

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

AGENDA

December 10, 2018
4:00 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 December 10, 2018 Board of Elections meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and he welcomed all in attendance.

Approval of the Agenda

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Alberta Lucas, Tish Naghise, Leonard Presberg, and Peggy Hamm spoke during Public Comments.

CERTIFICATION:

1. Certification of the December 4, 2018 General Runoff Election.

County Registrar Brian Hill presented the rejected ballots first. Mr. Hill recommended rejecting Doris W. Sharp's provisional ballot since she is registered in Fulton County. He also recommended Janita Law's provisional ballot also be rejected since she too is a registered voter in Fulton County.

Mr. Hill recommended that the following provisional ballots be counted since the voters are registered Fayette County residents who voted out of precinct: Matthew Robert Almond, Bridgette J. Phillips, Charlotte W. Seldon; Robert G. James, Cynthia Abrams, David Charles Schlau, Jr.; Shannon Woolf, Jill F. Pattiz, Regito Barr and Stephanie Cunningham.

Mr. Hill recommended that the following ballot be counted since the voter is registered in Fayette County but was not on the Elector's List: Daniel L. Bailey.

Chairman Lester moved to approve staff's recommendations for approving and rejecting provisional ballots. Mr. Wright seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Mr. Presberg questioned whether his son's ballot should be counted. Discussion followed.

County Registrar Brian Hill and Elections Supervisor April Crosby left the meeting to begin processing the provisional ballots and producing certification paperwork.

At the conclusion of the Board Reports, the updated count was presented to the Board.

Mr. Hicks moved to certify the December 4, 2018 Board of Elections meeting with the information presented by County Registrar Brian Hill. Mr. Wright seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Board then signed the certification documents.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

2. Consideration of staff's request to approve the November 16, 2018 Board of Elections' Meeting Minutes.

Mr. Wright moved to approve the November 16, 2018 Board of Elections' Meeting Minutes. Mr. Hicks seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

PUBLIC HEARING:

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 deceased.

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.

4. 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.

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 were no items on Consent Agenda.

OLD BUSINESS:

There were no items on Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS:

5. Consideration of a letter received from The Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law requesting the Board of Elections and other parties to reconsider the placement of Sherriff's signs at polling places in Fayette County.

The Board agreed to have this matter readdressed at the January 2019 Board of Elections meeting.

6. Discussion about staff's vacation schedule for the remainder of Calendar Year 2018.

Director Jones stated that given the need to reduce April Crosby's comp time and given the resignation of Leigh Combs, the county staff was placed in times of being shorthanded. By the time the issues were resolved and Brian Hill was hired, the county had moved into Election season. Election season just concluded and there were still significant chunks of time to take with regard to vacation. He presented the vacation schedule to the Board, mentioned that he would actually be losing some vacation time based on this schedule, but recognized that is just the way the "ball bounced" this year. It was pointed out that there would be

some days when staff was at a minimum, but Mr. Jones added that this time of year slows down so there should be no real problems. He further added that during conferences, staffing goes even lower than the proposed minimal staffing as recommended in the coming weeks.

The Board stated they had no problem with the vacation schedule as presented. The Board did not vote on this matter. A copy of the request, identified as "Attachment 4," follows these minutes and is made an official part hereof.

7. Discussion concerning whether a Board of Elections member should carry a weapon to a public meeting on county property.

Mr. Hicks stated he wanted this on the Agenda since during the last meeting Mr. Wright came to the meeting with a gun holstered to his side. He said his first question was about what do the county rules say? Secondly, he wanted to know the impact of carrying a gun in a Board of Elections meeting. He asked County Attorney Dennis Davenport to address these matters. Mr. Davenport provided his legal analysis of the question. Discussion followed.

Chairman Lester thanked Mr. Davenport for his legal analysis. Mr. Hicks also thanked Mr. Davenport.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Compliments to Staff: Mr. Jones echoed Mr. Presberg's comments by thanking staff. He stated that the November election was unprecedented and it left uncertainty about the December Runoff Election. He said each staff member has their individual roles to play and everyone comes with individual strengths and weaknesses, but at the end of it all the elections were held successfully.

Mr. Wright agreed with Mr. Jones' statement and said he had heard many compliments and good feedback.

ATTORNEY'S REPORTS:

No Attorney's Report was provided.

BOARD MEMBERS REPORTS:

Mr. Hicks: Mr. Hicks stated that this November 2018 election will give good feedback for future elections. Mr. Presberg asked if numbers were available showing how many people voted during the additional hours that were provided. Mr. Jones replied that he had the information saved on his computer. The Board asked him to provide the information at the January meeting.

Chairman Lester: Chairman Lester stated that some of the feedback he received was that there were voters who were coming to the wrong precinct to vote on Election Day- and at times there were more people questioning where to vote than actually voting. Discussion followed. Ms. Alberta Lucas suggested that perhaps some workshops could be held providing voter education. Mr. Hicks added there is a proposed law that would allow voters to vote at any precinct in the county, and that would be helpful.

Mr. Wright: Mr. Wright asked for a review the training protocols for elections clerks, assistant managers, and managers. He also wanted a review about what poll watchers can and cannot do, and how to handle elderly voters. Mr. Wright reiterated his fervent desire that the county policies be changed so that county employees can defend themselves. He said it was shameful that the county places potential liability in front of the personal safety of its employees. He said he had said that before and he would say that again.

Mr. Hicks: Mr. Hicks disagreed with Mr. Wright's position on county policies saying the liability is tremendous.

Chairman Lester: Chairman Lester stated he would follow up with County Administrator Steve Rapson about space and a new location. Mr. Hicks asked Chairman Lester to mention that something was said about the arraignments even earlier in this meeting. Mr. Wright added he gave a presentation to the Republican Party a couple of weeks ago and was questioned repeatedly about why the election was held upstairs.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There was no Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Hicks moved to adjourn the December 10, 2018 Board of Elections meeting. Mr. Wright seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

The December 10, 2018 Board of Elections Meeting adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

Floyd L. Jones, Director