

**FAYETTE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
AND VOTER REGISTRATION
MINUTES**

*August 27, 2013
5:00 p.m.*

Board Members Present: Addison Lester, Chairman
Marilyn Watts
Darryl Hicks

Staff Present: Tom Sawyer, Elections Supervisor
April Crosby, Election Officer
Beverly Westmoreland, Part-time Election Clerk

Others in Attendance: None

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Lester called the meeting to order at approximately 5:00 p.m. with all Board members present.

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Member Watts made motion to approve the August 27, 2013 Board of Election Meeting Agenda and Member Hicks seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

C. REPORT FROM DENNIS DAVENPORT, INTERIM COUNTY ATTORNEY

Since Mr. Davenport was not in attendance, this item was skipped. Supervisor Sawyer did give an update that he had spoken to Mr. Davenport about the issue of starting Early Voting on October 14, 2013. Since October 14, 2014 is a Federal Holiday and the State of Georgia offices will be closed on that date, it was a matter to be resolved with our County. The matter was resolved and Early Voting will begin on that date. The Secretary of State Elections Office has agreed to have some staff available on that date to resolve issues if needed.

D. HEARING

1. Deceased Voters

Election Officer Crosby presented the lists of cancelled deceased voters and the cancelled felon voters to the Board for approval.

After perusing the lists of deceased electors, Member Hicks made motion to approve the list of deceased voters and Chairman Lester seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

2. Felon Voters

Mention was made that there were only 4 felons on the list. Chairman Lester made motion to approve the list of felons; Member Hicks seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

3. Challenged Voters

Officer Crosby gave the Board information regarding a challenged voter, Mr. Stephen Steele. Mr. Steele registered at an address in the County but our office was informed by the resident at that address that he did not live there. The Board agreed that he should be removed from the Registrar's List.

Member Hicks made motion to remove Mr. Steele from the list of active voters. Member Watts seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

(At this point, Supervisor Sawyer updated the Board about the County's new policy of "Reduced or Minimum Staffing" before the upcoming Labor Day Holiday. Department Heads are allowed the flexibility to go to minimum staffing this Friday – thus allowing some staff to leave early (1:00 p.m.) in recognition of the three day holiday weekend.)

E. OLD BUSINESS

4. Approval of the July 23, 2013 (July) Board Meeting Minutes

Chairman Lester made a motion to approve the Board of Elections Meeting Minutes for July 23, 2013. Member Watts seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

F. NEW BUSINESS

5. Posting of 2013 ELECTIONS

Supervisor Sawyer discussed the list of 2013 Elections that had been given to the Board.

6. Qualifying

Supervisor Sawyer discussed with the Board that qualifying was going well and gave them the names of those who had qualified thus far. Qualifying began this past Monday, August 26, 2013 and will end on Friday, August 30, 2013.

7. Report from VRAG Conference

Supervisor Sawyer asked Member Hicks to give a report regarding the Conference. He mentioned he had gone to the class on Redistricting and on Absentee Ballot which he thought were technical but informative. Hearing from the Secretary of State and Election Staff with updated information regarding legislative issues was very good. The consensus was that the Conference was very beneficial and it was a chance to learn more about the new database program called ElectionNet.

(At this point, Supervisor Sawyer informed the Board that Campaign Disclosures will be handled in our office beginning January, 2014. This will include any fines that are imposed being handled in our office, as well.)

He then reminded the Board that next year, the VRAG Conference will be combined with GEOA Conference and will be held in March, 2014 in Augusta, GA.

He also told the Board that May 20, 2014 is set for the 2014 Primary.

8. Fayette Residents in Annexation Property

Supervisor Sawyer had provided the Board with a map of the annexation by the City of Fayetteville. There was discussion about the voters who will be impacted by this annexation and Supervisor Sawyer said they will be notified. The annexation has been approved and will be effective September 1, 2013.

9. Fayette Republican Women Meeting – September 12, 2013 10:00 a.m.

Supervisor Sawyer said he has been asked to speak at the Fayette Republican Women's meeting to be held September 12, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioner's Public Meeting Room. Since a political candidate is scheduled to be at this meeting, Supervisor Sawyer wanted to make the Board aware of this. After discussion, the consensus was this

was okay because there would be no conflict. Supervisor Sawyer said he will make a short speech first and then leave the meeting.

G. OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Lester asked if there was any other business to discuss. There were none.

H. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Lester asked if there were any comments. There were none.

I. ADJOURNMENT

Member Watts made a motion to adjourn at approximately 5:45 p.m. and Member Hicks seconded. The **motion carried 3-0.**

The next Board meeting is scheduled for September 24, 2013 at 5:00 p.m.