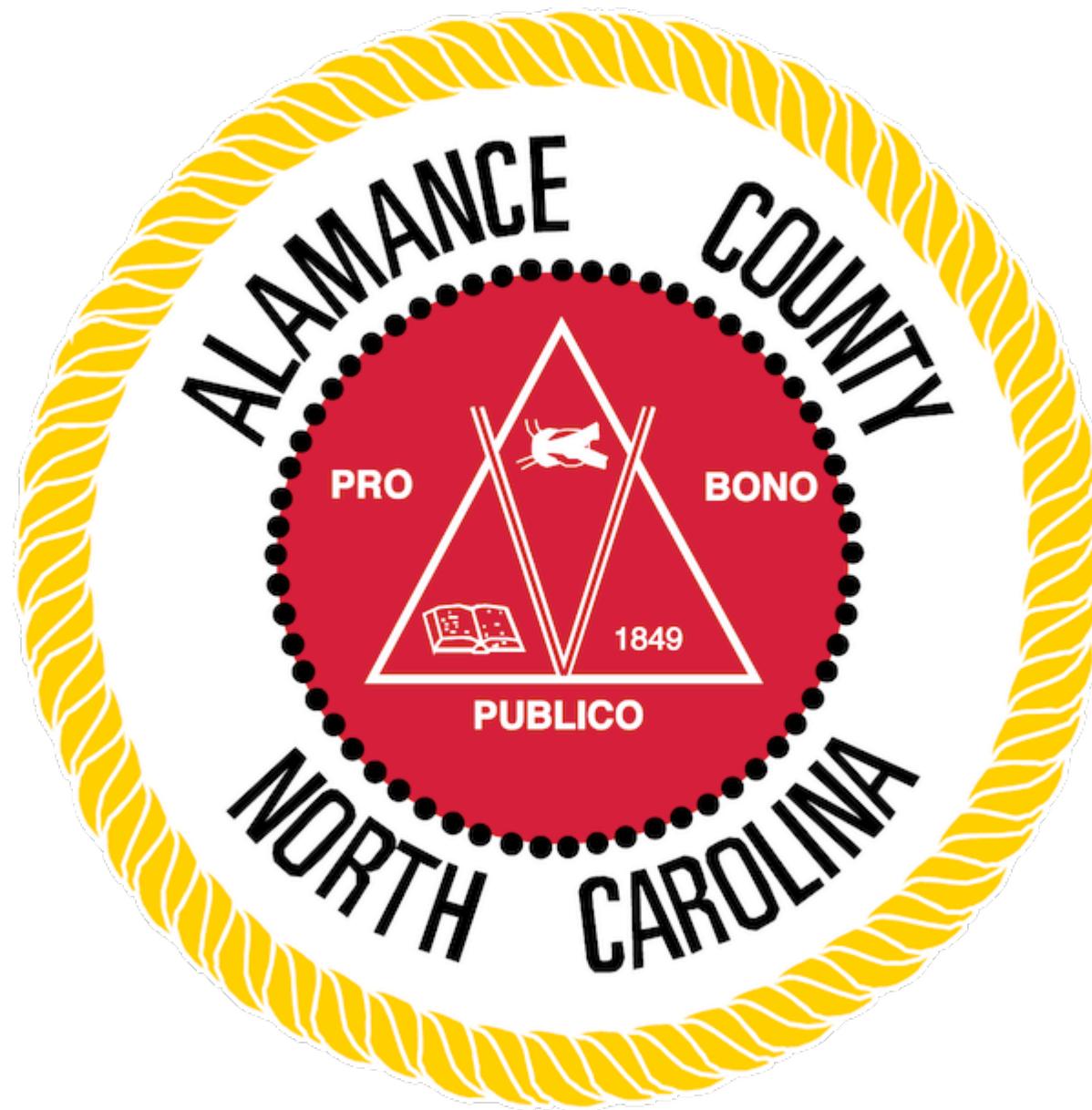


Source: Bostic Lincoln Center Facebook Page
<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1CmvstD4NS/>



NC Trivia Question #3

- Which North Carolina county was once home to the largest velvet mill in the world?



NC Trivia Question #3

- Answer:
- Alamance County



NC Trivia Question #4

What unusual geological feature
can be found at Pilot Mountain?



Answer:

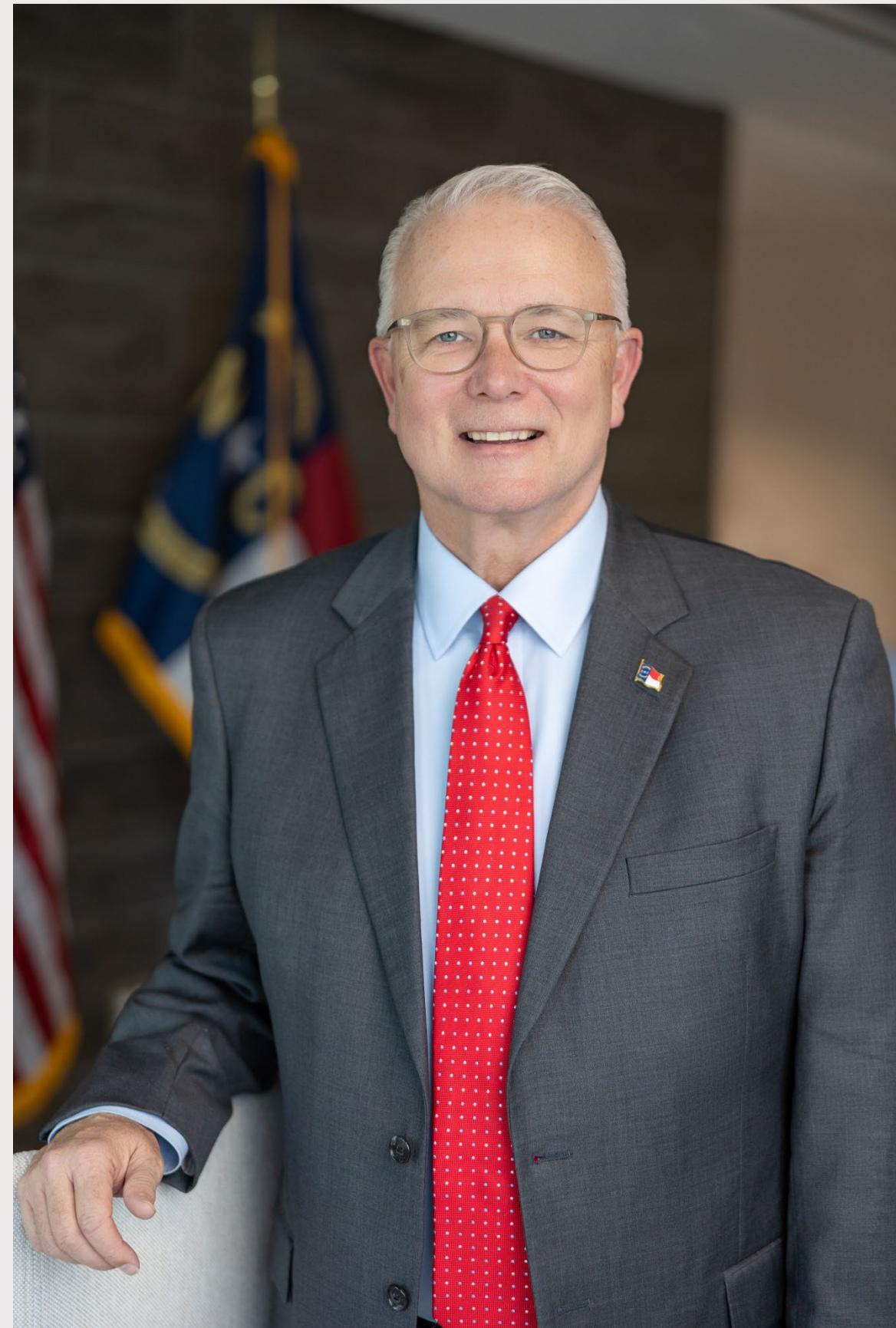
A quartzite monadnock rising
abruptly from surrounding
terrain



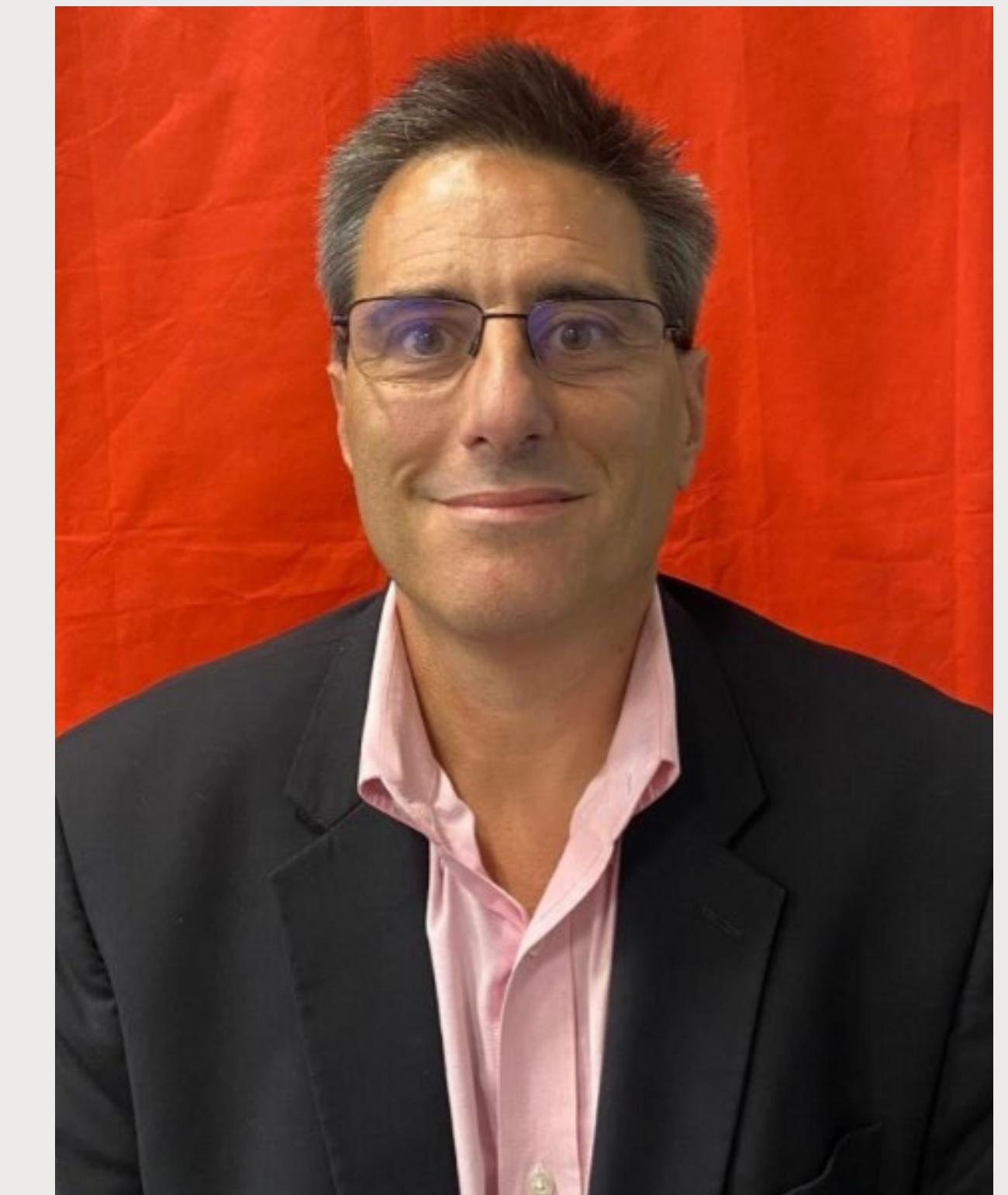
Rising more than 1,400 feet above the surrounding landscape, it consists of Big Pinnacle, a white quartzite monadnock with sheer rock walls and a rounded, vegetation-covered top, and Little Pinnacle, a lower section that is comprised of metamorphic rock not usually found in the region.

Geologists believe that the 200-foot-high Big Pinnacle was formed by the compression of sand from a beach that existed in western North Carolina approximately 1 billion years ago.

NC Trivia Question #5



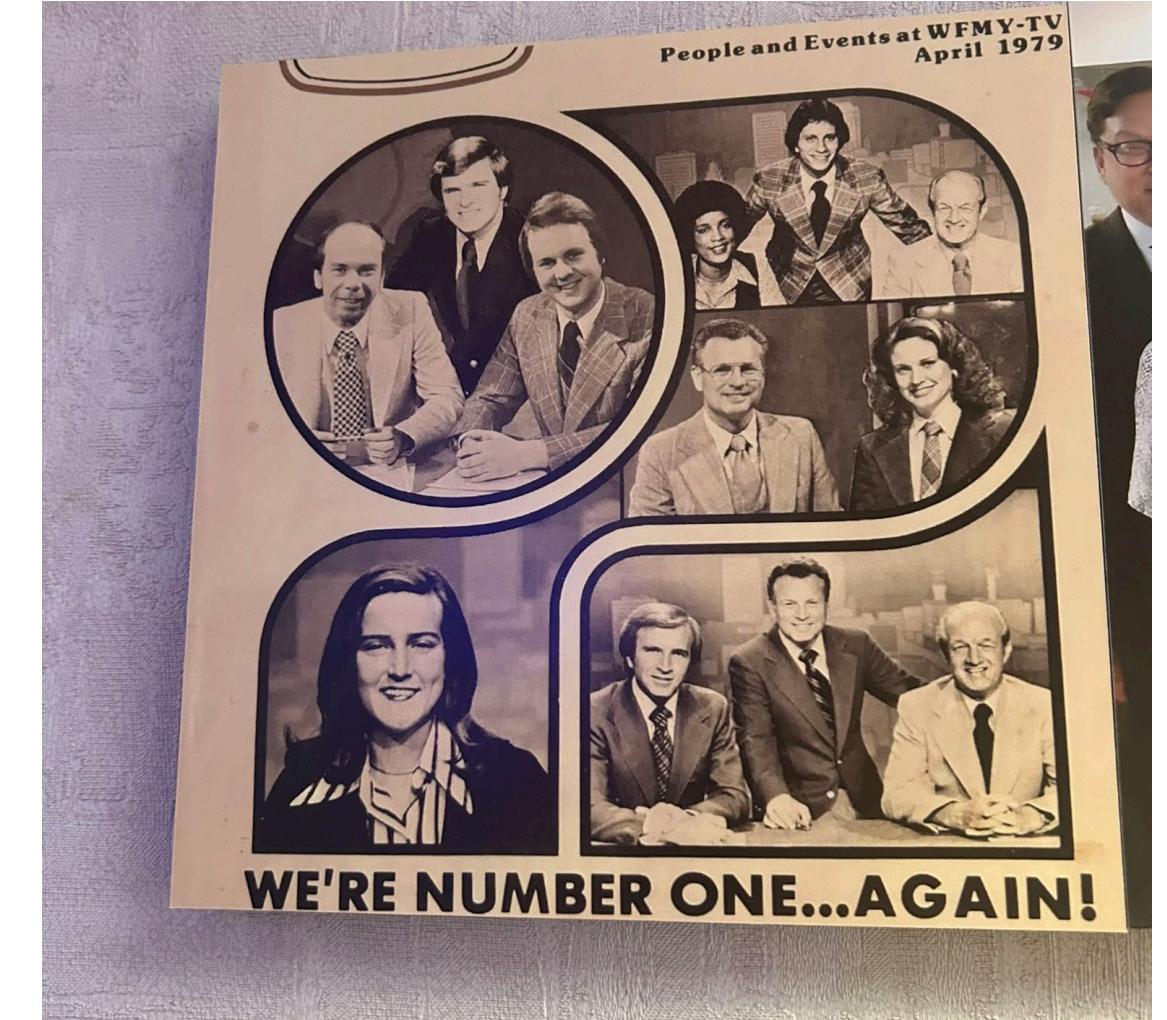
- State Auditor Dave Boliek's father and Dallas Woodhouse worked in the same industry, at the same time with similar job responsibilities.
- What job did they both have?



NC Trivia Answer #5

Dave Boliek (SR) Was one of North Carolina's most respected TV News Reporters, working at WFMY in Greensboro & WTVD in Durham, where he covered state government as well as major hurricanes and crime stories.

Dallas Woodhouse held a similar role at NBC-17 in Raleigh, where they covered similar stories for a couple of years before Mr. Boliek retired.



@NCCAPITOL

Incoming NC auditor promises to leave party politics out of election oversight

Republican state auditor-elect Dave Boliek will be the first in his position to oversee elections in North Carolina, thanl lawmakers. He told WRAL's "On The Record" he will administer that duty in a nonpartisan way.

Posted 12:34 p.m. Dec 20 - Updated 8:36 a.m. Dec 21

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WRAL



Overall Expectations of OSA Appointed Chairs

You are an appointee of State Auditor. Your actions, both official and non-official reflect on Auditor Boliek and OSA.

- Perform the role with integrity, accuracy and transparency.
- Enforce the law and NCSBE directives as written. Follow all NCSBE legal advice.
- Suggest improvements to election procedures as needed.
- Keep legislators, and county commissioners/officials informed and engaged.



What OSA can do for you:

- Provide guidance on Board functions, relations, and decisions.
- Assist in securing supplementary training for members and staff.
- Assist in relationship building conflict resolution with County officials, other board members, and concerned parties.
- Advocate for funding for county specific needs.
- Evaluate early voting plans and provide feedback to make sure all areas of your county have full access to early voting sites.
- Get answers to critical questions.
- Offer leadership advice.



Overall Election Administration Goals

- **Easy To Vote, Hard to Cheat.**
Emphasize the commitment to both accessibility and election integrity.
- **Transparent, Accurate, Honest, Accountable Elections Process.**
Highlight the core values guiding all election processes.
- **Expand Early Voting to Underserved Areas.**
Promote equitable access for all communities including more rural and suburban communities.
- **Inspire Confidence In Voters.**
Focus on building public trust and participation.
- **Put New Eyes on the Process.**
Verify, check and double check to review systems and process.
- **Govern with an Even Hand.**





2024 Early Voting in North Carolina



74% of North Carolina Voters Cast Early Vote

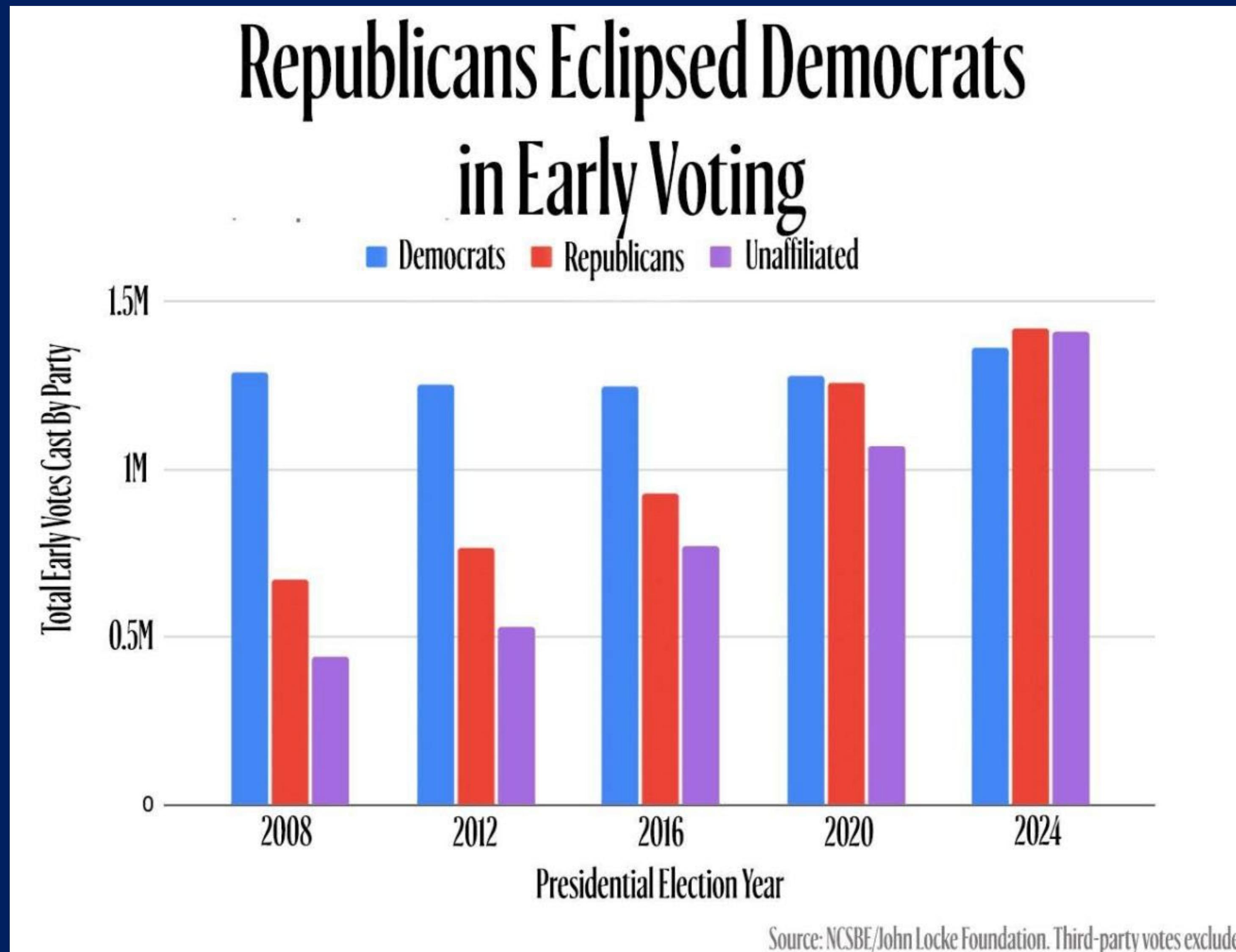
“Out of 7,763,502 eligible N.C. voters, 5,724,001 cast a ballot in the 2024 general election.

Voter turnout in North Carolina decreased from 75.35% in 2020 to 73.73% in 2024, despite a record number of early votes counted.

Importantly, though, 2020 represents North Carolina’s highest voter turnout rate at least since 1972 — 2008, 2012 and 2016 all hovered around 69%.”

-Addison Smith, The Chronicle, [“Insights from the 2024 NC electorate: Overall voter turnout lower than in 2020, youth rate holds steady”](#)

2024 Early Voting



Source: *The Assembly*

<https://www.theassemblync.com/politics/republicans-early-voting-record-north-carolina/>





2024-N.C. Turnout by Party

Democratic	73.1%
Republican	79.8%
Unaffiliated	66.9%



“Early voting is sort of becoming the standard of how people vote.”
- Appalachian State University political science professor, Phillip Ardoin



North Carolina Midterm Turnout – Historic Trends

Turnout in Non-Presidential Election Years

Election	Turnout (%)
2022 General	51.14%
2018 General	52.98%
2014 General	44.02%
2010 General	43.57%

Voter turnout in North Carolina midterm elections has fluctuated. The 2018 midterm saw a higher turnout compared to 2014 even without a U.S. Senate campaign at the top of the ballot.

Turnout in 2022 was slightly lower than in 2018, at around 51% compared to 53%.

Source: NCSBE,
<https://www.ncsbe.gov/results-data/voter-turnout>



Emerging Issues in North Carolina Elections

Election Audits.

Numbered Memos-Administrative Code Review.

Replacement of SEIMS System. Advisory Committee.

Early voting flexibility in small counties.

Elections (NCSBE) Executive Director Sam Hayes has sent a second letter to NCDMV requesting the Social Security numbers of DMV customers who are also registered voters. The information would allow election officials to match voter records more precisely against other government databases, identify duplicate registrations, and verify voter eligibility.



Rules of the Road for Meetings



Effective Agenda Preparation

- Draft a clear agenda in advance.

Share with board members and the public before the meeting.



- Prioritize important topics.

Place critical items early in the agenda if possible.

- Include time estimates for each item or note for yourself appropriate time limits.

Keep the meeting on track and respects participants' time.

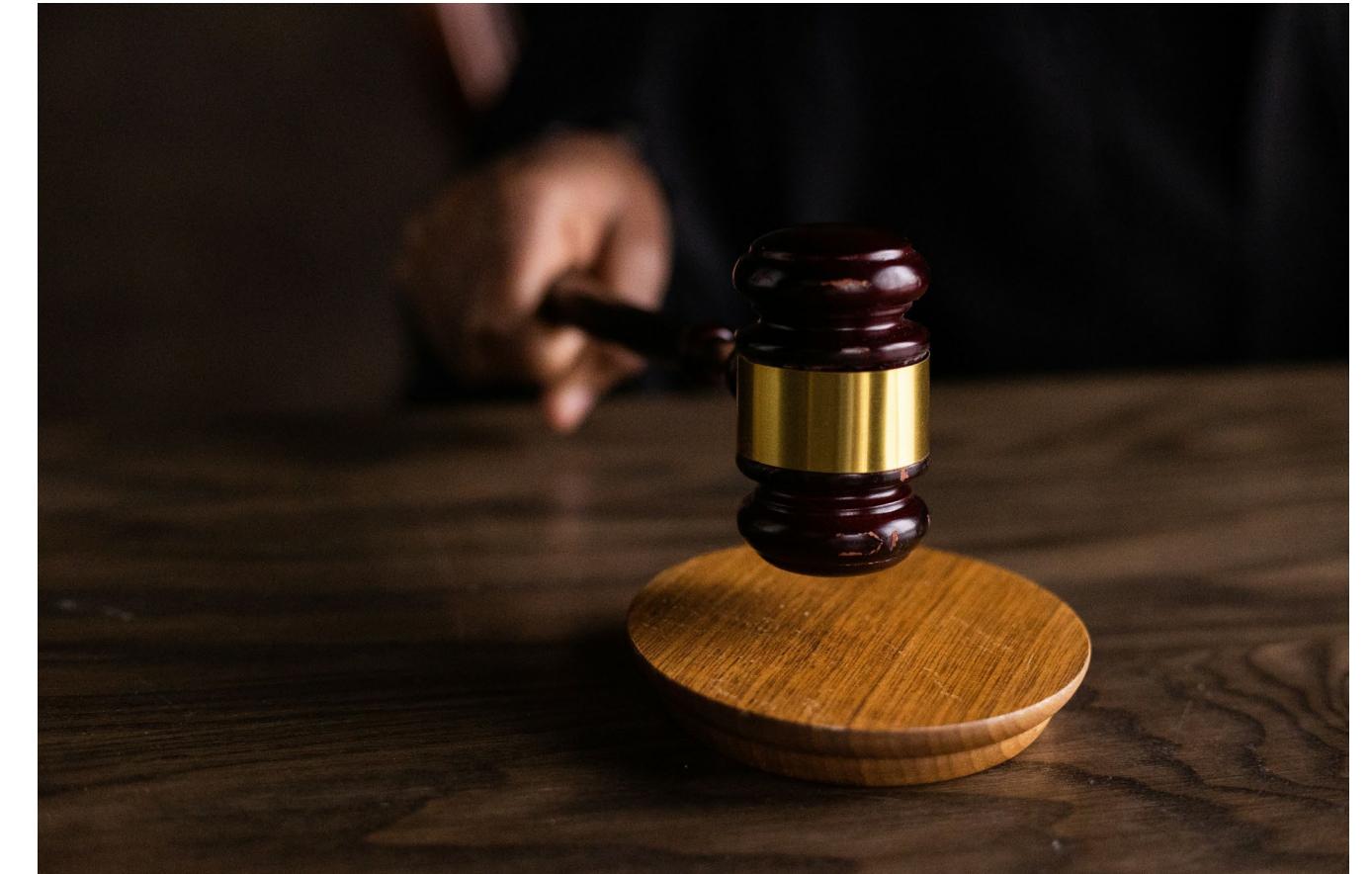
- Distribute supporting materials ahead of time.

Enables informed discussion and decision-making.



Agenda Discipline

- An agenda is the Chair's strongest tool for maintaining order.
- Follow the agenda unless the Board votes to amend it.
- Avoid surprise items — transparency builds trust.
- Stick to time limits to prevent meetings from becoming unmanageable.
- Conduct official business efficiently while ensuring public transparency.
- Protect the legal authority and integrity of the Board.
- Create a clear record for the public and for legal review.



Robert's Rules

- One issue at a time. One speaker at a time.
- Majority rules, minority rights are protected.
- Every motion must be clear and decided by vote
- No discussion occurs without a properly made motion.
- A motion requires a second before debate.
- Restate motions clearly before discussion and voting.
- Focus discussion strictly on the pending motion.
- Recognize speakers in turn.
- Limit repetition and off-topic remarks.
- Set reasonable time limits if debate becomes excessive.
- Remain firm, calm, and impartial.



Robert's Rules For Public Comment

- Public comment rules should be clearly stated at the start.
- Enforce time limits equally.
- Public comment is not debate with the Board.
- Maintain decorum while respecting public participation.
- Consider allowing written pre-comments.



Aligned with N.C.G.S. §§ 163-19, 163-22, 163-33 and NCSBE public meeting guidance

Robert's Rules For Public Comment

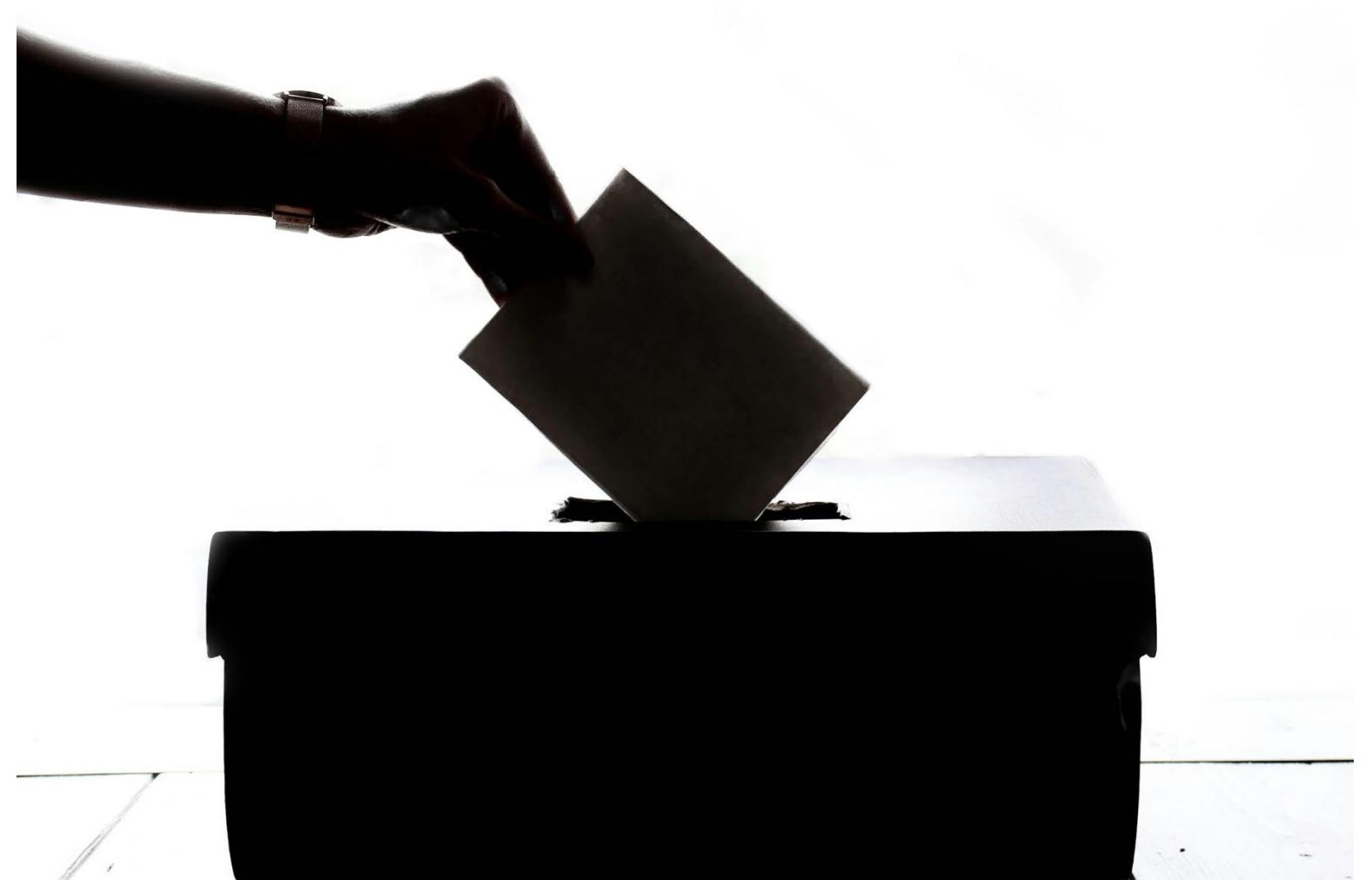
- Address disruptions immediately and professionally.
- Remind speakers of rules before escalating action.
- Use warnings, not arguments.
- If necessary, recess briefly to restore order.

Aligned with N.C.G.S. §§ 163-19, 163-22, 163-33 and NCSBE public meeting guidance



Robert's Rules

- Clearly state the motion before the vote.
- Announce results clearly for the record.
- Ensure votes are accurately recorded.
- Consider brief recess if needed.
- **Avoid these pitfalls.**
 - Allowing debate without a motion.
 - Failing to restate motions before voting.
 - Engaging emotionally or personally in disputes.
 - Letting meetings drift without clear structure.



Robert's Rules

- Gently redirect speakers who stray off topic.
- Summarize discussion before moving to a vote.
- End meetings promptly once business is complete.
- Speak clearly and deliberately for the record.
- Avoid side conversations.
- Ensure all motions and votes are audible.
- Assume all actions may later be reviewed.



Aligned with N.C.G.S. §§ 163-19, 163-22, 163-33 and NCSBE public meeting guidance



Robert's Rules

- Use Robert's Rules as a neutral authority.
- Pause or recess if emotions escalate.
- Seek NCSBE and/or OSA guidance on serious or recurring conflicts.
- Ensure fair treatment of all Board members.
- Maintain public confidence through professionalism.
- Lead with calm authority and respect for the rules.



Aligned with N.C.G.S. §§ 163-19, 163-22, 163-33 and NCSBE public meeting guidance

Your Service Matters!

- Our mandate comes from the people, because as Abraham Lincoln said: “No man is good enough to govern another man without that other’s consent.

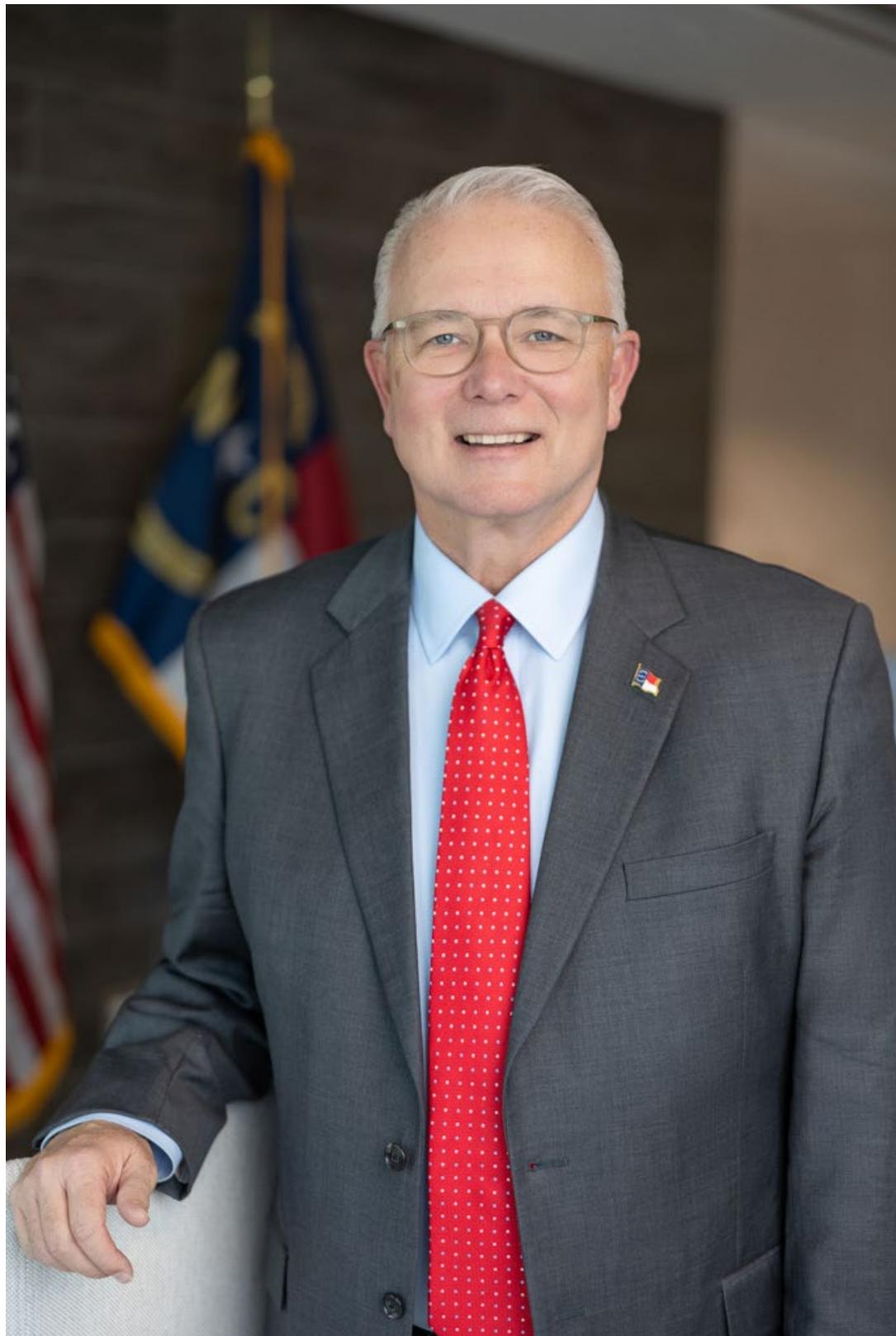
President George H. W. Bush on public service, 1989.

- “Into the life of every generation comes some opportunity for great public good.”

Robert La Follette, Accepting Nomination for Governor August 8, 1900.



Thank You!



“On behalf of the people of North Carolina, I commend our election chairs for their willingness to make sure voting is easy and cheating is hard.

You are helping restore faith in our elections and building confidence in votes.

We had successful and transparent elections across North Carolina in 2025, with our County Boards of Elections performing with excellence.

Thank you for your service. Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year.”

*State Auditor Dave Boliak
North Carolina's 21st State Auditor*



