



## **PICKENS COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS & REGISTRATION**

June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022

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

### **I. ATTENDANCE**

Board:

Joe Walker  
Mike Carver  
Rebecca Cantrell  
Barbara Ledom-Balducci  
Larry Brown

County Staff in attendance:

Stacey Godfrey- Supervisor  
Rhonda Waggoner- Assistant

Others in attendance:

Mari Livsey- KnowPickens  
David Oles  
Chris Mora  
Kim Bunker  
Lucy Hoffman  
Gary Norman  
Christina Joiner  
A host of other Pickens County Residents

### **II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pickens County Board of Elections led the pledge of allegiance.

### **III. MINUTES**

A motion was made by Mike Carver, seconded by Larry Brown, to adopt the minutes from the May 3<sup>rd</sup> Regular Scheduled Meeting, May 17<sup>th</sup> Special Called Meeting, and the May 27<sup>th</sup> Special Called Meeting. Members Mike Carver, Barbara Ledom-Balducci, Rebecca Cantrell, & Larry Brown voted 4 (Yes), to 0 (No) to approve the minutes, the vote was unanimous.

#### **IV. AGENDA**

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

#### **V. OLD BUSINESS**

##### **A. New Legislation Outreach**

A motion was made by Mike Carver, seconded by Larry Brown to table this discussion until after the Runoff Election was Certified. Members Mike Carver, Barbara Ledom-Balducci, Rebecca Cantrell, & Larry Brown voted 4 (Yes), to 0 (No) to table this item. The vote was unanimous

##### **B. Pickens/ Dawson Joint Resolution**

Supervisor Stacey Godfrey stated that she had reached out to Glenda Ferguson the Supervisor for Dawson County Elections about the joint resolution. She said Dawson's attorney had suggested edits to County Attorney Phil Landrum. At the time of the meeting, we had not been able to discuss with Mr. Landrum the edits and if a revised copy is completed.

#### **VI. NEW BUSINESS**

##### **A. Resignation of Board Member Barbara Ledom-Balducci**

Board Member Barbara Ledom-Balducci said she felt honored to have served the time she did on the Pickens County Board of Election and Registration. She thanked the staff for their outstanding support and hard work. Mrs. Ledom-Balducci thanked the Chairman past and present that she had worked with as well as the board members for working in a non-partisan way for the voters in Pickens County. She stated she hoped she could take what she has learned from being a board member in Pickens and hopefully assist Fulton County, where she is moving, in some capacity.

##### **B. Purchasing of Additional Poll Pads**

Supervisor Stacey Godfrey informed the board that the office has just enough poll pads to assign two to each precinct. If one were to malfunction the office has no backups to send out to replace the one which is not working correctly. She included the quote from Knowink the company that contracts with the State of Georgia for election poll pads. For two backup poll pads, five replacement trays, and five chargers, the quote was \$3,197.50. Ms. Godfrey asked the board to put to a vote the purchase of the backup poll pads and supplies.

A motion was made by Mike Carver, seconded by Rebecca Cantrell to purchase the backup poll pads and supplies. Members Mike Carver, Barbara Ledom-Balducci, Rebecca Cantrell, and Larry Brown voted 4 (Yes), to 0 (No) to approve the purchase. The vote was unanimous.

##### **C. July Regular Meeting Date Change**

Supervisor Stacey Godfrey stated the July meeting was originally scheduled for July 5<sup>th</sup>. In talks with several board members and staff several will be traveling for the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday and be

unable to attend. She proposed the board move the regular meeting to a later date in July so that all or most may attend.

A motion was made by Rebecca Cantrell, seconded by Mike Carver to move the regular meeting from July 5<sup>th</sup> to July 19<sup>th</sup>. Members Mike Carver, Barbara Ledom-Balducci, Rebecca Cantrell, and Larry Brown voted 4 (Yes), to 0 (No) to move the July meeting. The vote was unanimous.

## **VII. STAFF COMMENTS**

Supervisor Stacey Godfrey notified the board that she had been speaking with Terry Franzen and sending her copies of minutes and policies from the previous meetings to get her up to speed. The staff has started conduction L&A Testing and will continue until the process is complete. She reminded the board that Early-Voting would begin next week and announced the dates and times. Ms. Godfrey said the absentee ballots would be going in the mail by the end of this week. The new office has most of the framing completed and they are hoping for the move-in date will be moved up.

## **VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Gary Norman asked the board to allow a public discussion about a paper audit for the races of Governor and Secretary of State for the May 24<sup>th</sup> Primary Election. Mr. Norman addressed his concerns with QR Code on the ballot and if it scanned and read what the voter selected.

David Oles spoke about his concerns with the integrity of the Dominion Voting System. He says he comes to this board to safeguard our elections. Mr. Oles encouraged the board to make an inquiry to the legality of conducting a hand count.

Resident Kim Bunker stated that Dekalb County has already went through the process of a hand count so the legality should not be an issue.

Mary Jane Reager asked that we use the Runoff Election as an opportunity to test the voting system totals.

Lucy Hoffman said she and her husband were poll watchers in the Primary Election. She stated France does not use voting machines and we should not use them either. Mrs. Hoffman said she wants every citizen to have a legal vote. She said she appreciates the board letting them have a voice.

Chris Mora stated he talked to the state party today regarding the legality. He stated that under the terms of the privacy act you cannot look at a ballot and tell those to whom it belongs. Mr. Mora said in certain cases this has been allowed to count the totals and in some cases it has not.

Mike Rolsten was a poll watcher for the Primary Election, he said voters came in voted, recorded their vote, scanned their ballot, and it all tabulated fine. He then asked if there was a way to use the runoff to set a precedence and not use the required voting machines.

Peter Hoffmann spoke and said he was not entirely sure that the QR code was the problem, in his opinion not enough experimentation has been done to determine that as the issue. At the end of the day count the ballots and compare the end of the day voting total and it should add up.

**IX. BOARD COMMENTS**

Chairman Joe Walker thanked the public for being at the meeting and bringing their concerns to the attention of the board.

The board thanked the poll workers, poll watchers, and staff who worked the election and recognized that it would not be possible without all involved.

Barbara Ledom-Balducci said she would like to thank the public for being respectful and allowing the discussion to proceed without name calling.

**X. ADJOURN**

Motion made by Larry Brown, seconded by Mike Carver, to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. Members Mike Carver, Barbara Ledom-Balducci, Rebecca Cantrell, & Larry Brown voted unanimously 4 (Yes), to 0 (No) to adjourn the meeting.