

**MONTHLY MEETING OF THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF
ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATIONS**

March 12, 2018 @ 8:30 A.M.

**Board of Elections & Registration Office
284 GA Highway 119 South, Springfield, GA 31329**

The Board of Elections and Registration held its monthly meeting on March 12, 2018.

PERSONS ATTENDING THE MEETING AND ROLL CALL:

Those present were; Chairman Tommy Allen, Vice Chairman Glenda King, Secretary Carla Freels, Board Member Ruth Brown, Board Member Rose Harvey, Supervisor Olivia Morgan, and Staff Member Laura Bassett. Also in attendance was Democrat Party Treasurer Jack Garvin.

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Allen called the meeting to order at 8:31 A.M. Chairman Allen led the Invocation and the Pledge was recited. The meeting was properly advertised.

AGENDA APPROVAL:

The Agenda was presented, and it was approved as presented to the Board.

MINUTES:

The Minutes from the February 12, 2018 Board Meeting were presented. Vice Chairman King made a motion to approve the minutes. Board Member Brown seconded the motion. Motion passed.

HEARING:

Chairman Allen called for any names to be presented for a Hearing. Staff Member Laura Bassett stated that there were no names on the hearing list.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Qualifying ended Friday March 9th at noon.
 - The non-partisan candidates that qualified at our office were:
 - School Board District 1; Robert Grant, Lynn Anderson and Nancy Floyd.
 - School Board District 4; Beth Helmly and Ben Johnson.
 - State Court Judge; Ronnie Thompson.
 - Republican Candidates that qualified at Dasher Insurance were:
 - County Commissioner District 2; Roger Burdette.
 - County Commissioner District 3; Jamie Deloach.
 - County Commissioner District 5; Phil Kieffer.
 - Solicitor General; Mark Lee.
 - Democrats did not have any candidates qualify at Snooks Reality.
- Qualifying fees collected from the non-partisan candidates was \$3,879.76. One half of the fees from the Republican qualifying came to total \$2,129.95.

- A Run-off in July seems imminent. So far to date, nine people have qualified for Governor and seven for Secretary of State.
- New proposed legislation: SB 403 passed both houses and is waiting on the signature of the Governor; which says that only optical scanning voting equipment will be in use by 2024, but goes on to say that if the funding is available we would have new equipment no later than the PPP in 2020. Two other bills that are also waiting to be signed by the Governor; SB 107 is a new proposal to a new ethics CCDR filing in May and eliminates the December filing. And SB 309 eliminates the need to have a special primary runoff and instead candidates would win by majority. However, a vacancy in a partisan office requiring a special primary could still result in a special general election.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Supervisor Morgan gave a review of office activities.
 - Supervisor Morgan said the office staff has finished the audit of Kardveyer, all voter registration records have been digitally scanned.
 - Poll Worker training is currently being set up. Human Resources will be sending someone to each Poll Worker training class to do all hiring paperwork. All polls are staffed.
 - We have received the contract from Bible Lutheran Church and from all other polling locations as well. Pineora Baptist has had all new precinct cards sent to active and inactive voters. The precinct cards for Bible Lutheran Church have been ordered but have not arrived.
 - Current voter registration reports show that we have 35,605 active voters and 3,495 inactive voters. That is a gain of 2,031 voters since January 2018.
 - Supervisor Morgan gave an update regarding equipment and software from the IT department. She said she felt that we would not be getting what we asked for. She has not received any of the tablets and one laptop that was old and refurbished. So she checked out other options. One option was a software program called Easy Vote. Supervisor Morgan and Staff Member Bassett went to a presentation in McIntosh County. The program has several different “modules”, including staffing and inventory. The module that would work for us is called Easy Check In. It works with Electionet to obtain all the data necessary for early voting, absentee by mail voting and early voting registration changes. It works with scanners and the Georgia driver’s license, but it is able to pull more information from the license than just the number, the system can also find a scanned voter by name in case we do not have the voter’s driver’s license number. Supervisor Morgan would be able to download all databases daily instead of relying on IT to do it every few weeks. The program has safety features built in by working with the absentee by mail module and the early in person voting module; it can prevent ballots being issued to an ineligible voter. It also has a voter alert system that can flag voters that need to give us more information. It can keep the numbered list of voter’s as well as create an elector’s list. Supervisor Morgan presented the price quote from Easy Vote. The first year with support for the Easy Check In module that includes the absentee and early voting registration modules will be \$2,750.00. The second year with support and any updates would be \$1,500.00. Greg Whitten who was employed with the State Elections Division is currently the liaison and support person for our region. Supervisor Morgan said she would need Board approval as well as approval from the County Administrator.
 - A motion was made by Board Member Harvey to purchase the new Easy Vote software. A second to the motion was made by Secretary Freels. After discussion the motion was approved.

- Supervisor Morgan gave a budget update proposal. She said that she will be requesting to formally add a permanent part time person. The hours would total 1040 hours and mostly be used for early voting and election preparation. \$2,172.30 was added to the personal budget for this purpose
- We have been assigned a finance department liaison, Mark Barnes.
- Supervisor Morgan will also be submitting a capital request form for a larger building. Options include current vacant buildings around Springfield or taking over our current building if UGA could find another location. There would also be a need for more parking which could be accomplished by having the old Concerted Service building removed.

BOARD OR STAFF CONCERNS:

- There were no Board or Staff concerns.

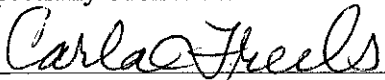
EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- No Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT:

No further business was required. There was no objection for meeting adjournment. Meeting was adjourned at 9:35 AM. The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be scheduled for April 9, 2018 at 8:30 AM.

Respectfully Submitted:



Carla Freels, Secretary

