

**SPALDING COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS & REGISTRATION**  
**Special Called Meeting**  
**July 12, 2022**

The special called meeting of the Spalding County Board of Elections and Registration was held at the County Courthouse Annex, 109 East Solomon Street at 5:30 p.m. on July 12, 2022. Attending were Chairman Ben Johnson, presiding and Board Members Roy McClain, and James Newland Also present were Elections Supervisor Kim Slaughter, Voter Registration Coordinator Billie Preston, Attorney Stephanie Windham, and Teresa Watson to record minutes.

**Call to Order**

Chairman Ben Johnson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and welcomed everyone. He read a brief statement regarding meeting protocol.

**Invocation/Moment of Silence**

Mr. James Newland provided the invocation.

**Pledge**

Mr. Roy McClain led the pledge.

**Adoption of the Agenda**

*James Newland moved to amend the agenda to add an election challenge public hearing prior to the Challenge of Voters on Electors List. Roy McClain seconded, and the motion passed unanimously 3-0.*

*Motion/second by Roy McClain/James Newland to adopt agenda carried by 3-0 vote.*

*Motion/second by James Newland/Roy McClain to enter public hearing carried by a 3-0 vote.*

**Public Hearing**

No one was signed to speak other than Michelle Knight who submitted the challenge.

**Challenge of Voters on Electors List**

Michelle Knight began by questioning the eligibility of two voters in Spalding County and referenced O.C.G.A. 21-2-229 as supporting documentation for the challenge. She submitted her challenge and supporting documentation on June 30. One of the purposes of the 1993 National Voter Registration Act is to ensure that accurate and current voter registration rules are followed, and she felt this was not the case here. About seven million voters are in Georgia and 450,000 may have had changes of address. As of April 22, 2022, there were 2,432 of those 450,000 belonging to Spalding County voters. 1545 of those submitted a change to outside Spalding County, and 887 voters submitted a change to outside of our state; yet they still remain on our voter rolls. She was aware that the Office of Elections and Registration staff has worked hard to identify these. She felt they have identified voters who need to be removed per cited OCGA stipulations. If a person goes into another state and votes, he/she has lost such privilege to vote in this state. These two voters being challenged have registered in Florida and both have voted in Florida. She asked to please remove their names from voter registration according to guidelines.

Elections Supervisor Kim Slaughter said Billie Preston, Voter Registration Coordinator, would present staff's findings. Research has been conducted on the challenge received June 30, 2022. Counties of registration were contacted. Leonard Bolton in St. Johns County since January of 2019 and Maureen Cleary in Flagler County since December 3, 2019. There has been no voter activity in Spalding County

since 2018 for either voter. They have registered to vote in the Florida counties and actively participate, so removal is recommended.

*Motion/second by Roy McClain/James Newland to end public hearing.*

*Motion/second by Roy McClain/James Newland to remove Leonard Bolton carried by a vote of 3-0.*

*Motion/second by Roy McClain/James Newland to remove Maureen Cleary carried by a vote of 3-0.*

**Adjournment**

*Motion/second to adjourn at 5:43 p.m. by Roy McClain/James Newland carried by a vote of 3-0.*

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Ben Johnson, Chairman

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Recording Secretary, Teresa A. Watson

