

## BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Darryl Hicks, Chairman  
Addison Lester  
Aaron Wright

## FAYETTE COUNTY, GEORGIA

Floyd L Jones, Director  
Leigh Combs, Registrar  
April Crosby, Elections Supervisor



## MINUTES

January 23, 2018  
5:00 p.m.

140 Stonewall Avenue West  
Public Meeting Room  
Fayetteville, GA 30214

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Welcome to the meeting of your Fayette County Board of Elections. Your participation is appreciated. All regularly scheduled Board meetings are open to the public and are generally held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at 5:00 p.m.

### **Chairman to Call the Meeting to Order**

Chairman Hicks called the January 23, 2018 Board of Elections meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

### **Approval of the Agenda**

Mr. Wright moved to approve the Agenda. Mr. Lester seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

No one spoke during Public Comments.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

#### **1. Consideration of staff's request to approve the December 8, 2017 Board of Elections' Meeting Minutes.**

Mr. Lester moved to approve the December 8, 2017 Board of Elections' Meeting Minutes. Mr. Wright seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

### **PUBLIC HEARING:**

#### **2. Public Hearing of staff's recommendation to remove registered Fayette County voters from the Electors List who are registered in the State of Georgia's Secretary of State Voter Registration System as deceased.**

No one spoke during this Public Hearing.

Mr. Wright moved to approve the list as presented. Mr. Lester seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. A copy of the request, identified as "Attachment 1," follow these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

#### **3. Public Hearing of staff's recommendation to remove registered Fayette County voters from the Electors List who are registered in the State of Georgia's Secretary of State Voter Registration System as felons.**

No one spoke during this Public Hearing.

Mr. Lester moved to remove Fayette County voters from the Elector's List who are registered in the State of Georgia's Secretary of State Voter System as felons. Mr. Wright seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. A copy of the request, identified as "Attachment 2," follow these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

There was no Consent Agenda item for consideration.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

There was no Old Business item for consideration.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

4. **Consideration of staff's recommendation to approve a Memorandum of Agreement between the Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission and the Election Superintendent of Fayette County, and authorization for the Elections Director to sign said agreement.**

Director Jones stated this was a basic Memorandum of Agreement allowing the Fayette County to conduct the election on behalf of the Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission. He added that the position is a non-partisan position, that the office would be on the November ballot rather than on the May primary ballot, and that qualifying for this office would also occur in March.

Mr. Lester moved to approve the Memorandum of Agreement. Mr. Wright seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. A copy of the request, identified as "Attachment 3," follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

#### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

- 1) **Move Meeting Location:** Director Jones asked for the Board's agreement to have the April 2018 Board of Elections meeting in the Elections Office rather than in the Public Meeting Room in order to accommodate poll worker training. The Board agreed to the request.
- 2) **Amend Meeting Date:** Director Jones stated that the scheduled March 27, 2018 Board meeting will occur at the same time when staff and the Board will be in Athens for the joint GEOA/ VRAG Conference. He asked the Board to consider moving the Board meeting to later in the week and he provided options for them to consider. The Board consented to meet on Thursday, March 29 at 5:00 p.m.
- 3) **Ballot Building:** Director Jones stated that the elections schedule is compressed with requirements and events landing on top of each other. He stated that there had already been an email issued stating that the ballots will need to be built at the same time the GEOA / VRAG Conference is taking place, but that there is no location available in Athens to build the ballots. He informed the Board that he and staff would leave Athens on Wednesday, come back to the office, and build the ballots then. He suggested that this effort may involve overtime for staff.
- 4) **Presentation at the GEOA / VRAG Conference:** Director Jones stated he had been asked to give a presentation on the subject of Early Tabulation of Votes. He suggested this would not be a "barnburner" of a speech, but he saw it as an opportunity to get his foot in the door at the conference and use the opportunity to effect change in the organization.
- 5) **Candidate's Academy:** Director Jones informed the Board that he would be giving a presentation at the Fayette Chamber of Commerce's Candidate Academy on Friday, February 2, 2018. He also informed them of a draft version of the presentation was at the dais for their review and information.

- 6) **Qualifying for Office:** Director Jones informed the Board that qualifying for the elected offices will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, March 5 and will conclude at noon on Friday, March 9.
- 7) **Ethics Notification:** Director Jones stated that he notified each of the elected officials that their ethics documents are to be turned in by a set deadline. He stated that all are on notice, but so far only a few have actually replied.
- 8) **House Bill 680:** Director Jones stated that House Bill 680 (HB680). He stated that the bill was brand new to his attention, that he was still reading the bill, but that his initial read of the proposed law was a cause of concern. There was discussion about whether this law is the result of the pilot program tested by the City of Conyers and of the implications of the proposed bill. The Board asked to be provided with further information about the bill as it becomes available with the possibility of making a decision on its level of support of the bill.
- 9) **Primary Runoff Election:** Director Jones informed the Board of a possibility of a dual-voting situation for the primary runoff. He stated that the Secretary of States' Office was aware of the situation and was looking at solutions. He stated that it creates a possibility of Fayette and other counties holding dual elections during the runoff with not enough machines. The Board asked to be kept informed how it would progress.
- 10) **Contracts:** Director Jones stated that he is working to have one contract, with Balotar (ES&S) amended so that it will be continually renewed each year. He stated that he was looking at the possibility of another contract, similar to one entered into by Clayton County, which would allow ES&S to conduct Logic and Accuracy (L&S) testing, bulk updates, and machine repair. He stated that it was under review and that he would be discussing the contract with his counterpart in Clayton County.
- 11) **Resignation of Leigh Combs:** Director Jones reminded the Board that County Registrar Leigh Combs has resigned from office and has accepted employment with the Secretary of State's Office. He further informed the Board that the position had been posted with Human Resources and through the Firefly system. He added that Firefly is an internal communication system, similar to email, that goes to all Georgia counties.
- 12) **Leigh Combs:** Mrs. Combs spoke about her new position and thanked those who have worked with her and supported her through her time at Fayette County Elections Office. The Board thanked Mrs. Combs for all she has done for Fayette County Elections and wished her well with her new position at the Secretary of State's Office.

#### **ATTORNEY'S REPORTS:**

There was no Attorney's Report.

#### **BOARD MEMBERS REPORTS:**

**Mr. Wright:** Mr. Wright stated that a couple of people at the Republican Party mentioned there was conflicting or confusing information on the County website regarding the Board of Elections meeting schedule, and he asked if that could be looked into. Director Jones replied he would look into the situation to determine and correct the problem.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**There was no Executive Session.**

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Mr. Lester moved to adjourn the January 23, 2018 Board of Elections Meeting. Mr. Wright seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

The Board of Elections meeting adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

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Floyd L. Jones, Director

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Darryl Hicks, Chairman

The foregoing minutes were duly approved at an official meeting of the Board of Elections of Fayette County, Georgia, held on the 27th day of February 2018. Referenced attachments are available upon request in the Board of Elections' Office.

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Floyd L. Jones, Director