

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, July 12, 2017 in the Conference Room, of the Elections and Registration 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:

Andy Callaway, Chairman and Republican Party Appointee
Arch Brown, Vice-Chairman and Board of Commissioners Appointee
Mildred Schmelz, Democratic Party Appointee
Jon Kirkpatrick, Democratic Party Appointee

Also attending was: Tina Lunsford, Elections and Registration Supervisor, Brook Schreiner, Grayson Davis, and Pete Peterson, Republican Party Chairman.

Call to Order:

Chairman Callaway called the meeting to order.

Acceptance of the Agenda

Chairman Callaway called for an acceptance of the Agenda. Board Member Kirkpatrick made the motion to accept the agenda; Board Member Brown seconded. The motion carried 4-0-0.

Approval of June minutes

Chairman Callaway called for acceptance of June minutes. Board member Schmelz made the motion to approve the minutes; Board Member Brown seconded. The motion carried 4-0-0.

Chairman Callaway introduced Pete Peterson, Republican Party Chair as a guest of the meeting and welcomed new Democratic Party appointee board member Kirkpatrick.

Vote and install new Chair

Chairman Callaway stated that it is time for the BOC appointee be the chairman of the board. That would be Board Member Brown since he is still the BOC appointee till the BOC committee votes on their appointee. Chairman Callaway asked for a motion to approve Board Member Brown as the new Chairman. No motion was made. Board Member Schmelz stated she did not know what the BOC's intentions are as for an appointee. Chairman Callaway said that Board Member Brown is still a member in good standings. Counsel from the County Attorney says that Board Member Brown will continue as the BOC appointee till the BOC made their vote and calls for a vote to continue with the By-laws and nominate Board Member Brown as the new Chairman. Board Member Brown stated that the By-laws do state that a Board Member needed a couple years of experience to become Chairperson. If the BOC committee decides to go with a new appointee they will be ineligible to be chairperson. If they BOC went with another appointee that would mean the Vice Chair would move up or choose someone else with experience. Chairman Callaway calls for the motion to vote for Board Member Brown to be Chair till the BOC votes on appointee. Board Member Kirkpatrick seconds the motion. The motion has declined 1-0-3. Chairman Callaway vote in favor. Board Member Brown motioned that Chairman Callaway stay as Chairman till the BOC appoints someone. Board Member Kirkpatrick second the motion. Motion carried 3-0-1. Board Member Schmelz abstaining her vote.

Board selection of Vice- Chair

Board Member Brown nominated Board Member Schmelz to be Chairperson. Board Member Kirkpatrick second the nomination. The motion carried 3-0-1 with Board Member Schmelz abstaining her vote.

Update Board on GIS training

Tina stated that she and Greyson attended the week of June 26th the GIS training in Athens. With preparation of redistricting and city elections coming up. This will help us look at polling places to make sure voters are assigned to their correct polling place and they are not over populated and to make the maps the public sees to where their lines are. With this program our office has the capability to look at the demographics of voters of the polling place and help our office to help nonvoters get registered or educate the younger voters and get the voters more proactive. Board member Kirkpatrick had a question if the software made changes

to a voter and their lines. Tina stated that it gives the office the info on an address so we can make the changes to the state system to put the voters in their correct polling place. The system uses Google earth and live info so it stays up to date vs once a year like other software other agencies in the county uses.

Board Member Callaway questioned the cost effectiveness of the software vs the contracted services we had previous. Tina stated that Linda Meggers and Ron had retired and that this will be cost effective due to not having to pay them hourly and all work is done in house. Board Member Schmelz asked if the info could be shared with the parties if they asked for it. Some of the information will be shared with the public through a portal link on our webpage and that any citizen can get any information that the state will allow.

Board Member Callaway questioned the security of the program and if anyone can access the computer. Tina stated it will only be for office staff only and that it will be on select staff computers. No citizen will be able to get on to the computer and have access to software and will be advised to use the web link for the information needed. The name of the software is ESRI.

Update on Polling Place Changes

Tina stated that today is the first day of advertising for the changes and it will run this weekend, next Wednesday and the following Saturday. Before changes are made the office will have to wait for the two weeks of advertising. WSBTV called and wanted to confirm the reasons of moving the polling places and will do a morning story on it.

Board Member Callaway questioned if the polling place changes important with any complaints that came. Tina said that it just came about since 2012 with the primaries always landing on the last part of school and the schools having Field day and awards day and it was causing confusion on the voters being moved every election from a class room to a gym.

Update Board on Status of Municipal Elections

Tina stated that our office is on target for the upcoming Municipal Election. There was 158 street segments that needed to be fixed with putting voters in the correct precinct with new construction and subdivisions developing. The City Clerks are going to come in before qualifying for training. Tina also stated there has been no word on who is coming out to qualify.

Open Discussion

There were no Open Discussions.

Public Comment

Mr. Peterson thanked the board for allowing him to come sit in on the meeting and the information and understanding on the precinct changes. He then thanked the board and office members for what they do to keep the department going like it does.

Adjournment

Board Member Kirkpatric made motion to adjourn; Board Member Brown seconded. The motion carried 4-0-0.