

CLAYTON COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATION

Virtual Regular Business Meeting
4:30 PM

September 8, 2020

APPROVED POST SUMMARY MINUTES

PRESENT: Chair Wesley, Vice-Chair Dorothy Foster Hall, Secretary Johnson, Treasurer Givens, Board Member Pullar, Director Shauna Dozier, Supervisor Trivis Houston, Attorney Charles Reed, and Elections & Registration Assistant Brianna Garrett.

REGULAR BUSINESS BOARD MEETING

1. Chair called the meeting to order.

2. Moment of silence observed.

3. Adoption of Agenda:

Motion made by Vice-Chair Foster-Hall, seconded by Treasurer Givens. Absent: Board Member Pullar. Vote Unanimous. Motion carried.

4. Approval of August 18, 2020 Special Called Business Meeting minutes.

Motion made by Vice-Chair Foster-Hall; seconded by Secretary Johnson to approve the August 18, 2020 Special Called Board Meeting Minutes. Vote Unanimous. Motion carried.

5. Approval of August 18, 2020 Regular Business Meeting minutes.

Motion made by Vice-Chair Foster-Hall; seconded by Treasurer Givens to approve the August 18, 2020 Regular Called Board Meeting Minutes with the correction as noted. Vote Unanimous. Motion carried.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT: Citizens will be given a three minute maximum time limit to speak before the Board of Elections and Registration about various topics, issues, and concerns. Public comments will be limited to thirty (30) minutes. Following thirty minutes of hearing from the public, the Board of Elections and Registration will allow the remainder of citizens who have signed up to be heard at the next regular business meeting.

In an effort to maintain the spirit of openness and transparency during this time and in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, citizens are invited to submit their public comments via this submission form:

There was no public comment.

7. Old Business:

A. Board Directives as necessary.

Director Dozier informed the Board that there are no Board directives to review.

B. Board By-Laws Review

Secretary Johnson inquired about the recommendation of the term of two consecutive years of tenure in an office seat of the Board yet still holding an election for each office every year. The

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ability to serve two year terms consecutively would be available while establishing a maximum of four consecutive years.

Attorney Reed informed the Board that if there is a change that the Board would like to make then the directive could be given to make the proper amendments to the By-Laws draft.

Attorney Reed informed the Board that the Board of Commissioners' hold annual terms and that to have a one year term on a Board is not uncommon.

Secretary Johnson and Board Member Pullar inquired on the presence of additional staff attendees to the meeting outside of the Director, Attorney, and transcriber. A recommendation was made to form a policy against additional staff attending the Board meetings.

Director Dozier informed the Board that Elections & Registration Supervisor and Elections Technician as well as other staff attend Board meetings in order to be cross trained through experience to prepare staff to conduct Board Meetings in the absence of the Director. In addition to cross training, this will provide answers in the area in which they manage should they be called upon to respond.

Chair Wesley inquired on the amount of items currently present on the table and asked that they be addressed one at a time.

Board Member Pullar expressed to the Board that she would like to entertain the action of adopting two year tenures, however each year and establish a rotation among the Board after the two year term instead of utilizing the previously stated consecutive two year format which would result in four consecutive years.

Vice-Chair Foster-Hall expressed that a person should not serve in an officer position if a person serves on an organization that is in conflict with the Board By-Laws.

Board Member Pullar expressed that this rule is not according to the By-Laws and that she is no longer the chair of a political party.

Vice-Chair Foster-Hall expressed that she was not referring to Board Member Pullar but stating a ruling from the By-Laws.

Secretary Johnson inquired about what other Board or organization could be referenced that would be deemed as a conflict of interest.

Vice-Chair Foster-Hall expressed that the reference is to political parties as stated in the By-Laws.

Board Member Pullar expressed that no one on the current Board is currently serving as an officer with an affiliated party that is a conflict of interest. The recommendation was made to rotate Officers to serve no more than two years in a position while still allowing for an officer election to take place each year.

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Secretary Johnson expressed that she addressed the matter to the table to allow for others to serve as officers of the Board in different capacities such as other Boards in the county have adopted.

Treasurer Givens expressed that if such policy is in place, it may push for someone to be voted into a position to serve that may not be capable despite them having good attributes to the Board as a whole.

Secretary Johnson expressed that there is training for those who may be incompetent from the Carl Vinson Institute and something that could be possibly provided from the county.

Director Dozier informed the Board that the State Conference held each year provides Board training in the primary days prior to the opening of the conference utilizing Carl Vinson Institute.

Attorney Reed inquired about clarity of the final changes and language for the terms of serving as an officer as it relates to the Board of Elections & Registration during each Board Members' tenure.

The Board discussed that the term of tenure for each officer shall serve more than two consecutive terms and no member of the Board shall serve in the same office within a four year period of holding office.

Treasurer Givens inquired about the office of Treasurer being reinstated in the By-Laws.

Board Member Pullar expressed to the Board that the Treasurer should be in place to review the budget with Elections Superintendent on an annual basis prior to submission to the County Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer to be amended into the By-Laws.

Attorney Reed informed the Board that he would update the By-Laws with the recommended changes and resubmit an updated document to the Board for approval and vote at the next regular scheduled meeting.

8. New Business

A. Director's Report & Election Update

Director Dozier informed the Board that as of September 4, 2020, there are 203,435 (191,651 Active; 11,784 Inactive) voters in Clayton County.

Director Dozier informed the Board that regarding the Special Election to be held on September 29, 2020, ballots had begun being mailed on August 14, 2020 and will continue to be mailed as requested until the last day to request a ballot on September 25, 2020.

Director Dozier informed the Board that as of September 8, 2020, 87 voters have cast a ballot for the September 29, 2020 Special Election.

Director Dozier informed the Board that the Advanced Voting hours are from 8:00AM until 5:00PM during the first two weeks and extended until 7:00 P.M. during the last week. Saturday and Sunday Voting Days, in accordance to Georgia Election Code and the Board of Elections

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Board Policy regarding a Federal Candidate on the Ballot will be held on Saturday, September 19, 2020 and Sunday, September 20, 2020.

Director Dozier informed the Board that the seven additional polling locations approved by the Board are associated with the September Special Election in Congressional District 5 that was newly added by the writ issued on July 27, 2020. Therefore, adjustments to split polling locations will be completed after the September Special so that Voters are not confused about where to vote for the September Special Election. All Voters impacted will receive notification at the precinct for the September Special, a letter via first class mail, a new precinct card indicating their polling place has changed and there will be new signage at these polling locations for Voters.

Director Dozier informed the Board that the online absentee ballot request form portal is currently live and voters have been submitting their request daily. The online portal will make it easier for both Georgia voters to request absentee ballots in the future and for county officials to process the dramatic increase in absentee ballots seen during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Director Dozier informed the Board that several third party organizations have been sending out absentee ballot applications however the office receives all applications in various forms including emails, hand written letters, third party applications, faxes and phone calls. When voters inquire on the numerous applications, the office provides them with proper direction and proceed to process the applications as necessary.

Director Dozier informed the Board that the Clayton County Delegation held a meeting with Director Dozier to provide ideas of how they can assist in the preparation of the upcoming election(s). Chair Wesley participated in the meeting.

Director Dozier informed the Board that on September 10, 2020, she will participate in a virtual meeting titled 'DeBunking the Myths, Absentee Voting Webinar with the East Point College Park Alumnae Chapter-Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Director Dozier will provide voter education regarding how to submit an absentee application online, important deadlines for the upcoming elections, absentee box information, and voter registration deadlines.

Board Member Pullar inquired on the goal of the amount of ballot boxes in the county if grant monies became available.

Director Dozier informed the Board of how many additional absentee ballot drop boxes have been ordered.

B. Vote Review Panel- September 29, 2020 Special Election

Motion made by Secretary Johnson to appoint Patricia Pullar to the Vote Review Panel as the Board Designee for the Special Called Election to be held September 29, 2020. Seconded by Vice-Chair Foster-Hall. Vote unanimous. Motion carried.

C. Approval of Managers-September 29, 2020 Special Election

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Motion made by Board Member Pullar to approve and accept the list of Managers and Assistant Managers for the Special Called Election to be held September 29, 2020. Motion seconded by Secretary Johnson. Vote Unanimous. Motion passed.

D. Hearing to remove felons.

There were no felons to remove.

E. Hearing to remove deceased from Elector's list.

Motion made by Board Member Pullar, seconded by Vice-Chair Foster-Hall to remove 56 deceased voters from the electors' list. Vote Unanimous. Motion passed.

F. Combined Regular Called & Special Called Meeting- Certification of September 29, 2020 Special Election

Motion made by Board Member Pullar; seconded by Vice-Chair Foster-Hall to change and combine the Regular Called and Special Called Meeting date and time to be held on October 7, 2020 at 4:30 P.M. Vote unanimous. Motion carried.

9. Executive session:

There was no executive session.

10. Adjourn.

Motion made by Vice-Chair Foster-Hall to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting at 5:48 P.M. Motion seconded by Board Member Pullar. Vote Unanimous. Motion passed.

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{SIGNATURES ON NEXT PAGE}

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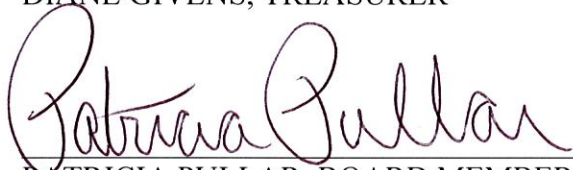
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CAROL WESLEY, CHAIR


DOROTHY FOSTER HALL, VICE-CHAIR


DIANE GIVENS, TREASURER


PATRICIA PULLAR, BOARD MEMBER


DARLENE JOHNSON, SECRETARY

ATTEST:


BRIANNA GARRETT, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT