

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

*June 25, 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:** Dennis Davenport, Interim Attorney for Fayette Co.  
Lane Watts

---

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Lester called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. with Members Watts and Hicks present.

**B. HEARING**

**1. Deceased Voters**

**2. Felon Voters**

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

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

Member Hicks made the motion to approve the list of felons; Member Watts seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

**C. OLD BUSINESS**

**3. Approval of the May 28, 2013 (May) Board Meeting Minutes**

Chairman Lester made a motion to accept the minutes of May 28, 2013 and Member Hicks seconded. **The motion carried 3-0.**

**4. VRAG Conference, August 11-14, 2013 to be held at the Classic Center in Athens, GA.**

Supervisor Sawyer updated the Board of the plans that are still in process for this conference. Supervisor Sawyer said he has made the reservations at The Game Day for rooms. Current plans are for Tom Sawyer, April Crosby, Beverly Westmoreland, Karen Hunter, Marilyn Watts, and Darrell Hicks to attend. There was further discussion about budgeting for this.

**5. Report from 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Face-to-Face held June 12, 2013**

Supervisor Sawyer thanked the Board for their participation in this event. He said he thought we had plenty of information there. Member Watts commented that the displays from our office looked good and it was a positive experience interacting with the citizens of Fayette County with voter information. There are plans for this same event to be held next year.

**D. NEW BUSINESS**

**6. Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement with Peachtree City**

Chairman Lester signed the Intergovernmental Agreement with Peachtree City. Member Watts made the motion to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with Peachtree City. Member Hicks seconded. **Motion carried 3-0.**

**7. Anne Lewis & Dennis Davenport**

At this point, Supervisor Sawyer said that he had attended a Special called meeting of the Board of Commissioners on June 19, 2013 which went into Executive Session to discuss a matter of pending litigation. All parties in the Section 2 lawsuit were required to submit new maps by June 25, 2013, which will allow the judge to make a final determination on the district lines. Anne Lewis was not in attendance. Attorney Davenport discussed with the Board matters involving the issue of preclearance requirements relating to action taken by the Supreme Court on June 25, 2013.

## **8. Supreme Court Strikes Down Key Part of Voting rights Act – Section 4 Invalid**

**The Supreme Court of the United States issued a ruling declaring Section (4)(b) of the Voting Rights Act as unconstitutional.** The ruling stated that the formula in this section can no longer be used as a basis for subjecting jurisdictions to preclearance. Member Watts asked Attorney Davenport if this Supreme Court decision has any effect on the impending redistricting litigation. The Board further discussed this matter and Attorney Davenport stated that it does indirectly in that whatever map we submit, we do not have to have pre-clearance on now. Supervisor Sawyer stated that the 19 voting precincts, that the Board of Elections recently drew, will probably have to be redrawn.

Chairman Lester stated that the plans for redrawing of precinct lines will now be on hold until we see the outcome of the law suit. Supervisor Sawyer stated that it is possible that the Legislature may redraw these maps instead of a judge, since the Reapportionment office is now a part of the Legislature.

### **E. OTHER BUSINESS**

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

### **F. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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

### **G. OTHER ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

Chairman Lester asked if there were any other items for consideration. Attorney Davenport asked that the meeting go into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation.

(Member Watts recused herself; she and Lane Watts left the meeting.)

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At this point, the meeting went into Executive Session. Attorney Davenport briefed the Board on pending litigation. **No action was taken.**

Chairman Lester moved to come out of Executive Session; Member Hicks seconded.  
**Motion carried 2-0.**

### **H. ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Lester made a motion to adjourn at approximately 5:40 p.m. and Member Hicks seconded. The **motion carried 2-0.**

The next Board meeting is scheduled for July 23, 2013 at 5:00 p.m.