

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

September 11, 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 September 11, 2023.

PERSONS ATTENDING THE MEETING AND ROLL CALL:

Those present were: Chairman Tommy Allen, Vice Chairman Glenda King, Secretary Rose Harvey, Board Member Ruth Brown, Board Member Bernard Scott, Assistant Director Krystle McDonald, and Deputy Registrar Dezita Thompson. Also in attendance was: Democratic Party Chairman Tony Chiariello. Absent was: Director Laura Bassett.

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Allen called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M. Vice President King led the Invocation and the Pledge was recited. The meeting was properly advertised.

AGENDA APPROVAL:

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

MINUTES APPROVAL:

The Minutes from the August 14, 2023, Board Meeting were presented. Chairman Allen requested the minutes be updated to show the Invocation was led by Board Member Scott. Board Member Brown made a motion to approve the Minutes. Board Member Scott seconded the motion. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Polling Place Change – Old Marlow Elementary to Zion

On August 24th, we received signed paperwork back from Zion Lutheran Church, confirming their location to be used as a polling place once again, beginning with the Presidential Preference Primary election in March 2024. As we get closer to that election date, we will advertise the change, notify electors impacted with new precinct cards, as well as post required signage.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Office Activities

- On August 16th, we received a check in the amount of \$16,163.47 for reimbursement from the State for postage for precinct cards from 2022.
- The first batch of precinct cards since our February 2023 implementation of the new GARViS system arrived on August 24th. Our office applied postage, and mailed them out on August 25th.
- Our office received 44 new poll pad cases and 44 new poll pad stands on August 25th.
- As previously mentioned, poll worker training dates have been set with five September dates. We were aiming at having eighty poll workers to attend training, and as of today we have 86 confirmed for training. The first class starts at 9:00 AM on Tuesday, September 19th.

- Batteries have begun being charged in preparation for the upcoming Logic & Accuracy testing that will occur in October.
- We have not heard any update with when to expect DHS to perform their physical site assessment of our office. We also have not heard any update regarding the Secretary of State's office to perform their inspection of our election equipment security.
- August 21st marked the beginning of the Absentee Request Period for the November 7th election. As of today, we have received 9 applications. The Absentee Request Period runs through October 27th, and ballots will begin being mailed out on October 16th.
- Assistant Director McDonald attended Security Awareness Training in Savannah on August 29th. This was originally scheduled to be an all-day training event, but was shortened to a half day due to Hurricane / Tropical Storm Idalia approaching. Courses covered were Insider Threat Mitigation and the Terrorist Attack Cycle. This training information will be shared with the rest of the office staff once Director Bassett returns. The remaining topics not covered were announced to be rescheduled at a later date that is yet to be determined. Those topics are De-escalation, Power of Hello, Active Shooter Planning, and Active Shooter Training.

B. November 7th Panel Appointments

Superior Court Chief Judge Peed has appointed Vice President King and Secretary Harvey to the Duplication Panel and the Vote Review Panel together with Director Bassett for the November 7th election.

BOARD OR STAFF CONCERNS:

Chairman Allen inquired if our office had received any update on the TSPLOST IGA. Assistant Director McDonald shared that we had not received the signed contract back in our office yet for our signatures.

Secretary Harvey brought up the discussion as to whether or not a process should be in place for alternates to also be appointed for the Duplication Panel and the Vote Review Panel, in case of emergencies.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Democratic Party Chairman Tony Chiariello commented on his upcoming transmission to Chatham County. He is reaching out to the State to clarify the process to follow, the timeline, and what announcements will need to be made regarding him leaving Effingham County. He also stated he would be staying on as a consultant if he was deemed able to.

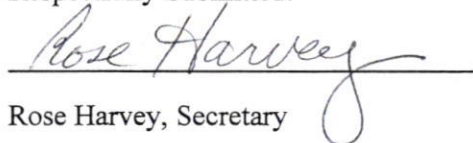
EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

The next board meeting was originally scheduled for Monday, October 9th. County offices will be closed that day, due to the Columbus Day holiday. As a result, it was decided for the next meeting to occur on Thursday, October 12th instead. There was no objection to adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 9:48 a.m. The next board meeting will be scheduled for October 12th, 2023 at 9:30 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted:


 Rose Harvey, Secretary