

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

April 10, 2023 @ 9:30 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 April 10, 2023

PERSONS ATTENDING THE MEETING AND ROLL CALL:

Those present were: Chairman Tommy Allen, Vice Chairman Glenda King, Board Member Ruth Brown, Board Member Rose Harvey, and Board Member Bernard Scott. Director Olivia Chapman, Assistant Director Laura Bassett, and Deputy Registrar Dezita Thompson. Also present were Democratic Party Chairman Tony Chiariello and Guyton City Manager Meketa Brown

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Allen called the meeting to order at 9:32 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 March 13, 2023, Board Meeting were presented. Board Member Scott made a motion to approve the Minutes with corrections. Board Member Harvey second the motion. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

The City of Guyton-IGA (tabled at March 13 Meeting)

- Chairman Allen reviewed House Bill 705 which was formed in 2007 for the creation of the Effingham County Board of Election, to establish the rules and regulations of the BOE. HB 705, section 10 page 4 states, "The Board of Election shall have the authority to contract with any municipality located in Effingham County for the holding by the board for any primary or election to be conducted in such municipality." Chairman Allen stated he believes, "This board has the authority to negotiate with Guyton or any other city". Section 11, on page 4 states, "The Election Supervisor and clerical assistant should be under the exclusive control direction and supervision of the Election Board". Chairman Allen stated, "The county's position is to provide employees with benefits and compensation and provide a place to hold various elections as needed". Both Chairman Allen and City Manager Brown agreed the IGA contract will be revised and the fees will be explained after the TSPLOST meeting. It is scheduled for tomorrow April 11, 2023, with the three cities to clarify if a countywide election will be held this year. It was also recommended that the IGA will be done between the Board of Elections and the City of Guyton for a satisfactory agreement, before it reaches the county for approval. Chairman Allen inquired if someone in Guyton had been certified by the Secretary of State's Office. City Manager Brown stated, "City Clerk Matthew Walker was working on getting his certification complete."

NEW BUSINESS:

Election of New Board Secretary

- Board Member Brown made a motion for Board Member Harvey to be elected as the new secretary, and it was seconded by Board Member Scott. Board Member Harvey accepted the position.

ANY BOARD OR STAFF CONCERNS

- Assistant Director Bassett thanked the Board Members for discussing the IGA with the City of Manager Brown and BOE. Assistant Director Bassett also asked about the certification of City Clerk Matthew Walker being able to qualify for an election.

PUBLIC COMMENTS—Limited to agenda items only

- None

EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF NECESSARY)

Vice Chairman King made a motion for the Board Members to go into an executive session at 10:20 am, and it was seconded by Board Member Scott. The executive session ended at 10:40 am.

The Board Members voted on nominating Assistant Director Bassett as the Director of Elections. Assistant Director Bassett, stated, ” She thanked the Board and accepted the position, with some terms that the county must agree upon.”

Assistant Director Bassett was asked if should the position for an Assistant Director position be posted internally or publicly and the length of time it should be posted. Secretary Harvey made a motion to post the Assistant Director position both public and until filled, and Board Member Scott seconded the motion.

Assistant Director Bassett also asked to have the front desk clerical position reinstated as a full-time position. No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

No further business was required. There was no objection to adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 11:13 a.m. The next board meeting will be scheduled for May 8, 2023, at 9:30 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted:

Rose Harvey, Board Secretary