

BEFORE THE MCCLAIN COUNTY ELECTION BOARD

121 N 2ND AVE

PURCELL, OKLAHOMA

February 16, 2017

In the matter of the)
Petition to Contest the Candidacy)
of Lonnie Bewley for) Cause No. 20170001
Blanchard City Council Member ,At Large,)
McClain County)
State of Oklahoma)

FINDINGS AND ORDER

The above-styled matter was heard by the McClain County Election Board of the State of Oklahoma this 16th day of February, 2017, meeting pursuant to lawful notice.

The petitioner, Barabara Harris was present and was not represented by counsel. She presented proof of service and has paid the deposit with her petition of Candidacy earlier. The contestee, Lonnie Bewley was present and was not represented by counsel. He filed an Answer To Petition prior to the Hearing starting.

McClain County Sherrif's Dept. tried to serve notice to Mr. Bewley; he was out of state until February 12, 2017. He was considered to be constructively served.

The contestee deposited with the Board a money order drawn on a bank in the amount of \$250. to aswer the petition.

The Board admitted evidence and heard arguments in said cause. After having considered all evidence and testimony offered and admitted, and after having heard and considered arguments of (Lonnie Bewley and /counsel for and Barbara Harris), the Board made the following findings:

- (1) That factual allegations contained in the petition included an allegation that Mr. Bewley was not qualified by law to become a candidate for the the office of Council Member - At Large because his Voter Registration is not at an address inside the city limits of Blanchard.
- (2) That Title 11, Section 16-110, of the Oklahoma Statutes, states in pertinent part: "A Candidate must also be a registered voter at an address within the municipality, or of the ward where the office is from a ward for at least six (6) months prior to filing a declaration of candidacy..."
- (3) That the allegations contained in Mrs. Harris' petition be sustained and that Mr. Bewley's name be stricken from the ballot as a candidate for Council Member - At Large for the City of Blanchard. Votes cast by Board members are as follows: Mr Harness - aye; Mr. McElderry-aye; Mrs. Haley - aye.
- (4) That costs be assessed to Mr. Bewley

FINDINGS AND ORDER

Page Two

Done this 16 day of February , 2017, upon the unanimous decision of the McClain County Election Board of the State of Oklahoma as witnessed by their signatures appearing hereafter.

McClain County Election Board

Gordon Harness, Chairman

Neil McElderry III, Vice Chairman

Karen Haley, Secretary