

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Darryl Hicks, Chairman
Addison Lester
Aaron Wright

FAYETTE COUNTY, GEORGIA

Brian Hill, Director
April Crosby, Elections Supervisor
Tina Bass, County Registrar



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

MINUTES

October 26, 2021

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 Hicks calls the Election Board Meeting to order at 5:00 PM

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Consideration of staff's request to approve the September 28th, 2021, Board of Elections' Meeting Minutes

Mr. Lester moved to approve the September 28th 2021 Minutes as written. Chairman Hicks seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-0. Board member Aaron Wright was not present.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Speakers will be given a five (5) minute maximum time limit to speak before the Board of Elections about various topics, issues, and concerns. Speakers must direct comments to the Board. Responses are reserved at the direction of the Board

Chairman Hicks asked if there are any Public Comments and to please step up to the podium and to stat their name and where they are from

Jim Forestal from Peachtree City said "The first thing I would like to ask is for your consideration, I am interested in to what is said in the Agenda and I am wondering if we can move the publi9c comments to the end of the meeting instead of the beginning of the meeting so I don't have ask question of items that will be covered in the agenda".

Chairman Hicks answered "Well Sir, the way the board runs the meeting, is we have the public comments first and if you have any questions, you can ask anything you want to ask about agenda; you ask them now.

Mr. Forestal replied "Well I don't know what's going to be said.

Chairman Hicks replied "We are not design that way. Any government that conducts meeting is design to have the public comments at the beginning

Mr. Forestal replied "Well I asked that the board changes this"

County attorney Patrick Stough said that "Public Comments are not designed to be questions & answers. It is meant for the public to say what they want to say. There is no back and forth between the board and the public.

Mr. Forestal replied "That's all the more reason that I would suggest that you all consider putting public comments at the end of the agenda since we cannot go back and forth with the board. If you don't think that can be done tonight, I ask that you would consider changing it in future board meetings"

Chairman Hick replied "Thank you Mr. Forestal"

Mr. Forestal said "I also have a couple of questions: I'm wondering if when voter registration system is discuss tonight. There are couple of items on the agenda that has to do with the voter registrations system. Can you discuss what Fayette County rules are to police that voter registration system, If they have any responsibility and I would also like to know; where are the processes in the day accurate. That's all I have to say"

My name is Suzanne Brown and I am a resident of Peachtree City. I apologize but I am going to read a statement that I have written as follows:

"I want to speak in support of the process to purge the voter rolls by eliminating deceased persons and felons, neither of whom should, nor can vote.

Leaving names of ineligible voters on the rolls simply encourages fraud.

It's too easy request an absentee ballot for a dead voter and to fraudulently vote in their name.

The added identification requirement from SB 202 does not prevent this type of voter fraud, because relatives have access to the documents needed.

The problem is so much bigger than just purging the deceased and felons.

The state of Georgia contacts persons who fail to vote in two consecutive general elections. They write letters asking if they still reside at that address.

The process is slow, ineffective and permits fraud in many ways.

Names of voters who have moved should be purged through the use of the United States Postal Service – Change of Address List.

Voters who move are easily identified and can be removed to prevent fraud.

It's too easy for people to cast an absentee ballot at two addresses.

If we don't purge names using the Change of Address list, tens of thousands of people in Georgia could have voted here AND in another state.

It's illegal, but if you don't actively seek to catch violators and prosecute them, then it WILL continue.

The list is available, we should use it. ULTIMATELY:

Centralized electronic records are hackable - we need to return to paper poll books, where every registered voter is validated annually.

Mail-in votes are hackable – we need single-day, in-person elections, with photo ID and signature required; with only RARE exceptions for absentee voting (<1%); such as for military stationed far from their permanent address.

Machines are hackable – we need hand counting of ballots and votes. Machine confirmation is okay, just like when a bank teller hand counts a deposit in addition to running it through a currency counter.

Reporting is hackable - there is potential cheating between the machines and tabulators

We need to vote "AMISH" 100% on paper that is 100% hand counted.

And the paper ballots need to be high security, sequentially numbered ballots, like currency or lottery tickets.

On Sept 30th I wrote to the Peachtree City Mayor and all City Council members because the Dominion voting machines are not in compliance with Georgia Law §Title 21-2-300 because they fail to produce a paper ballot that the elector can read.

Voters are misled when they manage to make selections and print out their "ballot" which identifies a list of their selections.

But the Dominion scanners ONLY read the data embedded in the the QR Code And that QR code is not readable by the voter, even if they have a QR app on their phone. Thus the voter has no idea of what data is embedded in the QR code the same law gives Municipalities authority to choose paper ballots over Electronic

voting in Municipal elections I asked the Mayor and City Council to obtain sequentially numbered paper ballots on security paper for the Municipal election. They said the county runs our elections. You said Peachtree City dictates HOW they want to run the election. There was enough TIME to request paper ballots. But they didn't. Now I'm asking you to actively ensure election integrity by doing three things:

First - conduct a 100% hand count from all ballots – both the Dominion printouts and absentee ballots, the low numbers of votes in the municipal election makes this simple to do
I'm not talking about running the ballots through the machine a second time. I'm talking about hand counting and tabulating IF WE CAN'T TAKE THE DOMINION MACHINES OUT OF THE VOTING PROCESS FOR THE MUNICIPAL ELECTION, THEN
YOU CAN AT LEAST DOUBLE CHECK RESULTS WITH THE HAND COUNT

Second – IF THERE IS ANY DISCREPANCY IN THE MACHINE COUNT VERSUS THE HAND COUNT, immediately hire a professional team of forensic auditors to complete a FULL FORENSIC AUDIT to determine how and why there is a discrepancy.
DO NOT JUST CERTIFY THE RESULTS. . .
Do a full forensic audit first

THIRD - make a complete copy of all Dominion machine software including all of the HIDDEN FILES, do not just copy the files visible on the machines. If the machines had been hacked, then copies of the hidden files are vital to recover and preserve, to see the electronic signature of when and who hacked the system.

I know you must preserve all of the ballots, chain of custody forms, and other documentation as prescribed by law, completely copying the software is just one more piece of evidence.

The low number of voters in a municipal election give you a unique opportunity to examine all facets of the election process so fraud can be detected,
Evidence gathered, corrections made and prosecutions done if needed.

IN ORDER TO HAVE ELECTION INTEGRITY THIS MUST BE DONE PRIOR TO CERTIFYING THE ELECTION RESULTS.

LET'S BE PROACTIVE IN SHOWING FAYETTE COUNTY VOTERS THAT YOU WILL PROTECT THEIR RIGHTS!! THANK YOU”.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Consideration of staff's request to approve the September 28th, 2021, Board of Elections' Meeting Minutes

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

CONSENT AGENDA:

There was no Consent Agenda

PUBLIC HEARING:

1. 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 (**Pages1-4**)

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 felons **(Page 5)**

Mr. Wright moved to approve the cancellation of the recommended Vitals & Felon Voters. Mr. Lester seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0

OLD BUSINESS:

Absentee By Mail Drop Box Discussion Update, BOC meeting, The Commissioner's approved our request to loan ballot drop boxes to counties in need. The motion passed with the following conditions:

- If the law changes and the Fayette County need the Drop Boxes returned, it must be returned without damage.
- If there is any damage to the box, the receiving county must repair it to the condition they received it.
- This language should be included in a loan agreement contract and signed by all parties.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was no New Business

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

3. New procedure Update per SB 202 **(Pages 6-27)**

Elections Director Brian Hill went over the newly Senate Bill 202 statute that says that every jurisdiction in Georgia has to report AIP, ABM, Provisional, and Election Day ballots cast to the SOS by 10 PM in a manner that the SOS has instructed the jurisdictions to do.

Mr. Hill told the Election Board that all the instructions are in you agenda packet.

Mr. Hill said that the procedure that the Fayette County Elections office will do is have all the Poll Managers call the office immediately at 7 PM election night or when the last person in line has voted at the closing of the polls on election night.;

4. Fire Station (Election Office Renovation) Update **(Page 28)**

Mr. Hill stated that the Bid for contractors is out and the deadline is December 8th 2021

5. November 2nd, 2021, Municipal Election Update

Mr. Hill stated that the Municipal election has been going well and that he has been sending updated numbers to the Board and City Clerks.

6. State Reapportionment Meeting Update

Mr. Hill stated that the zoom meeting with State Reapportionment office went well and that they emailed me the local map files and that I forwarded them to GIS for printing. Mr. Hill also stated the Bryan Tyson is going to print the proposed new maps that are going to be potentially be approved in January 2022

ATTORNEY'S REPORTS:

There was no Attorney Reports

BOARD MEMBERS REPORTS:

There were no Board Members Reports

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There was no Executive Session

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Hicks moved to adjourn the October 26th, 2021, Board of Elections Meeting. Mr. Wright seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The Board meeting adjourned at 5:26 PM

Brian W. Hill, Director

Darryl Hicks, Chairman

The foregoing minutes were duly approved at an official meeting of the Board of Elections of Fayette County, Georgia, held on the 26th day of October 2021. Referenced attachments are available upon request in the Board of Elections' Office.