

## BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Gary Rower, Chairman  
Zach Livsey, Vice Chairman  
Sharlene Alexander



## FAYETTE COUNTY, GEORGIA

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

175 Johnson Ave., Suite B  
Fayetteville, GA 30214

### APPROVED SPECIAL CALLED MEETING MINUTES

April 22, 2025  
5:00 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.

#### 1. CHAIRMAN TO CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

#### 2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

*Motion made by Vice-Chair Livsey, seconded by Board Member Alexander to accept the April 22, 2025, Agenda for the Regular Board Meeting. 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.

Jamie Harmon,

#### 4. NEW BUSINESS

##### **A. Advance Voting Dates and Times- June 17, 2025, Special Primary (PSC) Election**

Director Garrett recommended Advance Voting for the Public Service Commission (PSC) Election to be held from May 27 through June 13, 2025, from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM daily, including two Saturdays, at the following three locations: the Main Elections Office, Peachtree City Library, and Tyrone Recreation Building. This recommendation is based on historically low turnout and aligns with typical municipal election schedules.

Board member Alexander inquired about the necessity of including the Tyrone location. Director Garrett responded that, with confirmation with Attorney Stough, the only legal requirement is to offer Advance Voting at the Elections Office. However, she is open to the Board's decision.

Vice-Chair Livsey noted the absence of Sunday voting. He acknowledged the expected low turnout but expressed interest in exploring additional Sunday options or maintaining current precedents.

Board Member Alexander asked whether this schedule applies only to the June PSC Election. Chair Rower confirmed that it does.

Chair Rower raised a concern about removing access for voters in the northeast portion of the county and emphasized the importance of convenience and opportunity for all voters.

Director Garrett informed the Board that, as of the meeting date, the office has received five absentee ballot applications since the opening date of March 31, 2025.

***Motion made by Board Member Alexander, seconded by Vice-Chair Livsey to accept the Advance Voting Schedule and location recommendation. Motion carried.***

## **5. OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. Voter Challenge Policy Review**

Chair Rower provided background that the Board has tabled the Voter Challenge Policy for six months while awaiting guidance or action from the State Election Board. He opened the floor for discussion.

Board Member Alexander moved to dismiss the establishment of the policy, citing the absence of guidance from the Secretary of State. She shared that, based on conversations with other counties, some voter challenge policies have led to complications and increased complexity in execution.

Vice-Chair Livsey opposed the dismissal. He argued that, in the absence of State guidance, a locally established procedure would reduce the burden on staff, lower legal expenses, and provide clear direction for handling voter challenges—especially ahead of the upcoming spring election.

Chair Rower asked Attorney Stough whether the item could be reintroduced if dismissed. Attorney Stough confirmed that it could be brought back at a future meeting. He noted that a current working draft exists, which staff could continue reviewing and potentially finalize. He clarified that the intent of the policy is not to change the law, but to offer procedural guidance to staff.

Board Member Alexander confirmed her preference to dismiss the item and re-address it if new developments arise from the State Election Board or Legislature.

Chair Rower expressed support for moving forward with the policy's establishment, noting the time already invested and the potential to reduce staff workload in addressing voter challenges.

Vice-Chair Livsey asked Director Garrett whether the Voter Challenge Policy would be beneficial if established. Director Garrett confirmed it would provide distinct guidance to the office.

Director Garrett noted the only point of concern within the draft policy involves specifying evidence a challenger must submit. Attorney Stough advised against listing examples of evidence to minimize liability in future legal challenges.

Board Member Alexander clarified which part of the policy Attorney Stough was referencing. Attorney Stough reiterated that the law requires the challenger to show probable cause but does not define the specific evidence. Leaving this portion open avoids unintentionally altering the law and allows the Board to accept whatever is presented and proceed with a determination.

*Motion made by Vice-Chair Livsey, seconded by Board Member Alexander to table the Voter Challenge Policy Review until the May 27, 2025 Board meeting. Motion carried.*

## **6. APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 25, 2025, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

*Motion made by Board Member Alexander, seconded by Vice-Chair Livsey to approve the March 25, 2025, Meeting Minutes. Motion carried.*

## **7. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Chair Rower informed the public that, due to changes in the meeting location and in compliance with legal requirements, the scheduled hearings will now take place at the May 27, 2025 meeting.

- 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 Vice-Chair Livsey, seconded by Board Member Alexander to approve staff recommendation to remove the listed electors who are deceased. 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 Cancelled. **(Cancelled)**

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

## **8. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director Garrett reported that, as of April 16, 2025, there are 103,361 registered voters in Fayette County, including 93,086 active voters. The first day to receive absentee ballot applications was March 31, and ballots will begin mailing on May 27. The voter registration deadline is May 19, 2025.

Logic and Accuracy (L&A) testing of all voting equipment is scheduled for Monday, May 12, 2025, at the Fayette County Elections Warehouse on McDonough Road. As required by O.C.G.A. § 21-2-379.6(c), public notice will be published in the county's legal organ and posted on the website to ensure transparency. Poll Worker Training is scheduled to occur from May 13 through June 5.

## **9. ATTORNEY'S REPORTS**

## **10. BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS**

Board Member Alexander inquired about the selection and notification process for poll workers. Director Garrett confirmed that poll workers have already been contacted, with notifications sent out the previous month. The office has since been in contact with those individuals.

Board Member Alexander asked to receive a copy of the email communications sent to poll workers regarding training and assignments, noting that she had been contacted by individuals interested in serving.

Director Garrett agreed to forward the notifications and advised that interested individuals are welcome to contact the office or herself directly with questions or concerns.

Vice-Chair Livsey thanked the Board and the public for their attendance and participation.

Chair Rower addressed the public comment presented regarding the Board's decision not to pursue additional precinct changes beyond the two proposals already scheduled for public hearings.

Chair Rower provided the following statement: 50 years ago, I swore an oath to support and defend the Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic. It turns out that nowhere in that oath did it have a use-by date. Right now, that Constitution, our Constitution, is under attack and my oath demands that, once again, I actively work to defend both it and this nation.

While the executive branch is bullying the world, tearing down our institutions, targeting women, people of color, veterans, those from foreign lands and acting like a wannabe mob boss, the legislative branch has abdicated their duty and responsibility allowing the mob boss tactics to go unchecked. They are ignoring their role in containing unchecked power and enabling this destructive behavior.

The issues this election board faces are important but are a microcosm of those faced by the nation, and as a member of the board of elections I am limited in what I can do away from the office, and I need to be doing more. What that will be remains to be seen, whether it be going door to door registering voters, recruiting candidates, raising money or simply protesting, I cannot sit idly by while all that is good and decent is destroyed. As such I will be stepping down from the Board of Elections effective May 31st.

#### **11. EXECUTIVE SESSION** (as necessary for litigation & personnel)

#### **12. ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion made by Vice-Chair Livsey, seconded by Board Member Alexander to adjourn the meeting.  
Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:40 P.M.*

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Brieanna Garrett, Director

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Gary Rower, Chair

The foregoing minutes were duly approved at an official meeting of the Board of Elections of Fayette County Georgia, held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of April 2025.

**Referenced attachments are available upon request in the Elections & Voter Registration Office.**