

North Carolina Office of the State Auditor



FULL ATTENDANCE LIST

Voting Members Present:

- Dave Boliek, State Auditor of North Carolina, MEDS Commission Chair
- Angela Hawkins, Chair, Wake County Board of Elections, Commission Secretary
- Linda Devore, Chair, Cumberland County Board of Elections
- Gerry Cohen, Member, Wake County Board of Elections
- John Sims, Chair, Orange County Board of Elections
- Derrick R. Miller, Member, New Hanover County Board of Elections
- Brooks Fuller, Policy Director, Common Cause NC
- Andy Jackson, Director, Civitas Center of Public Integrity at the John Locke Foundation
- Chris Cooper, Professor, Western Carolina University
- Michael Behrent, Professor, Appalachian State University
- John Crumpton, Former Lee County Manager
- Mike Cox, Pasquotank County Attorney
- Commissioner Tommy Long, Haywood County
- Derek Bowens, Durham County Elections Director
- Matthew Snyder, Watauga County Elections Director
- Leigh Anne Price, Johnston County Elections Director
- Michael Dickerson, Mecklenburg County Elections Director
- Dell Parker, Scotland County Elections Director
- Kim Blackwelder, Stanly County Elections Director
- Clifton Philbeck, Cleveland County Elections Director

Non-Voting Technical Advisors Present:

- Sam Hayes, Executive Director, State Board of Elections
- Brian Livecchi, Chief of Staff, State Board of Elections
- Bret Kelly, Chief Information Officer, State Board of Elections

Ex Officio Non-Voting Members Present:

- Francis De Luca, Chair, State Board of Elections
- Stacy "Four" Eggers IV, Secretary, State Board of Elections
- Siobhan O'Duffy Millen, Member, State Board of Elections
- Robert Rucho, Member, State Board of Elections

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MEDS Commission

Meeting Minutes – Inaugural Meeting

February 24, 2026

Commission: Modernization of Election Data Systems (MEDS) Commission

Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026

Time: 2:00 p.m. – 3:37 p.m.

Location: Jim Long Hearing Room, 325 N. Salisbury Street, Raleigh, North Carolina

Chair: State Auditor Dave Boliek

Secretary: Angela Hawkins, Chair, Wake County Board of Elections

CALL TO ORDER

State Auditor Dave Boliek called the inaugural meeting of the MEDS Commission to order at 2:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL AND ATTENDANCE

A quorum was present. Voting members, non-voting technical advisors, and ex officio members attended as recorded in the official attendance record.

INTRODUCTION OF THE COMMISSION

Auditor Boliek provided an overview of the creation of the MEDS Commission and its advisory role in supporting modernization of North Carolina's election administration systems. Commission members introduced themselves and summarized their professional backgrounds.

OPENING REMARKS – CHAIR DAVE BOLIEK

Auditor Boliek emphasized the critical need to modernize the Statewide Elections Information Management System (SEIMS), which was originally implemented in 1998. He highlighted the importance of transparency, security, voter confidence, and public trust. Auditor Boliek thanked Commission members for their willingness to serve and contribute their expertise.

SEIMS MODERNIZATION PRESENTATION

Sam Hayes, Executive Director of the North Carolina State Board of Elections, provided an overview of SEIMS modernization efforts. He described a multi-phase strategy, with Phase III involving full system replacement. Current efforts focus on Phase II, prioritizing reorganization, efficiency improvements, and enhanced election security. Mr. Hayes noted that \$15 million has been appropriated to fund modernization, and that procurement is underway. He outlined goals including accessibility, ease of updates,

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voter privacy protections, improved data management, and establishing a national standard. No questions were raised.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE SYSTEM MODERNIZATION

Lindsey Wakely, Director of Campaign Finance, presented on proposed updates to the campaign finance reporting system. She discussed the limitations of the current Windows-based system developed in the early 2000s, challenges with third-party software, and mandatory electronic reporting. Ms. Wakely outlined a proposed pilot in January 2027 with full implementation targeted for July 1, 2027, and clarified that the project would occur in parallel with SEIMS replacement.

STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK

Campaign finance professionals provided feedback emphasizing the need for cloud-based systems, streamlined reporting, improved handling of 48-hour reports, and reduced compliance burdens. Discussion addressed interoperability challenges, reporting schedules, and statutory considerations.

COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS

Commission members expressed agreement on the importance of secure election systems, shared experiences with SEIMS challenges, and voiced support for modernization efforts.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

Auditor Boliek appointed several Commission members to a Campaign Finance Subcommittee to develop expectations and guidelines for system modernization.

CLOSING REMARKS AND NEXT STEPS

Auditor Boliek thanked participants and emphasized the Commission's charge to bring forward concrete recommendations.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:37 p.m.