

CLAYTON COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATION

Virtual Regular Called Business Meeting

February 8, 2022

Zoom Communications

4:30 P.M.

*APPROVED POST SUMMARY MINUTES*

PRESENT: Chair Johnson, Treasurer Wesley, Secretary Foster Hall, Board Member Pullar, Attorney Reed, Director Dozier, and Administrative Assistant Jennifer Clemmer. Absent: Vice Chair Givens.

**REGULAR CALLED BOARD MEETING**

1. *Chair Johnson called the meeting to order.*
2. *Moment of silence observed.*
3. *Adoption of the Agenda.*

**Motion made by Board Member Pullar seconded by Secretary Foster Hall to adopt the agenda for the Virtual Regular Called Board Meeting on February 8, 2022 as printed. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried. Absent: Vice Chair Givens.**

4. *Approval of Board Minutes of January 11, 2022 Regular Business Meeting.*

**Motion made by Board Member Pullar seconded by Secretary Foster Hall to approve the minutes from the Virtual Regular Called Board Meeting on January 11, 2022 with correction made on page 8 of 10 from Treasure to Treasurer. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried. Absent: Vice Chair Givens.**

5. *Public Comments:*

**There were no Public Comments.**

6. *Old Business*

Board Member Pullar inquired into whether Director Dozier has received Mr. Horace Williams' proposal on his app.

Director Dozier informed the Board that she has not received a proposal from Mr. Williams.

7. *New Business:*

**A. Director's Report & 2022 Election Update.**

Director Dozier informed the Board that, as of February 1, 2022, there are 202,892 (176, 649 active and 26, 243 Inactive) voters.

Director Dozier informed the Board that the 40-day clock on the National Change of Address Confirmation notices is set to expire on the February 13, 2022. For those who were listed as moved out of state, they will go into cancellation status. Those who moved within the county or to another county within the state, they will be automatically moved to the new address.

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Director Dozier informed the Board that the office was notified by the Secretary of State that the office will be entering into a new voter registration system, and training will start in the next couple of weeks.

Director Dozier informed the Board that Secretary Raffensperger announced the new voter registration system via press conference.

Director Dozier informed the Board that the new voter registration system will be called GARViS, and the final launch date is set for March 14, 2022.

Director Dozier informed the Board that the Deputy Registrar training that the office is conducting for High School Registration Month with the Educators in Clayton County was scheduled for February 17, 2022.

Director Dozier informed the Board that the 2022 Election dates are in the Director's Report. The report provides all of the dates that a county can have an election, although it may not necessarily yield an election in Clayton County.

Director Dozier informed the Board that she provided the election dates to the voting facilities just in case there is a need to conduct a special election.

Director Dozier informed the Board that as of this date the office's first election will be the General Primary Election schedule for May 24, 2022. If any information changes, Director Dozier will give the Board an update.

Director Dozier informed the Board that at the next Board Meeting she will provide the Board a list of the advance voting locations for approval.

Director Dozier informed the Board that the office is looking to expand the early voting locations to ten (10) locations this year.

Director Dozier informed the Board that information regarding the qualifying fees set by the Board of Commissioners was included in the Director's Report.

Director Dozier informed the Board that the information the office has received so far in regards to where qualifying is being held by the political parties are included in the Director's report.

Director Dozier informed the Board that the office will be conducting qualifying for the non-partisan candidates.

Director Dozier informed the Board that the office is still on task to complete redistricting by February 18, 2022.

Director Dozier informed the Board that the office has to touch about 5,300 street reigns in Clayton County, and the office is about Fifty (50) percent completion.

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Director Dozier informed the Board that during the job fair held on January 11-13, 2022, the office recruited about 75 people.

Director Dozier informed the Board that the office is looking forward to conducting another job fair as the office continues recruiting people to work in the office and poll sites for the 2022 Election Year.

Director Dozier informed the Board that she wanted to read a statement from EasyVote solutions that she was notified of on Monday, February 8, 2022 in regards to a recent security incident and provide a statement.

Director Dozier informed the Board that she would like to read a statement from EasyVote Solution.

EasyVote Solutions recently notified us (Clayton County) that certain data that may have come from an EasyVote online storage location was available on the internet. EasyVote Solutions is a company that provides software that our county uses to generate the application that voters must complete in person to register for advance or absentee voting. We do not use EasyVote's software, Easy Check-in, to generate or record ballots or to determine election results. While we do upload voter registration files to an EasyVote portal, those files do not contain voters' Social Security numbers or driver's license numbers.

We have been in communication with EasyVote to understand what happened, what information was involved, and what EasyVote is doing in response. EasyVote has informed us that it reviewed the files on the internet and identified the location where it stores those kind of files. The files were contained in an online storage location that is separate from EasyVote's main system and data. EasyVote quickly closed off access to that storage location and has transferred the data to a new environment with additional security controls. A cybersecurity firm that has helped other companies with similar matters was engaged. EasyVote also has been in communication with law enforcement and is supporting its investigation. EasyVote is reviewing the files that were in the storage location to inventory the contents and the information involved.

We will continue to stay in communication with EasyVote as it works to complete its investigation.

Director Dozier informed the Board that the breach did happen at their facility and that the office uses EasyVote during early voting.

Director Dozier informed the Board that as she understands it, the files in question goes back to the last election the county had which was the City of Morrow election last November.

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Director Dozier informed the Board that the vendor is given updates and if anymore updates are given, she will reach out to the Board.

Chair Johnson inquired into the security to keep the staff, poll workers, poll locations safe.

Director Dozier informed the Board that the office works with law enforcement and hire officers for security throughout the county elections.

Director Dozier informed the Board that the office is looking into securing Commissioners Gregory's location to help relieve some of the congestion from Carl Rhodenizer. The office is also looking into Flint River Community Center and Lake Spivey, which the office was scheduled to use, but the facility was not ready in time for voting as was the Forest Park Senior Center.

Director Dozier informed the Board that the office is looking to put qualifying information in the newspapers in the next few weeks.

Director Dozier informed the Board that Clayton County has not been a part of the pilot program for the new registration systems. Yet, there are several training opportunities coming up including a Train the Trainer class and then a training series will start with all the staff.

Director Dozier informed the Board that Clayton State University is also invited to the deputy registrar events.

**B. Discussion on Adoption of Voter Challenges Procedures.**

Attorney Reed informed the Board that House Bills 1214 and 1265 are related to the changes for the Board of Education and Board of Commissioners districts. Both House Bills dropped on February 8, 2022 and with the expedited time, both bills should be approved and sign by the Governor by February 18, 2022

Board Member Pullar inquired as to which House Bill involves the Board of Commissioner and which involves the Board of Education.

Attorney Reed informed the Board that House Bill 1214 is the Board of Education and House Bill 1265 is the Board of Commissioners.

Attorney Reed informed the Board that the last item that was requested by Vice Chair Givens was related to Section 7, and he added a sentence stating that the challenger or challenged voter may be, but not required to be, present if they are represented by Counsel or have other representation at the hearing.

Chair Johnson informed the Board that Vice Chair Givens sent her a message relating to the Adoption of the Voter Challenges Procedures stating that the Vote appeal document could stay the same and be adopted.

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Chair Johnson expressed that she was not quite sure what Vice Chair Givens was okay. Rather it was the new version of the document or the previously reviewed document from last meeting.

Chair Johnson inquired into whether it would be better if the Board could be available on election day to meet and address the challenges instead of allowing the challenges to build up and spend a lot of time on the challenges later.

Attorney Reed informed the Board that if the Board adopts the challenge procedures, the procedures would set when and how they would be able to challenge.

Attorney Reed informed the Board that if the election laws stay the same and the procedures are adopted, there would be a challenge process in place that a person would have to go through to challenge a voter's name on the voter's list.

Attorney Reed informed the Board that if state laws change and results in more ways a person can challenge a voter's right to vote, then the Board can readdress the Voter Challenge Procedures at that time.

Chair Johnson inquired into rather the Board should adopt it now or include it the next board meeting.

Attorney Reed informed the Board that the Board could either vote on adoption now or wait until Vice Chair Givens is available.

**Motion made by Board Member Pullar seconded by Treasurer Wesley to adopt the Voter Challenge Procedures Policy with the changes that Vice Chair Givens initiated and was done by Attorney Reed. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried. Absent: Vice Chair Givens.**

C. Hearing to remove felons from elector's list, as necessary.

**There were no felons to remove.**

D. Hearing to remove deceased from elector's list.

**Motion made by Treasurer Wesley seconded by Secretary Foster Hall to remove the 91 names listed as deceased voters from the Clayton County Elections & Registration Elector's List for February 2022 as printed. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried. Absent: Vice Chair Givens.**

8. *Executive Session: To consider personnel and/or litigation. As necessary.*

**There was no Executive Session.**

9. *Adjourn.*

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**Motion made by Treasurer Wesley seconded by Secretary Foster Hall to adjourn the Virtual Regular Called Board Meeting at 5:02 P.M. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried. Absent: Vice Chair Givens.**

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DARLENE JOHNSON, CHAIR

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DIANE GIVENS, VICE CHAIR

  
DOROTHY FOSTER HALL, SECRETARY

  
PATRICIA PULLAR, BOARD MEMBER

  
CAROL WESLEY, TREASURER

ATTEST:

  
JENNIFER CLEMMER, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSSISTANT