

SPALDING COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS & REGISTRATION

August 18, 2020
Monthly Meeting
825 Memorial Drive
10:00 a.m.

Minutes

The meeting of the Spalding County Board of Elections and Voter Registration convened at the Elections and Voter Registration Office, 825 Memorial Drive, Griffin, GA at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, August 18, 2020.

In attendance: Chairman Margaret Bentley, Vice-Chairman Randall Gooden. Secretary Glenda Henley, Board Member Betty Bryant, Board Member Vera McIntosh, Elections Supervisor Marcia Ridley, and Elections Assistant Carla Rapp.

Meeting called to order by Chairman Margaret Bentley

Public Comments – None

Adoption of the Agenda

Vice-chairman Randall Gooden moved to adopt the agenda as written, seconded by Board Member Betty Bryant. Motion passed 4-0.

Review minutes from March Regular Meeting and Special Called Meetings

No corrections or additions noted. Board Member Betty Bryant moved to accept the minutes as written. Seconded by Board member Vera McIntosh. Motion carried 5-0.

Old Business:

Budget

Election Supervisor Marcia Ridley has received the budget. \$105,315 was requested for Election Expenses and \$105,000 was approved. Phones for the Poll Managers for Election Day were not approved. No reason was given for the disapproval of this item.

Ridley stated that Managers do not need to use their own phones for election business on Election Day. If an Open Records Request is received, their personal phones could possibly become involved. Vice-Chairman Gooden asked about Tracphones. This way you could load a certain number of minutes as it would only be used on Election Day. Chairman Bentley suggested to look for promotions as sometimes if you buy a certain number of phones, they will give you some phones. Gooden asked if there was money in the budget to pay for phones. Supervisor Ridley will look into TracPhones and other areas of the budget for money. She noted that the other line items listed are to facilitate operations of the office.

New Business:

Statistical Report

Supervisor Ridley handed out the statistical report. As of August 18, 2020, a total of 47,746 voters; 44,808 active voters and 1,865 inactive voters. The runoff election delayed the processing of voter registrations. Confirmation letters were sent to voters whose applications/ballots were returned undeliverable to verify their address. Some voters have called regarding these notices. The State sent Spalding County 2,805 to process and mail, incurring postage. The deadline to register is October 5, 2020.

Legislative Update

No new updates. Chairman Bentley asked Ridley to explain SB 463. Ridley stated that the State of Georgia wanted to send out absentee ballot applications to all active voters for the General Election. The bill did not pass, therefore the voter will need to request an application for an Official Absentee Ballot. The vendor that

sent the ballots for the Primary will send ballots to those voters on the rollover list. The counties will process all other requests. Ridley will contact churches to get the message out about requesting an absentee ballot. Information will be placed on the Spalding County Face Book page.

Several voters have called regarding ballots being mailed and the postage issue. We need to inform voters to request their applications for an absentee ballot early and also to return their ballots early. The State is working on a portal for voters to directly request Absentee applications online. These requests will be sent to the counties for processing.

Reports

Board Members

Board member Betty Bryant stated that people are coming into the Republican headquarters wanting to register to vote. Supervisor Ridley said she would give her some applications.

Board member Vera McIntosh suggested that a touchless thermometer be purchased to check the temperature of any person (staff and visitors) going beyond the partitions in the office.

Elections Supervisor

Supervisor Ridley handed out her Director's report. Upcoming Poll Worker training will be online as well as in-person. Poll worker training pay of \$30.00 was approved in the budget for the Primary and General Elections. It will start September 2, 2020. Early Voting training be held October 6. Early Voting starts October 12. Saturday and Sunday voting will occur October 24 & 25. Tentatively, rollover ballots will be mailed September 15.

Carla and Dwana will be taking an Excel Class after the Election. There is one Open Records Request pending. Voting machine demonstrations will not be held outside of the office, however, voters can come to the office to practice on the machines. Appointments will be scheduled in order to maintain Social Distancing. A Deputy Registrar class was held with one participant. Dominion will be providing a Technical Assistant within the next 2 weeks.

Warning signs have been placed on all the doors.

Announcements

The next meeting is scheduled for September 8, 2020.

Executive Session.

Secretary Henley moved that the Board go into Executive Session
Vice-Chairman Randall Gooden seconded the motion.

Motion passed 5-0

Executive Session convened at 10:49 am.

Executive Session adjourned at 11:55 am.

Motion to return to regular meeting by Board Member Vera McIntosh at 11:55 am

Seconded by Secretary Glenda Henley

Motion to adjourn the regular meeting by Board Member Vera McIntosh at 11:57 am

Seconded by Vice-Chairman Randall Gooden

Minutes approved by _____


Glenda Henley – Secretary