

CLAYTON COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATIONS

Virtual Regular Business Meeting
Zoom Communication

May 11, 2021
4:30 PM

APPROVED POST SUMMARY MINUTES

PRESENT: Chair Darlene Johnson, Vice Chair Diane Givens, Treasurer Carol Wesley, Secretary Dorothy Foster-Hall, Board Member Patricia Pullar, Director Shauna Dozier, Attorney Charles Reed, and Elections & Registration Assistant Brianna Garrett,

REGULAR BUSINESS BOARD MEETING

1. Call to Order.

2. Moment of Silence.

3. Adoption of Agenda.

Motion made by Board Member Pullar seconded by Secretary Foster-Hall to adopt the agenda for the Virtual Regular Board Meeting on May 11, 2021 as printed. Vote Unanimous. Motion carried. Vice Chair Diane Givens-Absent.

4. Approval of the March 9, 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Motion made by Board Member Pullar seconded by Secretary Foster-Hall to accept the April 13, 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes with corrections as noted. Vote Unanimous. Motion carried. Vice Chair Diane Givens-Absent.

5. Public Comment(s)

There were no submitted public comments.

6. Old Business:

A. Board Directives, as necessary

There were no Board Directives.

7. New Business

A. Director's Report & 2021 Election Updates

Director Dozier informed the Board that as of May 3, 2021 there are 207,275 (198,095 Active; 9,180 Inactive) Voters.

Director Dozier informed the Board that she had a brief discussion with the Departmental Budget Analyst on May 3, 2021 regarding the FY22 Budget recommendations that will be presented to the Board of Commissioners. During the discussion the office provided potential financial impacts of Senate Bill 202 to the Analyst to consider for FY22. Currently, the Finance Department is preparing the recommended budget book and plans to have it displayed for the public to review as well as present for approval. Any detailed updates will be provided as soon as they are available.

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Director Dozier informed the Board that an extension was granted until June 30th, 2021 to spend the funds for the grant. A detailed updated report will be provided as the office is still in the process of utilizing those funds. Director Dozier informed the Board that an updated itemized budget report will be provided.

Director Dozier informed the Board that a Deputy Registrar refresher class took place on May 6, 2021 with Clayton County Public Schools Educators in honor of High School Voter Registration Month.

Director Dozier informed the Board that Educators were certified back in September therefore their certification has not yet expired, a refresher class on ways to do a virtual Voter Registration Drive was conducted at the request of coordinator, Regina Wallace.

Director Dozier informed the Board that educators are conducting Voter Registration Drives in person, during graduation, and others virtually.

Director Dozier informed the Board that the process of obtaining a free Voter I.D. card with the office is an ongoing process. Per the Boards directive a discussion about getting Voter I.D. was had during Deputy Registrar Training.

Director Dozier informed the Board that typically Deputy Registrar Training is done in March for April, however, due to COVID restrictions, schools being out, and preparing to implement any new voter registration changes brought on by Senate Bill 202 caused the office to shift gears. Director Dozier informed the Board that in previous years Board Member Pullar passed a motion directing the office to complete High School Voter Registration in September as well.

Director Dozier informed the Board that voters can obtain an I.D. card at the Department of Driver Services or a Voter I.D. in the Elections and Registration Office. If they are a registered voter in Clayton County and do not have a source of photo I.D. they can come into the office and get free Voter I.D.

Director Dozier informed the Board that the office has completed its requirements for the University of Georgia Absentee Ballot Signature Match Study.

Director Dozier informed the Board that this was a deadline driven unscheduled task that shifted previously scheduled office tasks. This request was an estimated 10-day task and took 24 hours of research 56 hour of pulling as well as retrieval of specified documents.

Director Dozier informed the Board that there was a team of 6 working on this project.

Director Dozier informed the Board that the office submitted 121 absentee ballot envelopes to the Secretary of State's office along with any rejections as requested.

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Director Dozier informed the Board that the office is awaiting any further instructions, feedback and directions regarding this study.

Director Dozier informed the Board that the office will resume other departmental projects that were delayed as a result of this request.

Director Dozier informed the Board that a billboard display honoring Poll Workers for their service is on digital display on Interstate 75 traveling south at the Forest Parkway Exit.

Chair Johnson commented that departmental staff appreciation needs to be included in some fashion as well.

Director Dozier informed the Board that the office has done activities internally for the departmental staff and that Treasurer Wesley has been working on a providing a token of appreciation for the staff as well.

Board Member Pullar commented that the Board should consider developing a policy that will allow individuals to be vetted, read their own public comments, and state the city and state where they reside during Board Meetings to determine if comments are coming from actual Clayton County voters.

Attorney Reid commented that eventually Board meetings will move away from the virtual environment back to in-person and that may resolve itself.

Chair Johnson commented that she supports Board Member Pullar's suggestion and that presentations can not be allowed during virtual meetings.

Board Member Pullar commented on a request to have the Chief Operations Officer present at the next Board Meeting to discuss the urgency of relocating the office.

Chair Johnson inquired on the outcome of Director Dozier meeting with the Chief Operations Officer on April 12, 2021 to discuss relocating the office.

Director Dozier informed the Board that the meeting with Chief Operations Office Mr. Stanford that was originally scheduled on April 12, 2021 was postponed and that she met with him on April 29, 2021. In short, the office is in a holding pattern because other departments are moving due to renovations. Once one department moves, then another department will move from out of that space, which will open up a space for the office.

Director Dozier informed the Board that she will be meeting with Mr. Stanford again on Thursday May 13, 2021.

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Board Member Pullar commented that the office has been in a holding pattern for two years concerning relocating and would like for Mr. Stanford to come and address this issue at the next Board meeting.

Board Member Pullar inquired about updated cost of unfunded mandates by the State Legislation.

Director Dozier informed the Board that she is still compiling numbers and has provided information to the county budget analyst that includes a cost of \$4,000 per site to add additional polling locations, \$153,000 per election to add additional Poll Workers, and adding 120 Ballot Marking Devices cost at \$3,500 each. The total calculated cost has not yet been completed.

Director Dozier informed the Board that the office has not received any information regarding the impact on Clayton County as of yet. A special session will be held in October however, the office has not received any information regarding planning nor preplanning.

Director Dozier informed the Board that the office communicating with municipalities and asking them to submit newly established business addresses, new subdivisions, new streets or any other changes that can be inputted into the Voter Registration System.

Director Dozier informed the Board that some municipalities have sent updated maps and blueprints with possible street changes, deletions, or adds so that the office can start preparing for redistricting as much as possible before receiving any information about the maps.

Board Member Pullar inquired about the municipalities that are requiring the county's assistance and what will that responsibility entail.

Director Dozier informed the Board that a previous Municipal Round Table had been conducted however, Vote Review Panel information was not discussed. There will be a third Municipal Round Table in June where Vote Review Panel information will be discussed.

Director Dozier informed the Board that during municipal elections, a letter is sent to the Municipal Clerks directing them to create a list of people who will serve on the Vote Review Panel. This list is submitted to the judge who makes the final decision as to who will serve on the Voter Review Panel.

Director Dozier informed the Board that an updated report will be provided as the Municipal Elections approaches.

Director Dozier informed the Board that there was a Municipal Round Table discussion held on April 29, 2021 where she gave updates discussing where the office is in the process and informed them that once the office completes an assessment regarding Senate Bill 202, then a decision whether the office will conduct elections can be made.

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Director Dozier informed the Board that the topic of redistricting and preparing for 2022 Elections was discussed and recommendations for outside vendors was provided

Director Dozier informed the Board that the office is not ready to make any decisions about any elections until the exact impact of Senate Bill 202 is known. If the office has to add 57 precincts and conduct redistricting at the same time, this will dictate the office's time. Therefore, the office has not entered into any intergovernmental agreements nor has any recommendations to the Board for intergovernmental been provided.

Director Dozier informed the Board that the office has to work with Attorney Reed on the intergovernmental agreement to now reflect what is in Senate Bill 202.

Director Dozier informed the Board that she and Technician Scott Brown spoke with Building and Maintenance regarding the shopping center near the office which would require Building and Maintenance to look at the structural make up of the building to ensure that it is up to code.

Director Dozier informed the Board that the old Code Enforcement Building would be a temporary relocation site as it would not be large enough to house all of the voting equipment at this one location.

Director Dozier informed the Board that the goal is to reduce the office from multiple buildings to one building where warehouse, observation, and tabulation can be done and the admin building remaining in the annex two.

Board Member Pullar commented that we have been having these discussions since 2019 involving only the Information Technology Department. The office is almost at the juncture where it can not move again. This is why it is urgent that the Board speaks with the Chief Operations Officer at the next Board meeting.

Director Dozier informed the Board that the office is definitely anxious to get settled into a space in preparation for future elections

Director Dozier informed the Board that on May 3, 2021 Mr. Lester "Leslie" Savage passed away. Mr. Savage graciously served at the Elections and Registration Office during advanced voting over the last 8 years and gave great energy as he greeted voters, managed lines, and personally made sure senior voters were taken care of. Mr. Savage served as a Poll Official for over 18 years. His wife also serves as a Poll Manager.

Board Member Pullar about getting a county proclamation issued for Mr. Lester.

Director Dozier informed the Board that getting a county proclamation for Mr. Lester is possible and that the office presented his wife with a certificate from the Board of Elections and Registration Office.

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B. Hearing to remove felons from elector's list.

There were no felons to remove.

C. Removal of deceased from elector's list.

Motion made by Treasurer Wesley seconded by Board Member Pullar, to remove the 79 names listed as deceased voters from the Clayton County Elections & Registration Elector's List as printed. Vote Unanimous. Motion carried.

8. Executive Session: To consider personnel and/or litigation, as necessary.

There was no executive session.

9. Adjourn.

Motion made by Board Member Pullar to adjourn the Virtual Regular Board Meeting at 5:22 P.M. Motion seconded by. Vote Unanimous. Motion carried.

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DARLENE JOHNSON, CHAIR


DIANE GIVENS, VICE-CHAIR


DOROTHY FOSTER-HALL, SECRETARY


PATRICIA PULLAR, BOARD MEMBER


CAROL WESLEY, TREASURER

ATTEST:

BRIANNA GARRETT, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT