

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, May 3, 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
Marie Thomas, Democratic Party Appointee
Debbie Moon, Republican Party Appointee

Also attending was: Tina Lunsford, Elections and Registration Supervisor, Jon Kirkpatrick, Shay Mathis and Grayson Davis.

Call to Order

Chairman Callaway called the meeting to order and stated there was someone from the public in attendance and asked him to introduce himself. The gentleman stated his name was Jon Kirkpatrick. Board Member Schmelz commented that Mr. Kirkpatrick has been chosen by the Democratic Party to replace Board Member Thomas, who has tendered her resignation, on the Board of Elections.

Acceptance of the Agenda

Chairman Callaway called for an acceptance of the Agenda. Board Member Moon made the motion to accept the agenda; Board Member Thomas seconded. The motion carried 5-0-0.

Approval of April minutes

Board Member Brown asked that the April minutes be amended to reflect that he didn't vote on the first two items on the agenda because he was late getting to the meeting, so the vote should reflect 3-0-0. Board Member Schmelz made the motion to approve the minutes as amended; Board Member Brown seconded. The motion carried 5-0-0.

Board vote on polling place changes and early voting locations

Tina stated at the last meeting the proposed precinct changes were discussed. The Board was to review the changes and ask any questions during this time. There was one change, right before the meeting regarding precinct 27- Sandyridge, where it was going to be moved from the school to the church, the church called and they do not want the church as a precinct. So, at this time there will not be a change to that precinct. Precinct 52-Lake Dow, an alternate church has been secured, Bethany Baptist Church on North Bethany Road.

Board Member Moon asked if there weren't any others that could be combined. Tina stated the problem is the ones that were being considered for consolidation there wasn't a facility large enough to accommodate them. The idea was to combine Austin Rd. and Ellenwood. The Code says that if a voter is in line one hour after the close of the polls, you have to split the precinct. So we didn't want to combine them and then have to turn right around and split them again.

Tina commented that Henry County is very rural in parts, so finding churches with adequate parking, large facilities and not located within dangerous curves has been an issue.

The Austin Rd. precinct will be moved from the school (Austin Road Elementary) to the Fairview Community Center, which is also the location for early voting for that area of the county.

With the limited time, staff was trying to have everything in place before qualifying starts in August. So a list of the precincts that received the most complaints were addressed.

Chairman Callaway asked Tina if she recommended these changes and if she had any reservations. Tina responded that she has no reservations on the changes.

Polling Place change recommendations

25- Locust Grove (*Locust Grove elementary school*) 95 Martin Luther King, Jr Blvd

Issues/complaints: *Complaints on parking and long walk through school. Elderly voter fell during the May primary election.*

Solution: *Change location to Locust Grove library which is the current location for early voting and the city polling place. Less than ½ mile from Locust Grove elementary school.*

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~~**27- Rock Spring** (Rock Spring elementary school) 1550 Stroud Rd., McDonough~~

~~**Issues/complaints:** Very busy elementary school. Location is down a narrow road and is not visible. Lack of convenient parking and voting takes place in a noisy environment.~~

~~**Solution:** Change location to Eastside Baptist Church 1070 Keys Ferry Rd. New location is 2.2 miles from school. — THE CHURCH CHANGED THEIR MINDS AND DOESN'T WANT THEIR FACILITY AS A PRECINCT.~~

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31- North Hampton (Hampton elementary school) 10 Central Avenue

Issues/complaints: Voter confusion with locked front door-- voting is in the gym with its own entrance but it is not visible from road. Long walk.

Solution: Change location to Calvary Baptist church, 109 Oak St. New location is 1.1 miles from school.

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34- Wesley Lakes (Wesley Lakes elementary school) 685 McDonough Pkwy, McDonough

Issues/complaints: Voting takes place in back of school and voters have to walk through the school. Difficult to manage sign placement.

Solution: Change location to New Covenant Church of God 154 Jonesboro Rd., McDonough. New location is .7 miles from school.

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36- McMullen (Ola elementary school) 278 North Ola Rd., McDonough

Issues/complaints: Lack of convenient parking. Also past 2 elections custodian arrived late to open school for poll workers.

Solution: Change location to Sharon Baptist Church 536 North Ola Rd. Distance is .6 miles from school.

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39- Stockbridge East (Smith Barnes Elementary School) 147 Tye St., Stockbridge

Solution: Combine with Stockbridge West and remain at this location. On Election Day voter turnout is consistently low (less than 400 in November).

Stockbridge West polling place typical voter turnout for November elections is under 750 voters.

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44 -Austin Rd. (*Austin Road elementary school*) 50 Austin Rd., Stockbridge

Issues/complaints: *Parking, constant changes in where voting takes place in school and voter confusion as to which is the correct polling place with Ellenwood precinct being so close.*

Solution: *Change location to Fairview community center which is also the new location for early voting for that area of the county.*

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52-Lake Dow (*McDonough Baptist Tabernacle*)

Issues/complaints: *The church no longer wants to be a precinct due to issues with their school.*

Solution: *Change location to Bethany Baptist Church.*

Board Member Schmelz asked when citizens would be notified of the changes. That's a big concern that the voters are aware of the changes. Once the Board votes, it will be advertised for two consecutive weeks in the Legal Organ. Tina would also like to run the advertisement again next year right before voting. It will be on the County website and the citizens will be issued a precinct card. And also possibly putting it on the County website. The Board of Commissioners are considering allowing departments to have Facebook pages for informational purposes only. If that's approved we will also post the changes there. Signs will also be posted at the previous precinct and the new precinct.

Board Member Brown suggested sending the changes to the Board of Commissioners so that it could be read into the minutes of their meeting(s).

Board Member Brown made the motion to approve the changes as recommended by the Director; Board Member Moon seconded. The motion carried 5-0-0.

Update on FY 2018 department budget

Tina stated at the last meeting it was stated that the County was asking departments to reduce their budgets by 5%. Unfortunately we weren't able to meet the 5% target. We were able to reduce the budget by 2.9%. The **Proposed FY 2018 Budget** is what was adopted by the Board of Commissioners.

1080-ELECTIONS		ADOPTED	ACTUALS	PROPOSED	REQUESTED
		FY 2017	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2018
		BUDGET	REV/EXP	BUDGET	BUDGET
REVENUE					
341-19-10	QUALIFYING FEES	-	8,788	38,000	33,000
373-40-00	ELECTIONS REIMB	-	-	22,500	22,500
TOTAL REVENUE		-	8,788	60,500	55,500
10-SALARIES & BENEFITS					
100-1080-514.10-11	REGULAR EMPLOYEES	365,462	199,007	364,734	365,910
100-1080-514.10-13	OVERTIME	22,000	16,832	22,000	22,000
100-1080-514.10-21	GROUP INSURANCE	73,881	45,626	77,452	77,456
100-1080-514.10-22	SOCIAL SECURITY(FICA)	24,034	12,855	23,988	24,061
100-1080-514.10-23	MEDICARE	5,621	3,007	5,611	5,629
100-1080-514.10-24	RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTIONS	28,907	16,400	29,115	29,219
100-1080-514.10-26	UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	-	-	-	-
100-1080-514.10-27	WORKER'S COMPENSATION	1,851	1,314	2,478	2,486
Subtotal 10-SALARIES & BENEFITS		521,756	295,041	525,378	526,761
20-CONTRACTED SERVICES					
100-1080-514.20-11	OFFICE/ADMINISTRATIVE	20,000	19,650	20,000	22,000
100-1080-514.20-13	TECHNICAL	2,500	962	2,500	3,000
100-1080-514.20-14	MEDICAL SERVICES	300	5	150	300
100-1080-514.20-21	CLEANING SERVICES	-	-	-	-
100-1080-514.20-22	DISPOSAL	880	441	880	1,700
100-1080-514.20-26	REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
100-1080-514.20-28	RENTAL OF LAND & BLDGS	6,600	9,750	59,000	59,000
100-1080-514.20-29	RENTAL OF EQUIP & VEHICLE	8,500	3,793	11,000	11,000
100-1080-514.20-32	COMMUNICATIONS	40,000	26,128	40,000	55,000
100-1080-514.20-33	ADVERTISING	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
100-1080-514.20-34	PRINTING AND BINDING	40,000	14,259	40,000	40,000
100-1080-514.20-35	TRAVEL	6,000	140	6,000	10,000
100-1080-514.20-36	DUES AND FEES	12,000	42	12,000	12,000
100-1080-514.20-37	EDUCATION AND TRAINING	3,000	-	3,000	5,000
Subtotal 20-CONTRACTED SERVICES		154,780	90,170	209,530	234,000
30-MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES					
100-1080-514.30-11	GEN SUPPLIES AND MATERIAL	13,000	4,639	13,000	16,000
100-1080-514.30-13	FOOD	1,000	1,069	1,000	1,000
100-1080-514.30-16	SMALL EQUIPMENT	40,950	37,683	40,950	64,233
100-1080-514.30-18	MAINTENANCE SUPPLIES	-	-	-	-
100-1080-514.30-26	TIRES,BATTERIES, & PARTS	3,000	210	3,000	3,000
100-1080-514.30-27	GAS/OIL	2,500	320	2,500	2,500
100-1080-514.30-31	WATER	5,000	560	5,000	5,000
100-1080-514.30-32	GAS	3,000	389	3,000	4,000
100-1080-514.30-33	ELECTRICITY	25,000	6,547	25,000	26,000
100-1080-514.40-25	EQUIPMENT	-	-	-	-
Subtotal 30-MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES		93,450	51,417	93,450	121,733
Subtotal 1080-ELECTIONS		769,986	436,628	828,358	882,494
1080-ELECTIONS TEMPS					
100-1080-516-10-11	REGULAR EMPLOYEES	250,000	179,829	150,000	150,000
100-1080-516-10-13	OVERTIME	5,000	8,134	2,500	5,000
100-1080-516-10-22	SOCIAL SECURITY (FICA)	15,932	11,646	9,528	9,528
100-1080-516-10-23	MEDICARE	3,726	2,725	2,212	2,212
100-1080-516-10-26	UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE	-	-	-	-
100-1080-516-10-27	WORKERS COMPENSATION	1,811	24	1,090	1,090
Subtotal 10-SALARIES & BENEFITS		276,469	202,358	165,330	167,830
1080 - TOTAL EXPENSES		1,046,455	638,986	993,688	1,050,324

Tina stated there will be flexibility in the line items, the only thing that can't be touched is salaries.

Tina furnished the Board Members with a copy of requested budgets from other counties similar in size to Henry County for their review.

Used TSX Units Purchasing Opportunity

Tina stated last month she was directed to see what accounts had remaining funds. She was able to secure \$25,000 and the County approved the purchase of the voting equipment. The purchasing deadline is May 17th so if we don't have the purchase in place by then it will have to be purchased in the Fiscal Year 2018 budget. There are 48 units set aside for Henry County. San Diego County expects to have everything finalized by the first of June.

Chairman Callaway asked how this will affect our total voting capacity as far as machines. Tina stated it will help a lot. We will have to purchase new carts because we cannot store the TSX Units on the existing carts. We will also have to pay for the licensing software on each unit. The cost per unit, with all the additional cost is approximately \$536.

Arc/GIS software purchase for in department mapping

Tina stated that Linda Megers, our part-time mapping clerk is officially retiring. She does a wonderful job with our maps. Redistricting is right around the corner and she did so much to help us. We didn't have any complaints, challenges or issues after the redistricting after the Census and that was impart thanks to her.

We will have to replace her somehow. We can't afford to hire someone at the salary given. We will be purchasing the software that is used by the County and the State which is Arc. We are awaiting a quote for the purchase. Staff will be trained on the software. We should be up to speed and ready to go after the next Census.

Board Member Schmelz confirmed the cost is: \$8,000 upfront to purchase the software, plus the \$1,600 for training. Tina stated that everything will be purchased under \$10,000. Linda's salary alone per year was \$14,000 and Rob (with the State Elections) in an Election year is paid close to \$9,000. There will be a savings.

Open discussion

Board Member Thomas asked if the maps displayed were new. Tina stated that yes, they were displayed at the old building but didn't survive the move.

Board Member Schmelz stated she would like to know a little more about the problems that Fulton County had in their last election. Tina stated Fulton County has a good Elections Office, they are so large. While they had the Congressional Seat up for election, they also had three special elections going on. When that happens you have

to have a dual data base on the server that uploads the results. What happened is one of the memory cards from one of the special elections inadvertently got loaded while they had the congressional data base up and when that happens it gives you an error. They didn't realize it and kept on going and none of the results were being loaded and it caused a delay.

Tina stated that Cobb County had some express polls that were stolen. We have our poll managers to pick theirs up on Monday before an Elections and it is emphasized over and over in training that the express polls are not to leave their supervision. If you park your car in the garage, take the units out of the car and into their home. One of Cobb County's longtime poll managers picked up the express polls and supplies and decided to go to Kroger grocery shopping. They were stolen, the suspect was apprehended but the express polls were not recovered. The reason Cobb County is in trouble is because this happened on a Saturday and the State was not notified until Monday.

Board Member Schmelz asked if they will be fined. Tina responded yes.

Board Member Schmelz asked what is happening with Kennesaw. Tina commented that the State has not renewed the contract with Kennesaw yet. It is supposed to be signed by June 30th. A student that had been helping in the Elections Division was just trying to see how far he could go, what it would take to hack the system. It's not known how much data the person was actually able to retrieve. Kennesaw has information for every registered voter in the State of Georgia. They also have the software that builds the ballots. It was a huge breach. It was all in-house, none of the information left the facility. Kennesaw is supposed to be known for its security and they failed.

Chairman Callaway asked what the consequences were for the person that did this. Tina stated she did not know.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Adjournment

Board Member Thomas made the motion to adjourn; Board Member Schmelz seconded. The motion carried 5-0-0.