

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

MINUTES

June 26, 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 June 26, 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 May 25, 2018 Board of Elections' Meeting Minutes.

Mr. Wright moved to approve the May 25, 2018 Board of Elections' Meeting Minutes as presented. Chairman Lester seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0-1 with Mr. Hicks abstaining from the vote.

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 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 deceased. Mr. Hicks seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. A copy of the request, identified as "Attachment 1," follows 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 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. A copy of the request, identified as "Attachment 2," follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

CONSENT AGENDA:

There was no Consent Agenda item.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no Old Business item.

NEW BUSINESS:

4. **Consideration of staff's recommendation to revise the Calendar Year 2018 Board of Elections' Meeting Schedule."**

Director Jones stated that the Meeting Schedule had originally been approved by the Board late in 2017; however, since there is a runoff election occurring the schedule would to be changed in order to certify the runoff election results. He recommended that the Meeting Schedule be amended so that it would not meet on July 24 but would rather meet on Friday, July 27 at 5:00 p.m. in the Elections Office.

Mr. Hicks moved to approve staff's recommendation to revise Calendar Year 2018 Board of Elections' Meeting Schedule by cancelling the Tuesday, July 24 meeting and rescheduling for Friday, July 27, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. in the Elections Office. 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.

5. **Consideration of staff's recommendation to approve Poll Managers, Assistant Poll Managers, and Clerks for the July 24, 2018 Primary Runoff Election.**

Director Jones presented the Board with recommended Poll Mangers, Assistant Poll Managers, and Clerks for the July 24, 2019 Primary Runoff Election. Chairman Lester noted that there was a significant reduction in clerks and he asked if the Poll Managers were okay with the reduced number of clerks. Mr. Jones replied that the Poll Mangers were satisfied with the number of clerks they were receiving. Mr. Jones replied that the Poll Managers were satisfied with the number of clerks they were receiving.

Mr. Hicks moved to approve the Poll Managers, Assistant Poll Managers, and Clerks for the July 24, 2018 Primary Runoff Election. Mr. Wright seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. A copy of the request, identified as "Attachment 4," follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

6. **Discussion concerning Senate Bill 17, commonly referred to as the "Brunch Bill."**

Director Jones stated that the General Assembly passed Senate Bill 17 allowing the cities and counties to have Sunday Alcohol Sales at 11:00 on Sunday contingent on being voted on by referendum. He stated that his biggest concerns were the cities and county not being on the same page resulting in multiple elections as well as a possibility of having the dual election with two separate databases. He said he had tried to get information from the Secretary of State's Office regarding this bill and that it has been difficult getting answers from them. Mr. Jones stated that last week the Secretary of State's Office finally clarified that as long as the county and cities pass a resolution or ordinance by August 8, 2018 then the question can be placed on the November

ballot without the need for two databases. He stated that he had spoken Patrick Stough about this matter earlier in the day and that he would be communicating this information to the cities and county the next day.

Chairman Lester noted that the Agenda called the bill Senate Bill 19 yet the bill was actually Senate Bill 17. He asked which one it was. Mr. Jones replied that it was a typo and that it really was Senate Bill 17.

Mr. Wright was happy that the Secretary of State's Office provided the needed clarity. Mr. Jones agreed and he added that he was getting the sense that some of the cities would want this on the ballot while others may not.

The Board did not take action on this item and did not provide direction. A copy of this request, identified as "Attachment 5," follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

7. Discussion concerning recent notifications from the Secretary of State's Office regarding campaigning at poll locations and regarding the process of removing felons from the voters rolls.

Director Jones briefly reviewed two notices that had been issued from the Secretary of State's Office. He stated that the United States Supreme Court recently declared Minnesota's law regarding campaigning at the polls as too broad and unconstitutional. He said the information provided by the Secretary of State showed that the Court favorably viewed Ohio's and Texas' laws, and that Georgia has similar laws to those of Ohio and Texas. He added that the information from the Secretary of State's Office provided further clarity on what is considered as campaigning at the poll locations. Mr. Jones stated that he had read that both Common Cause and the NAACP had dropped their lawsuits against the State of Georgia based on the Supreme Court's ruling.

Director Jones added that efforts are being made by the State of Georgia to fine-tune which felons are unable to vote. He stated that the information from the Secretary of State shows that people with statuses for First Offender, *Nolo Contendere*, and Conditional Discharge are eligible to register to vote and cast a ballot. He mentioned that this Agenda saw quite a number of felons removed from the Electors' List, but he was unsure if similar number of felons would be provided by the State on a month-by-month basis.

The Board did not vote on this matter and did not provide direction. A copy of the request, identified as "Attachment 6," follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

8. Discussion concerning the July 24, 2018 General Primary Runoff Election.

Director Jones stated that three offices will be up for consideration during the runoff election for the Republican Party: Governor, Lt. Governor, and Secretary of State. The Democratic Party will have one office for consideration, namely, the State School Superintendent. He stated that the on July 2, 2018 the early voting site in Fayetteville will open for all three weeks, Peachtree City will open for weeks two and three, and Tyrone will open for only week three. He stated there is no voting on Independence Day and there is no Saturday voting.

Mr. Jones reported that the state is predicting a 5% turnout. He stated that Fayette County usually has about twice as many voters than the state predicts, so that means an estimated 8,400 voters will turn out for this election. He stated that although this election has a presumptive budget for three clerks per precinct, 27 precincts decided to have only one clerk, 7 precincts chose to have two clerks, none asked for three clerks, and two asked for no clerk support at all. He stated that given the staggered openings and the reduced numbers of clerks, the county was looking at a projected savings of \$24,000 for this runoff election.

Mr. Jones stated that a press release has been issued and information has been provided on both Facebook and the website informing the public of the staggered openings. He informed the Board that signs have been printed that will be placed at all three locations for all three weeks informing the voting public of when the locations would open.

Mr. Wright asked if the political parties had been provided the signs. Mr. Jones replied he had not spoken to the parties about this but he would send them the information.

The Board did not vote on this item and did not provide direction. A copy of this request, identified as "Attachment 7," follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Compensatory Time: Director Jones stated that the Board was aware that Elections Supervisor April Crosby had an overage of compensatory time and over the months that time has been reduced. He stated that the effort to reduce the comp time began in earnest in May 2017 and since that time Mrs. Crosby has been able to take an aggregate of about 3 ½ months off. He reported that Mrs. Crosby still has 30 hours to take before she is in compliance with policy. He explained that she already has more days scheduled off meaning the next time the Board meets, Mrs. Crosby will be in compliance with the policy.

ATTORNEY'S REPORTS:

There was no Attorney's Report.

BOARD MEMBERS REPORTS:

Contractual Employees:Mr. Wright asked if there was further information on making the poll workers contractual workers. Mr. Stough replied that County Attorney Dennis Davenport would further review the matter but there was nothing to report on that issue at this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There was no Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Hicks moved to adjourn the June 26, 2018 Board of Elections Meeting. Mr. Wright seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

The June 26, 2018 Board of Elections Meeting was adjourned at 5:13 p.m.

Floyd L. Jones, Director

Addison Lester, 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 July 2018. Referenced attachments are available upon request in the Board of Elections' Office.

Floyd L. Jones, Director

