

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Addison Lester, Chairman
Darryl Hicks
Aaron Wright

FAYETTE COUNTY, GEORGIA

Floyd L Jones, Director
April Crosby, Elections Supervisor
Brian Hill, County Registrar



140 Stonewall Avenue West
Elections Office, Suite 208
Fayetteville, GA 30214

ACTION AGENDA

September 25, 2018
5:00 p.m.

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 4th Tuesday of each month at 5:00 p.m.

Chairman to Call the Meeting to Order

Chairman Lester called the September 25, 2018 Board of Elections Meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Approval of the Agenda

Mr. Wright moved to approve the Agenda as published. Mr. Hicks 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 August 28, 2018 Board of Elections' Meeting Minutes.

Mr. Wright asked for the August 28, 2018 Board of Elections' Meeting Minutes to be amended. Specifically, he asked that the minutes be amended to read that any change he may be supportive of should be a one-time change and not to be interpreted to making changes election to election unless there are extenuating circumstances.

Mr. Hicks moved to approve the minutes with the change requested by Mr. Wright. Chairman Lester 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 in favor of or in opposition to staff's recommendations.

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

- 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 in favor of or in opposition to staff's recommendation.

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

CONSENT AGENDA:

There was no Consent Agenda Item.

OLD BUSINESS:

- 4. Consideration of staff's request to allow Fayette County residents who desire to serve as volunteers with the Elections Office to work as unpaid volunteers under staff supervision. This matter was last discussed at the August 28, 2018 Board of Elections Meeting.**

The Board provided guidance on how to proceed but did not provide direction or take a motion on the matter.

- 5. Discussion concerning the expansion of Absentee In-Person (Early Election) Voting Hours. This matter was last discussed at the August 28, 2018 Board of Elections Meeting.**

Mr. Hicks moved to proceed with staff's suggestion to extend the last week by one hour by opening the polls at 7:00 a.m. Mr. Wright seconded the motion for discussion purposes. Discussion followed.

The motion to expand voting hours on the last week of early voting with the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day passed 2-1 with Mr. Wright voting in opposition.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 6. Discussion concerning a recent decision to move the November 2018 Gubernatorial Election to the second floor of the Administration Building at the Elections Office.**

Chairman Lester asked Mr. Jones to arrange a meeting with County Administrator Rapson in order to discuss these matters.

Mr. Stough stated that conflict may be unique to Fayette County.

The Board agreed with Chairman Lester's request and directed Mr. Jones to arrange a meeting with the County Administrator. The Board further agreed that Mr. Jones and the County Attorneys be present in the meetings as need be. The Board did not take an official vote on this matter.

- 7. Consideration of staff's recommendation to approve Poll Managers, Assistant Poll Managers, and Clerks for the November 6, 2018 General Election.**

Mr. Hicks moved to accept staff's recommendation of Poll Managers, Assistant Poll Managers, and Clerks for the November 6, 2018 General Election. Mr. Wright seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. A copy of the request, identified as "Attachment 6," follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Board of Elections Website: Mr. Jones reported that the Board of Election's website is not up to date right now. He stated that he spoke to Mr. Hicks about updating the website a couple of weeks ago and he stated at that time that he intended to update the website. He said it had not been updated since a decision needed to be made about voting times. Now that the matter is resolved he would update the website hopefully by end of day tomorrow. (**Director's Note:** Updating the website has been put on hold a little while longer under a final determination is made about using the Public Meeting Room.)

Carole Thornburg Hired: Mr. Jones reminded the Board that earlier in the year he spoke to each Board member about the desire to hire another permanent part-time person who would be in charge of packing the supplies for precincts. He stated the Board had given its blessing and the position was approved through the County's budget. He informed the Board that he had hired Carole Thornburgh into the position. He stated that 36 applicants had been vetted and three were interviewed. Ms. Thornburg was selected since she had done work as a temporary, seasonal worker since 2006 and since it made little sense to replace her with a new person while going into a Governor's election. He stated Ms. Thornburg will be putting together a detailed listing of what supplies go to which precincts for future use.

Board of Commissioners Meeting: Mr. Jones stated he did give a report at the Board of Commissioners meeting. Chairman Lester was in attendance at the meeting. He said that from his perspective it went well and he was given a lot of kudos. He said while he did not make a request from the Board, the Board approved using Public Works signs and Fire Department signs to notify the voters of the election on week in advance. He stated this was a huge deal since he seemed to recall a time when a similar effort was made and was stopped by then County Administrator Jack Krakeel.

Georgia Public Broadcasting Interview: Mr. Jones stated that he had received a call from Georgia Public Broadcasting who came to the Elections Trailer on Monday and conducted an interview about the Logic and Accuracy Testing. He said those who listened to the interview thought he did well but that you never know what you will appear to have said until the editing is done.

Absentee Voting: Mr. Jones stated that Absentee-by-Mail voting has already begun. At the close of last week an estimated 900 ballots had already been mailed. He stated there are three people working in the in the Absentee-by-Mail room making sure all the requests are being met.

Kudos to Voter Registration: Mr. Jones gave kudos to those working in Voter Registration. He explained that voter registration was behind due to state requirements surrounding the primary and runoff elections. He stated that Beverly and Karen had worked tirelessly and now Voter Registration was back on track. He said Fayette County is in good standing due to the good work of Karen, Beverly, and Brian.

Logic and Accuracy Testing: Mr. Jones stated that Logic and Accuracy Testing is occurring right now. He stated that so far 174 DRE machines have been tested with another 61 machines being tested tomorrow. He stated that it will take three days to get the DREs tested and that is a testament to how much impact will be had in this election.

October 23, 2018 Board of Elections Meeting: Mr. Jones stated the next Board of Elections meeting will take place on October 23, 2018. He stated that the meeting is in the middle of early elections so he may ask for the meeting to be cancelled depending on what items may be on the Agenda. If there are only routine items that can be held back for a couple of weeks then he will make the recommendation.

Kudos to Staff: Mr. Jones gave a brief detail of the work and responsibilities and weight of Elections work. He stated that the public may not understand the work or appreciate how much is involved, but that there is much involved that requires perfectionism, and it was kudos to the staff for their hard work.

ATTORNEY'S REPORTS:

There was no Attorney's Report.

BOARD MEMBERS REPORTS:

Security: Mr. Wright stated there was an extensive discussion about security. Mr. Jones replied there had been no change since the last meeting. Chairman Lester stated that issue could also be discussed with County Administrator Rapson at the upcoming meeting.

Mr. Wright suggested that the Board make a request of the County Commission Agenda to address employees Second Amendment rights. Mr. Hicks stated he was not interested in making that move. He clarified that he is not against the Second Amendment but that it is a huge liability for staff to start carrying in the Elections Office. He wanted to explore other remedies before exploring that option. Mr. Wright stated that he was much more comfortable to not having the employees stripped of their rights for arbitrary reasons. Chairman Lester stated that a case needed to be made. Mr. Wright suggested there is not much of a case to be made. Mr. Wright stated he had spoken to some of the Commissioners about the matter. Mr. Hicks stated that the Commissioners can put the matter Agenda on their own.

Board of Commissioners Meeting: Chairman Lester stated he went to the Board of Commissioners meeting with Mr. Jones. He thought the meeting went well and there was no need to belabor any of the topics since they were well covered. Mr. Hicks stated that he had also heard the meeting and that Mr. Jones had done a great job. He thanked Mr. Jones for representing the Board of Elections well.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There was no Executive Session Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Lester moved to adjourn the September 25, 2018 Board of Elections meeting. Mr. Hicks seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

The September 25, 2018 Board of Elections meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Floyd L. Jones, Director