

State of Georgia

County of Henry

The Henry County Board of Elections and Registration held a Regular Public Meeting at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 6th, 2019, in the Conference Room, of the Elections and Registrations Building, 40 Atlanta Street, McDonough, Georgia. Notice of this meeting was posted in the entrance foyer of the Elections and Registration Building. The Daily Herald was notified of this meeting. Those present were:

Donna McBride, Vice Chair and Democratic Party Appointee

Andy Callaway, Republican Party Appointee

Mildred Schmelz, Democratic Party Appointee

Arch Brown, Board of Commissioners Appointed

Also attending was: Grayson Davis and Terrika Davis.

I. Call to Order

Vice Chair McBride called the meeting to order.

II. Acceptance of the Agenda

Vice Chair McBride called for the acceptance of the agenda. Board Member Callaway made the motion to accept the agenda; Board Member Brown seconded. The motion carried 3-0-0.

III. Approval of the October minutes

Vice Chair McBride called for the acceptance of the October minutes. Board Member Brown made the motion to accept the minutes; Board Member Callaway seconded. The motion carried 3-0-0.

IV. Old Business

- A. Board Member Schmelz rejoined the meeting. Vice Chair McBride stated she and Chair Richardson met with Commissioner Holmes after the last Board Meeting. She stated that Commissioner Holmes listened to what they had to say about the possibility to buy or rent new office space. Moving into a modular unit is still on the table. Board Member Brown asked if there was a deadline in which the move will happen. Vice Chair McBride stated that no deadline has been acquired at the moment. The Board Members discussed the spacing issue and concluded that Director Lunsford needs to set a deadline for the move.
- B. Grayson stated that the office reached out to the County Manager, but she has been out of the office. We are currently waiting on the job description and the next steps. Vice Chair McBride asked if there was a projected date for the interns to begin, Grayson stated that at the moment there is no projected start date.

V. New Business

- A. Vice Chair McBride stated that she visited some of the precincts during the November 5th Election and she said they seem successful. She mentioned that the poll workers at the new locations loved them. She also mentioned that she received complaints about having to vote in two locations for both the city and county elections. She also mentioned that the Stockbridge Municipal precinct did not close until late that night due to high volume of voters which cause the results of the election to be posted late.

- B. Vice Chair McBride mentioned that Chair Richardson had a chance to go to the City of Stockbridge meeting about the relocation to Merle Manders and that will take place moving forward for City and County Elections. Board Member Schmelz commended the Stockbridge City Council for making the location change to Merle Manders.
- C. Vice Chair McBride asked for a vote on the 2020 meeting schedule. Board Member Schmelz made the motion to accept the schedule; Board Member Callaway seconded. The motion carried 4-0-0.
- D. Vice Chair McBride deferred to Grayson on the voting education and new equipment. Grayson stated that we will not be getting the poll pads until the delivery of the new equipment. He also stated that the delivery will not occur until the old voting equipment has been picked up. He said this will not happen until the completion of the itemized spreadsheet which is currently being worked on.

Grayson stated that during early voting the new voting equipment was displayed for those who were interested in learning about the new equipment. He stated that the goal is to host classes and invite voters to come to the office and test out the new equipment. Board Member Schmelz suggested going to senior centers and doing demonstrations on the new equipment. She also suggested that Director Lunsford and Diane Reed working out the logistics. Vice Chair McBride mentioned that she has been working with Director Lunsford to get into the community to demonstrate the new equipment and to send out information to the surrounding counties to let them see demonstrations as well.

VI. Supervisor Report

- A. Grayson stated that following the certification of the November 5th election, training on the new voting equipment can take place for Board Members. He stated that the staff and Board Members will be able to go out into the community and do demonstrations of the voting equipment.

- B. Grayson stated that the office is currently building a spreadsheet of the old voting equipment and stated that before the new voting equipment can be delivered, the old voting equipment has to be picked up.
- C. Grayson stated that three Board Members will be attending the conference in December; Chair Richardson, Vice Chair McBride, and Board Member Schmelz, and six office staff will be attending.

VII. Public Comments

Harold Thibodeaux, a Henry County Citizen, said he is concerned about the current building that the Elections Department is in and is concerned as to why the Elections Department does not have an adequate office building.

Mildred Reed, a Henry County Poll Worker, spoke on negative comments from the voters being upset about having to go to two polling locations. She also spoke about concerns of getting the word out more about when elections are.

Darlene Kelley, a Henry County Citizen, said she was concerned about the communication regarding the voting location changes.

VIII. Board Members closing remarks

The Board Members made their closing remarks.

IX. Chairman closing remarks

Vice Chair McBride made her closing remarks.

X. Announcement – Next board meeting on December 4th, 2019

Vice Chair McBride announced the date, time, and location of the next meeting.

XI. Adjournment

Board Member Callaway made the motion to adjourn; Board Member Schmelz seconded. The motion carried 4-0-0.