

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

***ACTION OF AGENDA***

*January 27, 2015*

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

**Staff Present:** Tom Sawyer, Elections Supervisor  
Leigh Combs, Elections Officer  
Beverly Westmoreland, Elections Clerk

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**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Watts called the meeting to order at approximately 5:00 p.m.

**B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Member Lester made the motion to approve the agenda with one correction under item F-1, Old Business. The date should be December 18, 2014 for the Special Called Meeting Minutes instead of December 4, 2014. Member Hicks seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

**C. HEARING – DECEASED FAYETTE COUNTY VOTERS**

**D. HEARING – FELON FAYETTE COUNTY VOTERS**

**E. HEARING – MOVED OUT OF STATE VOTERS**

Elections Officer Combs presented the list of deleted Fayette County Deceased, Felon and Moved-Out-Of State Voters.

The Board perused the lists. Member Lester made motion to approve all of these lists of deceased, felon, and moved-out-of-state voters; Member Hicks seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

**F. OLD BUSINESS**

**1. APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING BOARD MINUTES – SPECIAL CALLED MEETING: (DECEMBER 18, 2014)**

Member Hicks made motion to approve the minutes of the Special Called Meeting on December 18, 2014. Member Lester seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

**2. APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING BOARD MINUTES –SPECIAL CALLED MEETING: (DECEMBER 23, 2014)**

Member Lester made motion to approve the minutes of the Special Called Meeting on December 23, 2014. Member Hicks seconded. **Motion carried.**

**G. NEW BUSINESS**

**3. VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE**

**a. TRAINING**

Supervisor Sawyer told the Board that training took place on January 8, 2014 for the Knights of Columbus. He said it was a very successful voter registration drive training class for 8 members of the Knights of Columbus.

**b. VOTER REGISTRATION RESULTS TO DATE**

Supervisor Sawyer gave a report to the Board that the Knights of Columbus had registered 69 new voters with their registration drive in the County high schools during January.

Chairman Watts asked Supervisor Sawyer to write a letter to this organization expressing the appreciation of the Elections Office for their contributions in this effort. Supervisor Sawyer agreed to that request.

**4. HB 26**

Supervisor Sawyer gave each of the Board members a copy of an email he had received from Roger Bruce regarding the issue/proposal of House Bill 26, whereby Georgia voters could vote anywhere within the county on election day.

There was brief discussion about this proposal.

**5. EVALUATIONS**

Supervisor Sawyer explained to the Board that he had done employee evaluations on Elections Clerk, Karen Hunter and Elections Officer, April Crosby. Chairman

Watts asked if she could see those evaluations and Supervisor Sawyer agreed to her request. Member Hicks reminded the Board that those evaluations are to be kept confidential.

## **6. PRELIMINARY BUDGET CALENDAR**

Supervisor Sawyer passed out information to the Board about the Budget Calendar. He further stated that he will put together the budget for their approval on February 24, 2015 or by March 24, 2015 at the latest..

## **7. BALOTAR**

### **a. PURCHASE PROPOSAL QUOTE – W/O FOLDER**

### **b. PURCHASE PROPOSAL QUOTE – W / FOLDER**

Supervisor Sawyer gave the Board members a copy of the quote on the above listed items (a) and (b). The Purchase Proposal Quote was submitted to him by Election Systems & Software.

Discussion ensued regarding the system and the benefit it would be to the Elections Office. The ability to print the ballots on an as needed basis would be very cost effective. The Board members carefully looked at the proposals and there was discussion as to the benefits of using the system without a folder and with a folder. Also, the subject of maintenance fees with a leased system versus purchasing the system was discussed.

### **c. SUPPORT SERVICES**

The Board continued dialogue on the license and support policy that Election Systems & Software had in their quote.

### **d. IN-PERSON DEMONSTRATION – 1<sup>ST</sup> WEEK OF APRIL**

Supervisor Sawyer told the Board that an in-person demonstration is planned during April and the Board members would have a chance to be involved in a more in-depth look at how this system operates. He mentioned that several counties in Georgia already have the Balotar system in place and that the upcoming municipal elections would be a good opportunity to begin using that technology.

Member Lester asked if this could be purchased in this year's budget. Supervisor Sawyer will check to see if this is feasible.

#### **8. GEOA CONFERENCE – MAY 3, 2015 – MARRIOTT RIVERFRONT**

Supervisor Sawyer told the Board he had been to one of the planning meetings for the GEOA Conference and he will forward the agenda to them that he received at the planning meeting. All members of the Board said they wanted to attend. Supervisor Sawyer will make the reservations for this conference at the Marriott Riverfront in Savannah, GA. The plans are for all members of the staff to attend if possible.

#### **H. OTHER BUSINESS**

Member Lester said he had received a phone call from one of the poll managers from the November 4, 2014 election. The poll manager was of the opinion that the training received was incomplete. The poll manager expressed that the new policy implemented during that election, of returning the memory cards early by an assistant manager and a clerk, was not made clear.

Supervisor Sawyer said that he had stressed that if returning those cards earlier was a problem, to bring them back to the office as had previously been done. Member Lester said more clarity was needed in making sure the poll managers and workers understood. It was agreed that this new procedure had worked really well on election evening and did speed the process. Supervisor Sawyer said he will keep that in mind for future training.

#### **I. OTHER ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

Member Lester asked about the status of the court date regarding the district voting issue. Supervisor Sawyer said this would have to go to a bench trial.

Supervisor Sawyer said he does not have the minutes for the Executive Session held on December 23, 2014 but will have them ready soon.

**At approximately 5:55 p.m., Chairman Watts asked the Board if they wanted to go into Executive Session to discuss another matter. Member Lester made the motion to go into Executive Session; Member Hicks seconded. Motion carried.**

At approximately 6:00 p.m., the Board came out of Executive Session.

## **J. ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Watts announced that there was no action needed on the discussion made by the Board of Elections during the executive session and that the meeting was adjourned.

**The next Board meeting (February) is scheduled for February 24, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.**