

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

ACTION OF AGENDA

March 24, 2015

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

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

Others in Attendance: Peggy Perkins and Tony Parrott

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. Member Hicks seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

C. HEARING – DECEASED FAYETTE COUNTY VOTERS

Elections Officer Combs presented the list of deceased Fayette County voters. Member Lester made motion to approve the list of cancelled deceased Fayette County voters; Member Hicks seconded. **Motion carried.**

D. HEARING – FELON FAYETTE COUNTY VOTERS

Elections Officer Combs presented the list of felon Fayette County voters. Member Hicks made motion to approve the list of cancelled felon Fayette County voters; Member Lester seconded. **Motion carried.**

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

Elections Officer Combs presented the list of Fayette County Moved-Out-Of State Voters. Member Lester made motion to approve the list of cancelled moved-out-of-state voters; Member Hicks seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

F. OLD BUSINESS

1. APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING BOARD MINUTES – REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING – FEBRUARY 24, 2015 (FEBRUARY)

Member Lester made motion to approve the February 24, 2015 minutes. Member Hicks seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

G. NEW BUSINESS

2. INTER-GOVERNMENT AGREEMENTS

Supervisor Sawyer briefly discussed with the Board the subject of inter-government agreements from the cities in Fayette County. Member Hicks made motion to allow Chairman Watts to sign for approval of the inter-government agreements when they are presented from the cities that will be having elections in November, 2015, barring there are no modifications made to the agreements. Member Lester seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

3. BALOTAR – YTD BUDGET

a. YTD BUDGET

Supervisor Sawyer spoke briefly to the Board about Balotar as it relates to the budget for the Elections Office. He then asked Officer Crosby and Officer Combs to give the Board their observations of Balotar from their visit to the Carroll County Elections Office, who are currently using Balotar. They both were impressed with the technology from the demonstration they were able to observe at Carroll County.

(Chairman Watts explained to the visitors more about what Balotar is and the benefits of using Balotar. Balotar is a system that allows a ballot to be printed from our office instead of ordering ballots.

Supervisor Sawyer asked the Board for their official approval to purchase this system. Member Watts asked if there would be any additional costs to this system that had not been presented. Supervisor Sawyer said there were no more additional costs.

Member Lester made motion to proceed with purchasing Balotar with the current year budget money. Member Hicks seconded. **The motion passed unanimously.**

b. DEMONSTRATION – April 7, 2015, 10:00 a.m.

Supervisor Sawyer said the demonstration for Balotar scheduled on April 7, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. would probably last two (2) hours and it would be held in the County Commission Public Meeting Room.

4. Legislative update – 2/19/2015

Supervisor Sawyer passed out a current list of legislation bills being considered in the Georgia House of Representatives. There was brief discussion about these bills. House Bill #566 would involve Fayette County as it is a proposal to change House Districts. House bill #194 that would reduce the number of advance voting days is still undecided.

Supervisor Sawyer passed out to the Board a list of important election dates scheduled for 2016 for their information.

5. CHALLENGED VOTERS

Officer Crosby gave an update on the issue involving Wyatt Evans. This issue had been previously discussed in the February 24, 2015 Board meeting. Chairman Watts said this issue should be on the list of challenged voters for next month's meeting to be held April 28, 2015.

Officer Combs and Supervisor Sawyer explained to the Board facts about another issue involving a voter, Martha Wade-Hindman, who is registered at 204 Bohannon Road in Fairburn, GA. There is no house dwelling at this address as the home had burned down some years ago. There was discussion about the Ms. Wade-Hindman's taxes being paid to Fayette County because of the land value. There are house building permit issues involved in this case.

The Board discussed this issue and there was agreement that this would be a challenged voter to be added to the list for next month's meeting held on April 28, 2015. Chairman Watts asked Supervisor Sawyer to contact County Attorney, Dennis Davenport for his input on this matter and said that Mr. Davenport would need to attend this hearing.

H. OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Watts asked about the May 3-6, 2015 GEOA Conference to be held in Savannah, GA. Supervisor Sawyer gave update listing all who would be attending. Discussion followed. He said he has seven (7) rooms reserved. Discussion followed regarding hotel and travel plans for the attendees.

I. OTHER ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

Chairman Watts had another item she mentioned for consideration. She stated that privacy issues had been violated regarding political parties asking for personal information for purposes involving registering Republican delegates. There was discussion about how this was mishandled. Political parties are able to obtain the information they need with an electors' list that must be ordered through the Secretary of State's office.

Visitor, Peggy Perkins, made comments regarding her concern about how this information was handled and how that information could possibly be published.

Chairman Watts said she wanted the issue to be on the record. Supervisor Sawyer said he could contact Linda Ford, Director of Elections, about this issue if necessary.

At this point, there were no other items for consideration. Chairman Watts asked the Board Members if they would go into Executive Session at approximately 5:55 p.m. Member Hicks made the motion to go into Executive Session. Member Lester seconded. **Motion carried.**

The Board came out of Executive Session at approximately 6:00 p.m. Member Hicks made the motion to approve the Executive Session Minutes during the February 24, 2015 Board of Elections Meeting. Member Lester seconded. **Motion carried.**

J. ADJOURNMENT

Member Lester made motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 6:00 p.m. Member Hicks seconded. **Motion carried and the meeting adjourned.**

The next Board meeting (APRIL) is scheduled for April 28, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.