



PICKENS COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS & REGISTRATION

May 2nd, 2023

Board of Elections & Registration Chair Jacque Elwarner called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

I. ATTENDANCE

Board:

Jacque Elwarner
Mike Carver Via Phone
Rebecca Cantrell
Larry Brown
Terry Franzen

County Staff in attendance:

Stacey Godfrey- Supervisor
Phil Landrum- Attorney

Others in attendance:

Mari Livsey- KnowPickens
Al Cantrell

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Rebecca Cantrell led the pledge of allegiance.

III. AGENDA

A motion was made by Larry Brown, seconded by Terry Franzen to approve the proposed agenda. Members Mike Carver, Terry Franzen, Rebecca Cantrell, & Larry Brown voted 4 (Yes), to 0 (No) to approve the agenda. The vote was unanimous.

IV. MINUTES

A motion was made by Larry Brown, seconded by Mike Carver, to adopt the minutes from the February March 7th, 2023, Regular Meeting and the April 25th, 2023 Special Called Meeting. Members Mike Carver, Rebecca Cantrell, Terry Franzen, & Larry Brown voted 4 (Yes), to 0 (No) to approve the minutes. The vote was unanimous.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Pickens/ Dawson Joint Resolution

Attorney Phil Landrum discussed the reason that Pickens County and Dawson originally started discussion about a joint resolution was because Big Canoe rest partly in Pickens County and partly in Dawson County. The mailbox is on the Pickens County side and all the addresses have a Jasper or Big Canoe address with a Jasper zip code. For both counties to be uniformed in what they tell voters legal counsel decided the best thing would be to draft a joint resolution between both counties.

A motion was made by Mike Carver to send this new draft of the resolution to Dawson County for their review, seconded by Becky Cantrell. Members Mike Carver, Rebecca Cantrell, Larry Brown, and Terry Franzen voted 4 (Yes), to 0 (No) to send the revised resolution to Dawson County for approval. The vote was unanimous.

B. July 19th, 2022, Board Vote to Have Counsel Write An Order To Unseal the May 24th, 2022 Primary Ballots

Chair Jacque Elwarner said this original vote was from July of 2022 before she was chair. She said technically this vote is still standing but the judges ruling during the court case addressed this issue.

Larry Brown said once the general election took place that the parties originally requesting this backed off.

A motion was made by Larry Brown, seconded by Becky Cantrell to rescind the July 20, 2022, directive to the County Attorney requiring him to “file an order” to unseal the May, 2022 primary ballots. Motion carried 3-1 with Terry Franzen, Larry Brown, and Becky Cantrell voting in favor of the motion and Mike Carver voting against the motion.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Easy Vote Software

Supervisor Stacey Godfrey provided the board with a quote from Easy Vote. She said that the staff has been using Easy Vote since September 2021 for check-in and absentees. After attending training and seeing some of the other modules that Easy Vote offers Ms. Godfrey said this could be beneficial in streamlining some of the tasks for the office. She asked the board to look over the information and let her know any questions they might have on these modules before they take a vote on adding the additional modules.

VII. STAFF COMMENTS

Supervisor Godfrey discussed the progress with the new GARVIS voter registration system.

Staff attended regional training in Bartow County in April.

Ms. Godfrey will be taking her first two classes for her CERA certification next month. She said this year her and her staff are focusing on getting all the training possible during this time without an election to be better prepared for next year.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

NONE

IX. BOARD COMMENTS

Mike Carver thanked the staff for always doing such a good job.

X. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Larry Brown, seconded by Mike Carver to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm.

DISCLAIMER: These minutes are a draft and have not been approved by the Pickens County Board of Elections & Registration yet.