

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Gary Rower, Chairman
Zach Livsey, Vice Chairman
Sharlene Alexander, Member



FAYETTE COUNTY, GEORGIA

Brieanna Garrett, Director
Beverly Daniel, Registrar
Margaret Johnson, Elections Supervisor

175 Johnson Ave., Suite B
Fayetteville, GA 30214

APPROVED MINUTES

January 28, 2025

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.

1. CHAIRMAN TO CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Chair Rower requested a motion to add an item to new business regarding the consolidation of polling locations.

Motion made by Board Member Alexander, seconded by Chair Rower to amend the January 28, 2025 Agenda for the Regular Board meeting. Vice- Chair Livsey: Absent. Motion carried.

3. 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.

There was no public comment.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Municipal Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) Review

Chair Rower opened the floor for questions and discussion.

Board Member Alexander asked whether the Town of Tyrone has an elected seat up for election this year. Attorney Stough clarified that while the cities do have an election this year, the qualifying process will determine if any seats are contested.

B. Polling Location Consolidation Process

Chair Rower requested Board approval for staff to initiate the rationale and planning process for reviewing polling location consolidations.

Chair Rower noted that work on this task had begun in the past but the opportunity to move forward never presented itself. He also reiterated that some locations have reportedly indicated they may no longer serve as

polling places. Additionally, he mentioned that Braelinn presents logistical challenges, including difficulties in securing a suitable facility within the precinct.

Board Member Alexander asked for clarification on consolidation. Chair Rower explained that consolidation involves combining two precincts into one polling location without altering precinct boundaries. Any precinct location changes must occur at least 60 days in advance, while moves that involve shifting a precinct outside its boundary require a 90 days' notice.

Attorney Stough sought confirmation regarding whether two precincts are currently housed in one location. Director Garrett confirmed that this is correct.

Motion made by Chair Rower, seconded by Board Member Alexander to direct staff to develop a plan of possible consolidation of polling locations. Vice- Chair Livsey: Absent. Motion carried.

5. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Voter Challenge Policy Review

Attorney Stough suggested that the Board consider tabling the discussion to ensure a full board is present for the decision.

Board Member Alexander noted that the Secretary of State has not provided additional guidance and agreed with postponing the discussion until the next meeting.

Motion made by Board Member Alexander, seconded by Chair Rower to table the Voter Challenge Policy Review until the February 2025 Board Meeting. Vice- Chair Livsey: Absent. Motion carried.

6. APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 8, 2024, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Motion made by Board Member Alexander, seconded by Chair Rower to approve the November 8, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes. Vice- Chair Livsey: Absent. Motion carried.

7. APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 8, 2024, SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

Motion made by Board Member Alexander, seconded by to approve the November 8, 2024, Special Called Meeting Minutes. Vice- Chair Livsey: Absent. Motion carried.

8. PUBLIC HEARING:

A. 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. **(Deceased List)**

Motion made by Board Member Alexander, seconded by Chair Rower, to remove the listed electors who are deceased. Vice- Chair Livsey: Absent. Motion carried.

- A. 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. **(Felons List)**

Motion made by Board Member Alexander, seconded by Chair Rower, to remove the listed electors who are Felons. Vice- Chair Livsey: Absent. Motion carried.

- B. 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 Mentally Incompetent. **(Mentally Incompetent)**

No Mental Incompetent presented.

- D. 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 Cancelled. **(Cancelled)**

Board Member Alexander inquired on the cancellation processes through GARVIS as well as the measures for transferring voter registrations from county to county.

Motion made by Board Member Alexander, seconded by Chair Rower, to remove the listed electors who are cancelled Vice- Chair Livsey: Absent. Motion carried.

9. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Director Garrett informed the Board that as of January 26, 2025, there are 103, 327 (92,830 active) registered voters in Fayette County.

Director Garrett provided to the Board the results of a post-election survey conducted with poll workers to gather their feedback.

Director Garrett informed the Board that The Secretary of State will host an Elections Training for Election Officials from April 28–30, 2025, in Dallas, GA for Election Officials in which the administrative staff plans to attend.

Director Garrett presented a 2025 Election Schedule for Board approval.

Motion made by Board Member Alexander, seconded by Chair Rower, to approve the 2025 Board Meeting Schedule. Vice- Chair Livsey: Absent. Motion carried.

10. ATTORNEY'S REPORTS:

Attorney Stough provided an update on a 2022 lawsuit filed against all counties, contesting the state primary election. A judge has been assigned to the case, and further action is expected. Attorney Stough will continue to keep the Board informed on any developments.

11. BOARD MEMBERS REPORTS:

Board Member Alexander expressed appreciation for the Board's review of precinct locations, noting that she frequently receives feedback on the matter.

She also inquired whether the staff was satisfied with the Poll Worker module in EasyVote.

Director Garrett responded that while the staff is content with EasyVote so far, they have not yet had the opportunity to utilize the software to its full capacity due to the heightened election posture. Additional training is still forthcoming to maximize its use.

Chair Rower expressed gratitude for the brief pause from election operations, allowing the office to reevaluate its' poll worker training and catch up on office processes.

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION: (as necessary for litigation & personnel)

13. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion made by Chair Rower, seconded by Board Member Alexander, to adjourn the meeting. Vice- Chair Livsey: Absent. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:25 P.M.

Referenced attachments are available upon request in the Board of Elections' Office.

Brianna Garrett, Director

Gary Rower, Chairman

The foregoing minutes were duly approved at an official meeting of the Board of Elections of Fayette County Georgia, held on the 25th day of February 2025.

Referenced attachments are available upon request in the Board of Elections' Office.