

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

ACTION OF AGENDA

April 22, 2014

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

Staff Present: Tom Sawyer, Elections Supervisor
April Crosby, Elections Officer
Brenda Jones, Elections Officer
Karen Hunter, Elections Clerk
Beverly Westmoreland, Elections Clerk

Others in Attendance: Tony Parrott

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Lester called the meeting to order at approximately 5:00 p.m. with all members present.

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Member Watts made motion to approve the April 22, 2014 Agenda; Member Hicks seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

C. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF FAYETTE COUNTY ELECTIONS AND VOTER REGISTRATION BOARD

Member Hicks made motion to postpone the election of a chairman until the next Board meeting to be held on May 27, 2014. Member Watts seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

D. HEARINGS

1. DECEASED VOTERS

Officer Crosby presented the list of deceased voters to be cancelled from the voting records to the Board. After perusal of this list by the Board, Chairman Lester made motion to approve the list of deceased voters to be cancelled. Member Hicks seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

2. FELONS

Officer Crosby presented the list of felons to be cancelled from the voting records. After perusal of this list by the Board, Member Hicks made motion to approve the list of felons to be cancelled. Chairman Lester seconded. **Motion carried.**

3. CHALLENGED VOTERS

Officer Crosby explained the situation with 2 voters who live in a house in Fulton County but their driveway is in Fayette County. They have been registered to vote in Fayette County because their driver's license has them in Fayette County. However, they pay property taxes to Fulton County. When this was discovered, Officer Crosby sent these two voters a challenged letter but a response has not been returned to this office.

After further discussion about how to handle this issue, Chairman Lester made motion to remove these two voters, John Melvin Lucky and Louise Todd Lucky, from the voters' list. Member Watts seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

D. OLD BUSINESS

4. APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING BOARD MINUTES:

MARCH 25, 2014 (MARCH)

Member Hicks made motion to approve the March 25, 2014 minutes. Member Watts seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

E. NEW BUSINESS

5. CALENDAR OF ELECTION EVENTS – GENERAL PRIMARY ELECTION – MAY 20, 2014

Supervisor Sawyer had given the Board a printout of upcoming election events. Important upcoming dates were pointed out to the Board. Discussion ensued.

Chairman Lester asked what time the Board should meet on May 20, 2014. The decision was made to meet at 6:30 p.m.

There was further discussion of dates for training of poll workers. Also, a discussion followed about how the clerk, managers and new poll workers are trained. Supervisor Sawyer gave the Board an update on the progress and how this is currently taking place.

6. APPROVAL OF POLL WORKERS – MAY 20, 2014

The Board was given a copy of the current list of poll managers and poll workers. Members Watts asked why a copy of this list was not sent earlier. Officer Jones explained to the Board of how the list changes daily. There are situations that arise where changes have to be made, sometimes at a moment's notice. She indicated that this is an ongoing work in progress before an election day.

Member Hicks recommended that the list of poll workers be sent much earlier to the Board to look over for the November General Election.

There was further discussion suggesting changes to Precinct #30 because of too many new poll workers, with the only experienced worker being the manager. Officer Jones will work with the manager of this precinct to make changes.

Member Hicks made a motion to approve the list of poll managers and workers, provided the corrections and changes discussed get handled. Chairman Lester seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

7. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF FY 2015 BUDGET

There was discussion of salaries of the Board members, and the additional expenses of the May 20, 2014 Primary, which was not expected to be that early in the year when the budget was done in 2013.

There was further discussion relating to the "Easy File" software program. Supervisor Sawyer had been advised by our Board of Commissioners to ask the Fayette County Board of Education to help with the cost of the program. The Board of Education was not in agreement to helping pay for this software.

Also, included in the budget were costs for a software program that would be used in connection to the AXIS imaging program currently being used by the Elections Office. The program would be able to automatically cancel all voters who have been deleted for reason of "No Activity for 2 General Elections" from the AXIS database. The cost of this program is included in the budget.

The Board also discussed the cost of ballots to be printed, the 2 conferences to be held in 2015, as well as new office chairs that are needed.

Chairman Lester made motion to approve the budget that Supervisor Sawyer had presented. Member Hicks seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

8. CONFERENCE REVIEW – POSSIBLE

Chairman Lester said that he was impressed overall with the combined GEOA / VRAG conference recently held in Augusta. The Board members discussed various topics that were brought up at the conference and the consensus was the information learned was very valuable. Officer Crosby mentioned that the timeline given for specific events in the notebook, as well as the month by month calendar of election events, was very helpful.

F. OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Lester brought up the subject of poll watchers and what they can and cannot do. Supervisor Sawyer explained the process saying the political party is responsible of informing the poll watchers of their responsibilities. Member Watts suggested a handout be provided for poll watchers for future training and the Board agreed.

Member Hicks said he would like more information on the website for potential poll workers and poll watchers. Members Hicks then led discussion of how poll workers are chosen. Chairman Lester said the project of reducing the number of precincts will be an opportunity to work on the number of poll workers.

A discussion followed with a summation of topics discussed and agreed upon at this meeting. Chairman Lester said he would like to keep the topic of “Best Practices” as an agenda to help improve our system. He also asked that a core agenda for the next meeting, as well as the minutes, be sent within 10 days after a meeting.

G. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was none.

H. OTHER ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

There was none.

I. ADJOURNMENT

Member Watts made motion to adjourn at approximately 6:45 P.M. Member Hicks seconded. **Motion carried.**

The next Board meeting (MAY) will be held May 27, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.