

**Sumter County Board of Elections and Voter Registration
Regular Meeting
April 5, 2022, at 4:30 pm**

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dr. Shirley Latimore at 4:30 pm.

II. Roll Call

a) Board Members: Chairman Dr. Shirley Latimore, Vice Chairman Carson Walker, Rhonda Reddick, and Marty McDonald. Dr. Valerie Roberts called-in.

b) County Attorney: Kimberly Reid

c) Staff: Randy Howard, Julia Sims

III. Motion to Adopt the Agenda

Mr. Howard advised that the agenda would include two emails from Attorney Reid. Rhonda Reddick made a motion to amend the agenda to include the two emails.

Rhonda Reddick made a motion to adopt the agenda. Marty McDonald made a second to the motion.

Motion carried.

IV. Approval of the March 1, & 17th 2022 Minutes

Rhonda Reddick made a motion to accept the minutes for March 1 and March 17th, 2022.

Carson Walker seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

V. Challenge to Mathis Wright qualification to be a candidate for the Sumter County Board of Commissioner 4th district

Dr. Latimore stated there were three voters challenging Mathis Wright's qualification to be a candidate for the Sumter County Board of Commissioner 4th District, Phillip Deese, John Shipp, and Jimmy Bolin. After research, it was found that Mr. Deese does not live in the fourth district, which is a requirement for an objection. Based on O.C.G.A. 21-2-6, his objection was ineligible. Mr. Shipp and Mr. Bolin do live in district four, but their objections were received on 03/30/2022 which was after the time allotted to form an objection. Therefore, based on O.C.G.A. 21-2-6, their objections would not be considered as valid.

Rhonda Reddick made a motion to dismiss the objections. Carson Walker seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and all were in favor except Marty McDonald. Therefore, the objections were dismissed.

VI. Policies and Procedures and Human Resources – Ms. Rayetta Volley and Ms. Deatrice Harris

Rayetta Volley stated the Board of Commissioners were in the process of updating the County Handbook and wanted to know if the Board of Elections were considering using part of, or all of their policies and procedures, or were they in the process of adopting their own. Deatrice Harris stated she just wanted to piggyback on what Ms. Volley had said. They stated the Commissioners would be finalizing the handbook during their upcoming retreat and they wanted to know if there was anything they need to add in reference to the Board of Elections at their next Board meeting. The deadline for the Board to review what they are suggesting is June 1. Carson Walker stated they had gotten together at the Conference in March and each of them spoke with other Board member from other location to see what they were doing. Carson stated he found out some offices were adopting their own policies and procedures and using a portion of their Board's policies and procedures and he liked that idea. Dr. Latimore advised them the Board of Election still had not made a final decision but would let them know something soon.

VII. Discuss Redistricting and Garvis

Mr. Howard advised the Board that we have completed the redistricting but have not ordered our precinct cards because Garvis did not work as planned. However, we would be going back to e-net on Wednesday, April 6, and we would be ordering them at that time. Also, we do not have any sample ballots at this time because Garvis did not work, but our Representative at CES would be working on them as soon as we are back on e-net.

VIII. Discuss the May 24, 2022, Primary and TIA

Mr. Howard stated that everything is on track for the May 24 election to be held at GSW. Early voting will be 05/2 – 05/20 with 05/07 and 05/14 being our Saturdays. If we have a run-off, election day will be 06/21 with early voting 05/31 to 06/17 and 06/04 and 06/11 our Saturdays. After this time, we will start looking for an early voting location replacement for GSW. He spoke with Mr. Knighton about the Americus High site and they would get together to discuss the best location on that campus.

IX. Discuss the proposed budget

Mr. Howard stated he and Della Griffin had been working on the budget, but it was not ready yet. He will have more to report next month. Mr. Howard and Dr. Latimore discussed some areas of the budget.

X. Executive Session

We did not have Executive Session.

XI. Emails from Attorney Reid

Attorney Reid advised the Board that House and Senate passed the bill in reference to Compensation for BOER members, the bill has gone to the Governor for his signature. The Board will need to communicate with the County Administrator in reference to an amount for meetings and an amount for elections. The County Administrator would need to discuss this with the Board of Commissioners which could possibly be done during the April meeting.

XII. Board Member Remarks

Marty McDonald began the Board member remarks by thanking Attorney Reid for all her challenging work and expertise. He enjoyed collaborating with her. Rhonda Reddick piggybacked off what Marty said. Dr. Valerie Roberts expressed it was a pleasure to have collaborated with Attorney Reid, and although it was only for a brief period, she enjoyed it. Dr. Shirley Latimore thanked Attorney Reid for all her help and guidance and expressed what a pleasure it was to collaborate with her.

Meeting adjourned at 5:18 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Julia Sims

April 18, 2022