

Election Board Decisions Reexamined This Week

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There may be changes on voting issues for Boone this week, with the agenda of the Watauga County Board of Elections including the withdrawal of their earlier resolution combining three Boone precincts into one. The agenda for Wednesday's meeting from board by Secretary Bill Aceto indicates action on that very controversial plan to remove two Boone polling places, a move that would have created one of the largest polling places in the state. But that meeting will come a day after the State Board of Elections takes up complaints and considers duplicate voting plans for Boone. Wednesday, the local board will consider the relocation of the Boone 2 polling place from the ASU Plemmons Student Union to Legends, that after eliminating campus voting altogether in their August 12th meeting. A barrage of even national criticism has poured in since that meeting, possibly prompting the about face. The new resolution calls the matters 'misinformation,' saying "The Watauga County Board of Elections is concerned that the misinformation being distributed regarding this recombination of this precinct will result in voter confusion." The resolution indicates that the board will "study this matter further and allow for all citizens to have accurate and complete information prior to the recombination of this precinct." A second resolution, should the first pass, is for the Boone 2 polling place be moved from the Plemmons Student Union to Legends, citing better handicap-accessibility, the distance from curbside voting, and better parking. The meeting is Wednesday at 5.