

## BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Zach Livsey, Acting Chairman  
Sharlene Alexander, Member  
Morris Kelly, Board Member



## FAYETTE COUNTY, GEORGIA

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

175 Johnson Ave., Suite B  
Fayetteville, GA 30214

## APPROVED MINUTES

May 27, 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 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 May 27, 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.

Suzanne Brown: My name is Suzanne Brown, and I live at 222 Crescent Oak, which is in the Braelin Precinct. So I will have other comments to make later. I'm here today speaking as a citizen, not as a city council member—for those of you who know, I'm on the Peachtree City Council.

In November of 2025, would you want to be forced to vote at two separate precincts on Election Day in order to vote in your municipal election and the statewide Public Service Commissioner election?

I don't think you do.

In 2022, we had the municipal special election on the same day as the November midterm election. The general election ballots were prepared before you knew about the municipal election, so you activated both the county precincts and the municipal precincts of Peachtree City.

Over 2,480 Peachtree City citizens from Rising Star, Whitewater, and Dogwood precincts were forced to vote at two separate poll locations if they chose to vote on Election Day. Over 400 Peachtree City residents who voted in the general election and needed to go to Braelin Elementary School to vote for the municipal election didn't make the trip to Braelin. Thus, they were disenfranchised by the need to go to two precincts in order to vote on one Election Day.

Plus, poll watchers at the Rising Star Precinct reported that there was no sign indicating that the voters would need to go to the other precinct to vote in the municipal election and no poll worker instructing them of the issue and their need to go to the Braelin Precinct to vote for municipal candidates.

In elections that are often decided by fewer votes than that, we need to ensure our Peachtree City citizens are not disenfranchised.

I am asking the Board of Elections:

- (1) Which precinct will voters be told to report to on Election Day when there is both a municipal election and general election and they have two separate precincts assigned for each of those?
- (2) How will they know where to report?
- (3) Will you have the proper combination ballots available at the Rising Star Precinct, the Dogwood Precinct, and the Whitewater Precinct to allow citizens to vote in both the statewide election and the Peachtree City municipal election at that one precinct?

Since this issue exists for voters who live in Fayetteville and Tyrone also, will you have the proper combination ballots for them to vote in just one location as well? And how many of them will be disenfranchised if they go to the wrong precinct and don't have the time to go to the other precinct?

Will they receive a card telling them where to report? These are all questions that need to be answered.

Another issue that you have not yet discussed is redrawing the boundary lines of both the Kedron Precinct, which has 6,824 voters, and the Sandy Creek Precinct, which has 5,528. Both precincts are experiencing rapid growth and both exceed the 5,000-voter maximum recommendation.

The solution for Kedron may be as simple as taking a few neighborhoods and adding them to Fielding Ridge Precinct to more evenly balance the numbers in each precinct. Are you looking at doing that?

Because I worked as a poll worker at Kedron Precinct in the May 2022 primary election, and the line was all the way out through the atrium and out the front door for quite a while. There are more voters there now than there were back in 2022.

Another issue that you have not yet discussed is you could combine Aberdeen Precinct and Shakerag West Precinct to vote at the Peachtree City Library on Election Day. Aberdeen has 1,959 voters. Shakerag West has 1,344, for a total of 3,303 voters, which is below the 5,000 recommended maximum. Neither of these two precincts is growing. They're in the center of the city, not on the ends, and have no big areas to continue to develop.

Combining them would be another simple way to save money by having fewer poll locations on Election Day—either for the county or the municipal elections. Thank you.

#### **4. NEW BUSINESS:**

##### **A. Advance Voting Dates and Times- July15, 2025 Special Primary PSC Runoff Election**

Director Garrett stated that if a runoff is needed following the Public Service Commission primary, she recommends one advance voting location be open the week of July 7–11 from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. She said

the matter does not require board action at this time and can be finalized at the June 20th regular and certification meeting.

Chair Rower confirmed no action was needed at this time and opened the floor for discussion.

Board Member Alexander asked if Saturday voting is required for a runoff. Director Garrett clarified it is not required, so voting would be held Monday through Friday that week.

## **5. OLD BUSINESS:**

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

Chair Rower noted that the proposed policy, covering O.C.G.A. § 21-2-229 and 21-2-230, had been reviewed by the board over the past six months and was now ready for a vote.

*Motion made by Vice-Chair Livsey, seconded by Board Member Alexander to accept the Fayette County Challenge Policy. Motion carried.*

## **6. APPROVAL OF THE April 22, 2025, MEETING MINUTES**

*Motion made by Vice-Chair Livsey, seconded by Board Member Alexander to approve the April 22, 2025, Meeting Minutes. Motion carried.*

## **7. PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

### **A. Public Hearing of Precinct Merger- Windgate-Campcreek**

Chair Rower explained that both precincts have historically voted at the same venue (Evergreen Church), but in separate rooms, causing confusion. The two precincts share identical ballot combinations. The proposal is to combine them into a single precinct (Precinct 20: Windgate-Camp Creek) voting in one large room with adequate machines and staff.

Director Garrett confirmed that Windgate has 966 registered voters, Camp Creek has 1,843, totaling 2,809.

Suzanne Brown, a Peachtree City Council member and resident, spoke in favor of the proposal, citing voter confusion and cost savings for both city and county.

Vice-Chair Livsey and Board Member Alexander expressed support, calling the proposal logical and beneficial.

*Motion made by Board Member Alexander to accept the Precinct Merger Proposal, seconded by Vice-Chair Livsey. Motion carried.*

### **B. Public Hearing of Polling Place Location Change-Braelinn**

Chair Rower explained that the proposed polling location change for the Braelin Precinct, moving from Braelin Elementary to Oak Grove Elementary due to ongoing security concerns.

Director Garrett confirmed all voting would occur in Oak Grove's gym with extra clerks and signage to assist voters.

Suzanne Brown voiced general support but raised concerns about confusion during municipal elections—especially where voters from Rising Star must vote at Braelin for city contests. She cited past confusion and low participation due to voters being unaware they needed to vote at a second location.

Director Garrett responded that for the November 2025 election, both the general and municipal contests will be combined on a single ballot, so no voter should have to travel to two precincts. She explained that the 2022 issue resulted from Peachtree City missing the ballot-building deadline. She noted Peachtree City has already submitted its information for the upcoming election.

Director Garrett added that any affected voters would receive mailed notification of the change following the conclusion of the current election.

***Motion made by Board Member Alexander to accept the Polling Place Location Change proposal, seconded by Vice -Chair Livsey. Motion carried.***

- C. 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 remove the listed electors who are deceased. Motion carried.***

- 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)**

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

- E. 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 Felon. **(Felon)**

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

- F. 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)**

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

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

Director Garrett reported the following updates:

- As of May 23, 2025, there are 103,492 registered voters in Fayette County. On the first day of advance voting, 35 people cast a ballot and 13 absentee ballots were issued.
- Poll worker training is ongoing, with post-training surveys now distributed after each session to collect feedback.
- The GAVREO Conference is August 10–13; Garrett recommended Board Members attend the new/returning board member course on Day 1. She will share the registration packet.
- She confirmed efforts are underway to address voter confusion for November’s combined ballot and advance voting sites.
- The office is moving forward with its expansion into the Public Defender’s space. The goal is to complete renovations by fall 2025, ahead of the November election.

Director Garrett also thanked Chair Rower for his leadership and support during her time as director and acknowledged the board’s transition and teamwork. She thanked him sincerely on behalf of herself and the Elections Office team, stating that his presence made a lasting impact and his leadership helped set a solid foundation as the department continues to move forward.

## **9. ATTORNEY’S REPORTS:**

There was no Attorney report.

## **10. BOARD MEMBERS REPORTS:**

Board Member Alexander expressed relief that the Braelin issue was resolved and thanked Chair Rower for his service.

Vice-Chair Livsey offered heartfelt appreciation for Rower’s leadership, support, and humor. He presented a token of gratitude on behalf of the Board and staff.

Chair Rower thanked the Board of Commissioners, his fellow board members, staff, and Attorney Stough. He announced he is stepping down to pursue political advocacy, stating that "there is no place for politics in elections." He expressed confidence in the future leadership and closed with a quote from John Lewis: “Never, ever be afraid to make some noise and get in good trouble, necessary trouble.”

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

## **12. ADJOURNMENT:**

*Motion made by Chair Rower, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:46P.M.*

---

Brieanna Garrett, Director

---

Zachary Livsey, Chairmam

The foregoing minutes were duly approved at an official meeting of the Board of Elections of Fayette County Georgia, held on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of Junel 2025.