

**SPALDING COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS & VOTER REGISTRATION**  
**Regular Monthly Meeting**  
**August 8, 2023**

This Regular Meeting of the Spalding County Board of Elections and Registration was held at the County Courthouse Annex, 119 East Solomon Street at 6:00 p.m. on August 8, 2023. Attending were Vice Chair, James Newland, presiding; Roy McClain; Dexter Wimbish; and Jim O'Brien. Absent was Chairman Ben Johnson. Also present were Elections Supervisor Kim Slaughter; Attorney Stephanie Windham; and Teresa Watson to record minutes.

**Invocation/Moment of Silence** - Invocation was given by Roy McClain.

**Pledge to the Flag** - Pledge was led by Dexter Wimbish.

**Citizens Comments**

Vice Chair Newland read the guidelines for citizen comments.

Dr. Yoshunda Jones

Dr. Jones spoke to the inconsistency of voter challenges and responses by the Board. She reminded them of NVRA (National Voter Rights Act) criteria for challenges. Due process for individualized hearings is required and has not been adhered to in past actions. One should have the opportunity to be heard before being deprived of being able to vote. To avoid that requirement is to violate due process. The law is clear that the challenger has the burden of proof. Last year in August the Board acted on the removal of 100 voters in a regular meeting with no hearing and thereby violated due process. Trying to remove voters without due process is again being considered, and she urged the Board to be more diligent.

**Adoption of the Agenda**

*Motion/second by Dexter Wimbish/Roy McClain to amend the agenda to add the following three items carried by a vote of 3-1 with Jim O'Brien abstaining: 1) Accept the Board of Education Notice of Election regarding E-SPLOST, pending the Inter-Governmental Agreement, 2) Consider the Board of Elections IGA and City of Griffin IGA, 3) Move the consideration of Bylaws to the regular September meeting.*

*Motion/second to adopt the agenda as amended, by Mr. McCain/Mr. O'Brien carried unanimously.*

Some discussion followed regarding the need to form a committee to oversee the process of hand counting of the machine printed ballots prior to certifying the election as directed at the July 24 meeting. No action was taken, and the agenda was not amended with this addition.

Ms. Slaughter noted, as well, that the Board needs to add to the agenda consideration of the July 24 Special Called Meeting minutes for approval. *Motion/second to do so by Mr. McClain/Mr. Wimbish carried unanimously. Motion/second to approve the again-amended agenda by Mr. Wimbish/Mr. McClain carried unanimously.*

**Report of Elections Supervisor**

Ms. Slaughter announced that the Notice, Referendum proposal and timeline of the planned E-Splost has been placed in each Board members binder as well as emailed for review and that County Attorney Stephanie Windham and Board of Education is in the process of drafting an Intergovernmental Agreement. Ms. Slaughter stated that County Attorney Stephanie Windham will provide an update on the Intergovernmental Agreements for the City of Griffin and the Board of Education.

Ms. Windham said they have completed the Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) with the City's revision. The County Manager will review and get back with us. She noted the IGA was actually between Spalding

County (not Elections) and the City and the Board of Education. The IGA with the City needs revising every 5 years. It will have the same expiration date. We were informed just last week about an E-SPLOST on the November ballot for referendum for the school system. Our only IGA with the Board of Education expired on 12/30/19, and we need to do a new one with them.

Pertinent to the City election, some precincts will have a city ballot as well as the E-SPLOST question. The cost will be borne by the City of Griffin and the Board of Education. This action item under New Business will call for this, and the Board of Education has approved the call necessary to place on the ballot.

Kim Slaughter reported that a Budget Amendment Proposal was included in each of the Board members' binders and had been previously emailed as well. The Budget amendment covers the difference between what a previously budgeted (but cut by the Board of Commissioners) cost and what a budgeted and passed General Municipal Election cost along with additional costs and a hand count of all ballots cast in an Election. The total amount of the Budget Amendment presented was \$46,530.42. Ms. Slaughter reminded the Board that the Board of Commissioners had voted to cut \$85,000.00 from the Board's budget which would have covered the cost of a special election. She stated that this is why she always believes in budgeting for a Special Election because there is always a possibility. A budget amendment in the amount of \$46,530.42 is provided under general information, including a breakdown in cost difference for this special election. The budget amendment differentiates regular election and special election costs but does not reflect any equipment that may be necessary for the handcount. We have allocated manpower and time.

An overview of the E-SPLOST timeline was presented, and the call must be published no later than August 11, 2023. The E-SPLOST, anticipated to run through 2029, is estimated to produce \$13,370,000 in collections.

Kim Slaughter noted that precincts 1-7 were the only ones scheduled to be open originally, but now with the advent of an E-SPLOST question, all precincts will be open which changes things. In members' binders there is a financial report that details expenditures germane to this election.

Ms. Slaughter continued with her report, noting the GARVIS update, particularly with regard to duplication of voters and the registration of pending voters under the age of 18. The struggle continues with the implementation of this mandated system, which has been tedious and slow. Discussion followed.

The printing of precinct cards upon registering to vote and voter changes were also discussed with timelines for same in preparation for the November elections. Ms. Slaughter reminded the Board that precinct cards for voters have registered to vote beginning in January of this year or making changes to their voter registration record have not been printed and mailed by the State as of today. The State has provided a goal date for this action for the end of August.

Voter registration updates were provided, and work continues to ensure the street records are current. Confirmation notices (both NGE and No Contact) were the subject of discussion, as well. The State desires that all counties mail out the No Contact confirmations at the same time so that the 40-day clock will start for all voters receiving these confirmations at the same time.

Ms. Slaughter shared that at the request of Attorney Windham, the Chairman of the State Election Board reconsidered his first decision to not continue Case #2022-236 and move it to October 3, 2023 in Carrollton so that Ms. Slaughter could attend.



Precinct health checks continue and should complete by the end of August. She detailed qualifying for the November 7 General Municipal Election. The qualifying period runs from August 21 through August 25 from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm each day. Districts 2 and 4, as well as the Mayoral position, are up for reelection in the City of Griffin. Qualifying is held at the Board of Elections Office on Memorial Drive.

Attorney Windham reported on the document scanning process. She asked her staff for available times, even though it would be preferable for board member(s) to be present. They can begin August 16 and should move quickly to get this process underway. Having no idea as to how long the process will take, we will start early on August 16 and be able to better predict after that day as to the time needed. Kim Slaughter mentioned that if records are not scanned by end of August, they must go back to storage to enable room for L&A testing.

### **New Business**

1) Approval of Bylaws.

HB 769 indicates functions of the Board but not for delegated tasks to the Elections Supervisor, noted Ms. Windham. We prefer to have a resolution each year in January that so delegates. Mr. O'Brien commented that on June 6, he met with Elections Supervisor Slaughter and Attorney Windham for a give-and-take discussion. The agreement was unanimous and the process good. Kim Slaughter will write about concerns and look at them together with Mr. O'Brien and get counsel from Attorney Windham. It would help Mr. O'Brien to see something in writing by Kim Slaughter. Kim said the first meeting should be with counsel and then new issues with her later. Ms. Windham said she would be happy to go through and list the items that really should be delegated and have the Board consider them at their September meeting. *Motion/second to table approval of Bylaws until September by Mr. McClain/Mr. O'Brien carried by a unanimous vote.*

2) E-SPLOST call – Discussed previously in this meeting. *Motion/second by Mr. McClain/Mr. O'Brien to approve the call for and E-SPLOST question on the November election carried unanimously.* We will work with the Board of Education attorney on the details.

3) The IGA with the City of Griffin has already been discussed. No action is necessary.


### **Board Member Comments**

No comments by any Board Member were forthcoming.

### **Adjournment**

*Motion to adjourn at 6:39 p.m. by Roy McClain/Jim O'Brien carried unanimously.*

  
James Newland, Vice Chair, Presiding

  
Teresa A. Watson, Recording Secretary

**SPALDING COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS & VOTER REGISTRATION**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**September 12, 2023**

This Regular Meeting of the Spalding County Board of Elections and Registration was held at the County Courthouse Annex, 119 East Solomon Street at 6:00 p.m. on September 12, 2023. Attending were Chair, Ben Johnson, presiding; Vice Chair, James Newland; Roy McClain; Jim O'Brien; and Dexter Wimbish.

Also present were Elections Supervisor Kim Slaughter; Attorney Stephanie Windham; and Teresa Watson to record minutes.

**Invocation/Moment of Silence** - Invocation was given by James Newland.

**Pledge to the Flag** - Pledge was led by Jim O'Brien.

**Citizens Comments**

Chairman Johnson read the guidelines for citizen comments.

Kristin Nabers spoke regarding the decision to implement a hand count to verify machine totals for elections. She maintained that machines are the most accurate and quickest method. If the Board persists, she wanted them to concentrate on several components, i.e., performing a test run before a total election, deciding to implement the hand count for only one race initially, to remember to account for human error, and to be cognizant of the responsibility and cost to taxpayers.

**Adoption of the Agenda**

*The following items were desired to be added to the agenda: 1) Add approval of the minutes of the Special Called Meeting on 8-8-23 with motion/second by Roy McClain/Jim O'Brien. Motion carried unanimously. 2) A Proclamation submitted by Dexter Wimbish for discussion. Motion/second by James Newland/Roy McClain carried unanimously.*

*Motion/second by Roy McClain/Dexter Wimbish to approve agenda as amended carried unanimously.*

**Minutes**

*Motion/second to approve the Special Called Meeting and the Regular Monthly Meeting of August 8, 2023, by James Newland/Dexter Wimbish carried unanimously.*

**Report of Elections Supervisor**

Mrs. Kim Slaughter detailed the IGAs being considered tonight, provided that qualifying was complete for the November 7, 2023, General Municipal Election (reading candidates' names), and reminded members of Rule 183-1-11-02 regarding the appearance of a candidate's name on the ballot. She provided an overview of voter registration activities through August, noting new voters, transferring voters, felons, deceased voters, those for whom no contact could be established, and mailing of precinct cards. She gave an update on GARVIS and reports, noting GARVIS is still a project in progress with inherent difficulties. List Maintenance was described, and general statistics were provided. She highlighted the City of Orchard Hill at-large council seat, the email pertaining to the recent injunction in the SB 202 litigation, the rescheduled state election board meeting (from Carrollton to Atlanta) for October 3, and precinct health checks which are ongoing.

**Old Business**

1) Approval of Bylaws for guidance.

Some discussion followed regarding House Bill 769, particularly with regard to the protocol established for the 5<sup>th</sup> member, which is to be appointed by Superior Court Judges, or in the instance of failure in that regard

the appointment would be made by the County Board of Commissioners. Mr. McClain said for the record, he was in favor of this process, but he noted the legislation is anything but clear and not easy to figure out.

***Motion/second to approve the revised Bylaws as presented, by Roy McClain/Dexter Wimbish, carried unanimously.***

### **New Business**

- 1) Rescheduling of the November and December regular monthly meetings.
  - A. Due to certification, request to reschedule the November 14, 2023, 6:00 pm meeting to 10:00 am and to be located at the Office of Elections and Voter Registration, 825 Memorial Drive, Griffin, GA 30223. The public can certainly attend, noted Chairman Johnson.
  - B. Due to the scheduling of the Georgia Voter Registration and Election Officials Association training held in Athens, Georgia, request to reschedule the December 12, 2023, meeting to December 5, 2023, and to be held at 5:00 pm. The location will remain the same as regular meetings; the date change request was based on a conflict in our attorney's schedule. Some discussion followed.  
***Motion/second to approve: A) Rescheduling of the November 14, 2023, meeting from 6:00 pm to 10:00 am, with the location changed to the Elections Office rather than the Annex, and B) The rescheduling the December 12, 2023, date to December 5, 2023, because of a conflict with the attorney's schedule, by James Newland/Roy McClain carried unanimously.***
- 2) Resolution (for duties delegated from the Board to the Election Supervisor).  
The Resolution was read by Chairman Johnson. Item #4 in the Resolution had one correction: the phrase "minutes of all members" should read "minutes of all meetings." This will be an annual resolution as specified in the Bylaws. ***Motion/second by Jim O'Brien/Dexter Wimbish to approve the Resolution with the noted change to Item #4 carried unanimously.***
- 3) Approval of Intergovernmental Agreements (IGAs) with the Spalding County Board of Education and the City of Griffin for conducting elections.  
Elections Supervisor Kim Slaughter thanked everyone involved in the development and implementation of these IGAs. They both needed the review and update. ***Motion/second by Dexter Wimbish/James Newland to approve both IGAs as presented carried unanimously.***
- 4) Supervisor Compensation  
The feedback to our request for a comparison of Elections Supervisor compensation in other counties has been excellent. Members felt that additional compensation is needed for this position. Several variables factor into this decision, chief among them the Spalding County budgetary constraints. Discussion followed regarding how to provide data to the Board of Commissioners (percentage or dollar amount of increase desired). Mr. Wimbish pointed out that it might be beneficial to look at an overall compensation plan, as it makes no sense to give the Supervisor a raise when she is losing people due to the poor salaries on staff. The Board felt it could use the research data Ms. Slaughter had collected for presentation to the Commissioners. She will get this information to all members. ***Roy McClain moved to study such an increase in compensation as a recommendation for the Board of Commissioners, which can be an item for consideration on the next meeting agenda. James Newland seconded the motion. Chairman Johnson appointed Roy McClain and James Newland to gather pertinent data and perform the study, reporting back to the Board next month.***
- 5) Proclamation for National Voter Registration Recognition for 9-19-23 through 9-25-23. This is a non-partisan effort to encourage a positive culture change. Mr. Wimbish, who presented the Proclamation, spoke a few months ago about the culture of the Board of Elections, and activities of this nature would help to further that effort. Roy McClain commented that he agreed with the Proclamation except for four usages of the word "democracy," noting that a constitutional republic is the correct term. It occurs in the first line, first page and the last line of the first page. Also, the phrase occurred in the first paragraph of page two and the last paragraph of page 2. He felt we need to be accurate in referring to our form of

government as we are not a democracy. Mr. Wimbish felt that if we were polling America, we would find that most would not object to democracy and might even object to a constitutional republic. Democracy is an ideal, even if we are defined in the constitution as a republic. Dexter Wimbish did not want to see us sidelined on semantics but should look at the democratic ability to connect government to the people. We are talking about an ideal to promote democracy, he noted.

Chairman Johnson appealed to Attorney Windham. She noted it would actually be the Board of Commissioners who will present and sign; the Proclamation would not be from the Board of Elections and Registration. Typically involved parties come to the Board of Commissioners' meeting where they would provide a photo op. Some discussion continued, and James Newland suggested that the Board agree for the first noted line to refer to "republic" but the other mentions be allowed to remain since the first line does refer to the governmental status. Most agreed with the recommendation. Mr. McClain did not agree; he felt the document needs to be technically accurate but noted there were no hard feelings. *Motion/second by James Newland/Dexter Wimbish to approve with only one change in the first line of the first page ("democracy" to "constitutional republic") to recommend to the Spalding County Board of Commissioners carried 4-1 with Roy McClain opposing.*

### **Board Member Comments**

Roy McClain – He updated activities of the Ad Hoc Committee. Most scanning has been completed. They can determine electronic specifications to assess storage space, but the project is in good shape. There will be a discussion at a later date regarding some 2020 ballots.

Dexter Wimbish – He commended Kim Slaughter and staff on getting documentation to members for the meetings in a more timely fashion of late. He appreciated getting reports early and adequate communication.

Jim O'Brien – He advised he had neglected to note on the back end of the Bylaws that a date and appropriate signatures would be needed. Also, he realized he had given no thought as to where the Bylaws would be archived. Attorney Windham advised it will be put on the website and copy held in the office.

James – thanked Jim for work on Bylaws for a frustrating job. Good work of back-and-forth effort. Thanked Stephanie as well.

Ben Johnson – He was thankful for everyone who assisted and was glad to have the Bylaws, delegation of duties, IGAs and Resolution that were delineated tonight. He thanked Kim Slaughter and said that hopefully GARVIS will continue to improve.

Kim Slaughter also noted that she had provided a financial report for members in the interest of transparency.

### **Adjournment**

*Motion to adjourn at 6:58 p.m. by Dexter Wimbish/Jim O'Brien carried unanimously.*

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Ben Johnson, Chair, Presiding

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Teresa A. Watson, Recording Secretary



**SPALDING COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS & VOTER REGISTRATION**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**October 10, 2023**

This Regular Meeting of the Spalding County Board of Elections and Registration was held at the County Courthouse Annex, 109 East Solomon Street at 6:00 p.m. on October 10, 2023. Attending were Vice Chair, James Newland, presiding; Roy McClain; Jim O'Brien; and Dexter Wimbish, arriving late.

Also present were Elections Supervisor Kim Slaughter; Attorney Stephanie Windham by video conference; Attorney David Penland; and Teresa Watson to record minutes.

**Invocation/Moment of Silence** - Invocation was given by Jim O'Brien.

**Pledge to the Flag** - Pledge was led by Roy McClain

**Citizens Comments**

Vice Chairman Newland read the guidelines for citizen comments.

Mike Laster

Mr. Laster thanked the board members for their service. He was concerned that he had seen nothing definite on the Board's July 24 vote to hand count the paper ballots in future elections. This is an important decision and elections are less than a month away. People are distrustful of elections machinery, and he wanted to see such a move toward ensuring the integrity of the process.

**Adoption of the Agenda**

*Motion/second by Roy McClain/Jim O'Brien to approve agenda as presented carried unanimously at 3-0.*

**Minutes**

*Motion/second to approve the Regular Monthly Meeting of September 12, 2023, by Roy McClain/Jim O'Brien carried unanimously at 3-0.*

Dexter Wimbish arrived at 6:08 p.m., thereby affecting the tally of votes for the remainder of the meeting.

**Report of Elections Supervisor**

Ms. Slaughter noted that Elections Code Manuals are provided for Board members. She provided an overview of her monthly report to the Board for the period ending September 30, 2023, noting voter registration actions such as re registrations, transfers, felons, and deceased voters; the status of precinct cards and the resulting inattentiveness of the state for same; GARVIS updates regarding improvements needed; correspondence from the Secretary of State's Office concerning pending issues relative to elections changes; and list maintenance as it pertains to ERIC (Electronic Registration Information Center), NGE (no activity for two general elections) and no contact (no activity for five calendar years).

As for My Voter Page, she detailed updates coming prior to the November 7 general municipal-special election. Enhancements have been incorporated to make the site more user-friendly.

Ms. Slaughter explained the status of the State Election Board meeting that was not held on October 3 as anticipated. Hopefully, notice will be forthcoming about when we can expect our case to be heard. She reminded the Board of the State Elections Board's measure that were put in place to avoid issues with a fake ballot(s) as before. She has submitted information as requested to the SOS Investigation Division.

Precinct health checks have been completed and any required actions are in the process of being implemented. These will be finished and communicated to Poll Managers prior to November 7. She complimented Mary and Sandra on the office staff for all their assistance with operations and training. The

Secretary of State's office has notified they will wait until after the November 7 election to conduct the voting equipment health check.

She reminded everyone of the ballot wording for different precincts, depending on the City's municipal races. The ESPLOST referendum question will appear in all precincts and represents a continuation of the penny sales tax rather than a new tax. Logic and accuracy testing is mostly done and should complete no later than October 11.

Ms. Slaughter informed the Board of the new hire, Kelly Romero, for the position of Voter Registration Clerk. All onboarding activities have been scheduled for Ms. Romero. Kelly has served eight years in Spalding County's 911 division and brings with her a wealth of institutional knowledge and a great understanding of mapping. She is also bilingual, which will serve the office well. Once all processes for hiring are complete, Ms. Slaughter will introduce Ms. Romero to the Board.

The hand count proposed earlier will be reviewed in a Special Called Meeting to be scheduled. She will notify Board members of the date by Monday of next week.

Ms. Slaughter noted that GARVIS updates cannot be guaranteed to not affect the November 7 election. She will keep the Board informed, and Roy McClain agreed that GARVIS has been a struggle with many issues. Ms. Slaughter stated, though, that we are seeing issues actually resolved along the way. She emphasized the need to keep lines of communication open in the process.

She detailed early voting dates and times, and she noted the Homeland Security visit that is to take place on October 18. Members are welcome to attend. The scanning project has identified 550 ballots from the November 2020 election that were cast on regular copy paper instead of the required security paper.

Ms. Slaughter mentioned concerns for 2024: Precinct 17 will probably need relocation from Ambucus Park. We will begin reviewing the area for other accommodations in the near future.

### Old Business

- 1) Amendment to Resolution in Delegating Authority to Election Supervisor.  
A maximum of \$500 was established, but after stepping back, Ms. Slaughter realized that amount needs to be increased to \$3000. Between ballots being printed, security paper purchased, equipment, poll worker pay, etc., there is a real justification for this increase. Some discussion followed. ***Motion/second by Roy McClain/Jim O'Brien in favor of the increase to \$3000 carried unanimously at 4-0.*** Ms. Windham advised we will execute an amendment to the resolution for Mr. Newland to sign that will reflect this increase.
- 2) Supervisor and staff compensation.  
Mr. McClain explained that the Board's research into the salaries of several surrounding counties revealed an average of \$69,507.40 for the supervisor position. When hired, we did not realize this structure and brought in Ms. Slaughter at a significantly lower salary. She is the lowest paid supervisor in Spalding County.

Mr. Wimbish inquired if the Board should go into Executive Session for its discussion on personnel compensation. Ms. Windham advised the Board could elect to do that but was not required to do so. Ms. Windham stated we can amend the agenda, but no advertisement was provided for an Executive Session. The appropriate time for consideration would be after completing the regular agenda business. A vote would need to be taken in a public session. ***The motion was by Roy McClain was made to amend the agenda to include an Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel. No second was received, and the motion died with no action. It was determined that Ms. Slaughter will add this item for consideration to the upcoming Special Called Meeting and duly advertise it.***



### New Business

- 1) Discussion of National Voter Registration Day proclamation approved by Spalding County Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Wimbish noted the Board's previous consideration, subsequent compromise after much discussion, and recommendation to approve the National Voter Registration Day Proclamation to the Spalding County Board of Commissioners by a 4-1 vote. The Board of Commissioners did not approve the Proclamation as recommended by the Elections Board but rather approved a changed document. He was concerned about the integrity of the process and the setting of a precedent. He wondered and would like to know exactly who changed the document and who directed the change. He wondered if this could result in some type of criminal action since the document presented and put forward was not the document that we approved for recommendation.

Ms. Windham said she believed the change was initiated by one or more Commissioners and, since the Proclamation actually comes from them, they felt it within their rights to adjust the document. It was, in fact, not the one approved by the Board of Elections. She believed one or more commissioners when reviewing their agenda packet(s) decided they wanted changes to make the Proclamation more palatable. So, instead of not issuing it, they changed it. Had she known this would occur, she would have recommended not issuing the Proclamation. She had no opportunity to review these changes prior to the presentation. She went to Kim Slaughter when she entered the meeting to tell her the document was different. She advocated removal of the phrase that this was recommended by the Board of Elections since it was not appropriate to say the Proclamation was based on the Board's recommendation. She felt this action was most appropriate in the moment. Ms. Slaughter had staff members there, and Board member Roy McClain attended, as well.

Mr. Wimbish stated we thank the Board of Commissioners for taking an action, but the fact remains that someone changed the document. He would like to find out who made the change and when (meeting, planning meeting, etc.) and let us know. He maintained this change was made without authorization to do so. He felt someone usurped the Elections Board's power. He requested that a letter be sent to the Board of Commissioners asking who made the change and in what context. Since Ms. Windham felt this would be more appropriately handled by the Board, rather than staff or herself, Mr. Newland as Vice Chair tonight could ensure this is sent to the County Clerk or County Manager or both with a copy to Chairman Davis, as well.

*Motion/second to authorize a letter from Vice Chair Newland, on behalf of the Board of Elections, to request the information as identified in the discussion, by Jim O'Brien/Dexter Wimbish, carried by a vote of 3 – 1 with Roy McClain opposing.*

### Board Member Comments

Roy McClain thanked the Elections Supervisor and staff. They have been hamstrung by state mandated issues without state provided assistance, along with the mess that is GARVIS.

Mr. Wimbish had no comment.

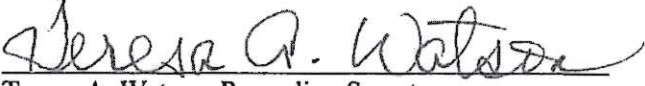
Mr. O'Brien had no comment.

Mr. Newland thanked Board members and noted that all are trying their best for the voters of Spalding County. He, too, thanked Ms. Slaughter and the staff. He reminded Ms. Slaughter to add the Executive Session to the Special Called Meeting agenda.

### Adjournment

*Motion to adjourn at 6:45 p.m. by Dexter Wimbish/Jim O'Brien carried unanimously at 4-0.*

  
James Newland, Vice Chair, Presiding

  
Teresa A. Watson, Recording Secretary



**SPALDING COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS & VOTER REGISTRATION**  
**Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes**  
**November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

This Regular Meeting of the Spalding County Board of Elections and Registration was held at the Board of Elections and Voter Registration office located at 825 Memorial Drive, Griffin, GA on November 14, 2023 at 10:15 a.m. Attending were Vice Chair, James Newland; Roy McClain; and Jim O'Brien.

Also present were Elections Supervisor Kim Slaughter and County Attorney Stephanie Windham.

**Invocation/Moment of Silence** - Invocation was given by Roy McClain

**Pledge to the Flag** - Pledge was led by Vice-Chair James Newland.

**Adoption of the Agenda** – Board Member Roy McClain made a motion to discuss amending the Agenda. Vice-Chair, James Newland second the motion. Motion Passed 2-1.

**Discussion:** Board Member Roy McClain suggested that due to the cancellation of the previous meeting which had not been posted to the website and the holiday as well, and the hand count process had less time, for County Attorney Stephanie Windham to appear before the Judge to ask for more time to find the differences between the hand count and the Election Management system upload of votes. County Attorney Stephanie Windham stated that not having a meeting is not justification for going before the Judge to ask for more time prior to certifying. She also stated that if there were contests which were close in count, she would be more comfortable to go before the Judge to ask for more time. However, this was not the case.

Election Supervisor, Kim Slaughter read aloud the results for all Contests including the E-Splost Referendum.

Board Member Jim O'Brien made a motion to certify the November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 General Municipal Election results. Vice Chair, James Newland second the motion. Motion passed 2-1 with Board Member Roy McClain opposing.

Board Member, Jim O'Brien made a motion to adjourn and Vice-Chair, James Newland second the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

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James Newland, Vice-Chair, Presiding

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Kimberly Slaughter, Election Supervisor