

**BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

Aaron Wright, Chairman  
Gary Rower, Vice Chairman  
Darryl Hicks

**FAYETTE COUNTY, GEORGIA**

Brian Hill, Director  
April Crosby, Elections Supervisor  
Maria Chevere, County Registrar



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

**MINUTES**

July 29, 2022  
4:00 p.m.

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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 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at 5:00 p.m.

**CHAIRMAN TO CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER**

Chairman Wright called the Election Board Meeting to order at 4:02 PM

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Mr. Hicks motioned to approve the agenda as written. Mr. Rower second the motion. Motion approved 3-0

**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

**Alyson Otto- Fayette County**

Was concerned about discrepancy evidence of the May 24, 2022, Primary election. Recited the Fayette County Board of Election Bylaws. Stated that the voting machines in Fayette County was connected to the internet. Stated in 5 different precincts, the voting machines were not shut down properly or in a timely manner. Stated that one of the machines was left on all night and was vulnerable to tampering. In one of the precincts, a date change was made. Stated that a scanner transport was found. Requested a hand recount.

**Suzanne Brown- Peachtree City**

Was concerned about the Dominion machines and QR codes that the machines print. Was also concerned about ballot images not being released when requested. Wants a recount done of the May 24, 2022, Primary election.

**Margaret Ross- Fayette County**

Was concern about an agenda item that is talking about combining two precincts in Fayette County. Said that every election entity will have a concern about election fraud if this is done. Wants to keep the precincts separate. Was concerned about the certification date of the May 24<sup>th</sup> Primary. Also was concerned about the Dominion voting machines. Wants a full hand recount done for the May 24<sup>th</sup> Primary election. Talked about a election error in Dekalb county. Wants to volunteer for the recount.

### **Lynn Fro- Peachtree City**

Was concerned about the BMD voting machines. Was requesting to vote on a paper ballot. Does not like the Dominion voting system. Stated that it takes 16 years to take someone off the voting roles.

### **Jake Bernard- Fayette County**

Talked about a court case with Dominion from 2021. Stated that there hasn't been a proven fact in court about Dominion machines being faulty. Stated that we need to back up the voting machines with hand recounts. Said that people need to get registered so they can vote. Stated that deceased people should not be able to vote.

### **Linda Allison- Peachtree City**

Stated that she is from Europe and that they can vote with paper ballots. Was concerned about people getting to voting precincts. Stated that she didn't want Fayette County to combine two precincts because it would make it harder for voters to get to their precinct to vote.

### **Kathy Vaught- Fayetteville**

Was concerned about Cobb, Dekalb, Fulton and Cherokee having discrepancies and that they are trying to do a hand recount. Wants a hand ballot recount in Fayette County. Does not trust the Dominion voting machines. Wants a paper ballot instead of BMDs.

### **Elaine Kilgore- Fayette County**

Wants a hand recount and wants ballot images. Wants to know if the totals are valid. Talked about the Dominion voting court case and that they are invalid. Wants to volunteer to do a hand recount in Fayette County.

### **Chandra Wright- Peachtree City**

Concerned about the changes of state election laws. Concerned about candidates wanting to win elections by screaming foul when they lose. Stated that when people lose, they say something is wrong with voting machines and requesting hand ballot recounts. Losing candidates request challenging taxpayer citizens that they need to be taken off the voter rolls. Ask how the citizens can be trained on different election matters.

### **Darryl Anderson- Fayette County**

Was concerned about being challenged and her vote being thrown out. Also, was concerned about poll workers being paid more money for working the polls on election day. Also stated that the contract for the voting machine was implemented by people that were voted into office. Stated that the election office and board do a great job.

### **Angela Bean- Fayette County**

Stated that requesting a hand recount is not disenfranchising any voters. Said that doing a hand recount would make sure the voting machines are counting accurately. Wants to make sure every vote counts. Also stated that the court case with Dominion voting machines that no court listened to people complaining about the voting machines. Stated that in Fulton County in 2020 election, that 10s of thousand ballots was not scanned correctly and scanned two times. Wants a hand recount done from the May 24<sup>th</sup> Primary. Stated that the SOS office sent 1000 NCOA voters that have not been purged from the voter rolls. Wants voters to be removed from the voter rolls. Was concerned about clean voter rolls.

### **Jane Hardmon- Fayette County**

Stated that the Democratic party is the Republican party of old. Stated that the Governor of Mississippi came after her mother to make her not be allowed to vote. Stated that she is a Poll worker in Fayette County and was offended that people are making accusations that she is not running a tight ship at her polling location. Stated that the voting machines work, and noting is wrong with the voting system. Also, wants more money for working the polls on election day. Has confidence in the Dominion voting machines.

### **Jared Daigre- Fayette County**

Stated that if a citizen has an issue with the voting process, that the problem is not with the election's office but with the lawmakers, Senators or Congressman and people that you vote in office. Stated that if you have a problem take it to them.

### **Floyd Jennings III- Peachtree City**

Stated that his great grand father and grand father fought in the civil war to free the slaves. Stated that his experience with voting, that he witnessed a bus load of black voter going into a precinct without an ID and being sworn in that they did not and would not go voting two times and was allowed to vote after they sworn in. Also stated that he followed that same bus load of black voters to another precinct where they repeated the same process to vote again. Said that this happened in Fulton County. Said that a poll watcher watched them do this. Stated that this happened in 1998 election. Stated that there is voter fraud going on.

### **Robert Wilker- Fayette County**

Stated that we are here to make sure every person votes. Said that people should not be here saying that things are happening with the voting machines with no evidence. Also wants more pay for working the polls as a poll worker.

## **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Consideration of staff's request to approve the June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Board of Elections' Meeting Minutes

Mr. Hicks motioned to approve the agenda as written. Mr. Rower second the motion. Motion approved 3-0

## **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 (**Pages1-5**)
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 (**There were no matched Felons for July**)

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

There was no New Business.

## **DIRECTOR REPORT:**

### **NCOA & Cross State Elector's List maintenance**

Brian Hill stated that Registrations is still in the process of receive confirmation notices from voters.

#### **Fire station 4/Elections office Rebuild Update**

Brian stated that nothing is taking place at the Fire Station 4 rebuild at Johnson Ave. Brian stated that the County Manager, Steve Rapson approved \$4800 Façade addition for the building and would let the board know if there any updates.

#### **Possible combining of Precincts 22 (Braelinn) with 17 (Oak Grove)**

Brian stated that he was not speaking for the Election Board to approve combining Precincts in Fayette County. Brian stated that he researched the closest government facility to Brailinn voting Precinct and that precinct was Oak Grove elementary.

Darryl Hicks stated that this was not requesting to combine two precincts from the board of elections, but this was a request from the Assistant Superintendent and the Principal of Braelinn elementary because how the specific school was set up. Also, complaints from parents of children that go to Braelinn elementary school.

#### **ATTORNEY'S REPORTS:**

There were no Attorney Reports

#### **BOARD MEMBERS REPORTS:**

**Darryl Hicks** stated that he heard everyone's concerns and the majority of the complaints were about things that board has no right by law to make decisions on. He stated that election board is here to carry out the laws given by the state. Also, he stated if there is something you would like changed about the law, you would need to voice this to your elected officials. Mr. Hicks stated that the election will never allow volunteers to come and do a hand recount. If the SOS office instruct us to do a hand recount, our office will hire the people to do so. Also, concerning the request for more pay for poll workers, the election board does not govern or make decisions on more pay. The County does. Mr. Hicks stated that he would check on that.

**Gary Rower** stated We offer the public an opportunity to speak before every month, folks get up and say things and we sit here as a policy as a board and do not respond. The problem with that is people say things that are not accurate, and it goes out in the public forum and that needs to stop. Our election system works. You may not like the Dominion system. I do not like the Dominion system, but it works. Our coworkers work. You can shake your heads. You can say whatever you want, you can read whatever you want on the internet, but there is no evidence misconduct, and I would appreciate I can personally empathize with losing a race. I ran 10 years ago. You say it is not about me, but it has become about you. You lost your race. Yes. Please. Let me finish. I did not interrupt you. The last few authors outwardly recited the law is very specific. As my associate said, we follow the law. The law is very specific about recounts. So, I would ask you to please, if you have evidence and you were asked for evidence last week, and you did not deliver it to the staff, you did not deliver it to this board. But then you come before us and you say well, I have evidence. You did not show anyone anything. You lost your race. Please move on. Leave the staff alone and unless you have actual evidence. (Mr. Rower was interrupted by an outburst from the audience)

**Darryl Hicks** stated that we as an Election Board listen to your public comments about us being a "Do nothing Board" and were intentional not to respond to your comment. So, we would like for you not to interrupt when we are talking at this phase of the agenda of the board meeting. Thank you

**Gary Rower** continued to say; the next thing that I would like to talk about is the Voter Challenge that was submitted. A group of you came to our staff office with a voter challenge. I reviewed the security footage of that engagement with our staff. It seems like there was more involved with sticking cameras in the face of our staff members. That was inappropriate. Our staff has a job to do and if you have a voter challenge, bring it forward. You do not need a group. You do not need to stick a camera in the face of our staff members. You come forward and you speak about different code sections. And you quote the code. Well, I am going to quote a little code for 21-2-597 You can look it up later. It says any person who intentionally interferes with or hinders or delays or attempts to interfere with or make or delay any person and the performance of any act or duty authorized or imposed by this chapter, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. Our staff has a job to do. They do a great job, and they work very hard to provide the voters in Fayette County great service and an honest election.

I am going to read to you another code section. This is 21-2-603 a person commits the offense of conspiracy to commit election fraud when he or she conspires or agrees with other to commit a violation of this chapter. So, if a group of people interfere, that's election fraud, so you are not the only ones that can read code section. We can do that too. And I would ask that you respect our staff and treat them with respect they deserve. Mr. Chairman, that is all.

Chairman Wright stated that for November 8<sup>th</sup> election, the Braelinn precinct will be open. That the school board has available to them; Virtual learning so no children will be in the building for November election. Mr. Wright also stated concerning ballot images that anyone who submits a official open records request, could get the ballot images but they are not available to be placed on the website.

Chairman Wright ask Director Hill about voting machines being connected to the internet.

Director Hill stated that the voting machines are never connected to the internet.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

There was no Executive session

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Chairman Wright made a motion to adjourn the July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Election Board meeting.

Mr. Hicks seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0. The election board meeting adjourned at 5:31 pm

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Brian W. Hill, Director

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Aaron Wright, Chairman

The foregoing minutes were duly approved at an official meeting of the Board of Elections of Fayette County, Georgia, held on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of July 2022. Referenced attachments are available upon request in the Board of Elections' Office.