

Dooly County Board of Elections and Registration

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Regular Meeting Minutes January 4, 2024 402 Hawkinsville RD. Vienna, Georgia 31092

The Dooly County Board of Elections and Registration Board meeting was called to order by Chairperson Betty Bryant at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 4, 2024, at 402 Hawkinsville Road, Vienna, GA.

A quorum was met. Attendees present were:

- Betty Bryant
- Gwendolyn Ford
- Earl Clark
- Brenetta Childs, Supervisor
- Jessica Fudge, Secretary

Absent: Wayne Wilkin

Invocation

The invocation commenced with the Board members saying the Lord's Prayer in unison followed by The Pledge of Allegiance in unison.

Agenda Adoption

The Board reviewed the agenda. Upon a motion by Earl Clark and seconded by Gwendolyn Ford to adopt the agenda as amended (addition of #14 Bereavement); agenda was unanimously adopted and approved as amended.

Reorganization

Elections Supervisor Brenetta Childs opened up the floor for nominations of Chairman and Vice-Chairman. The Board members nominated Betty Bryant to be the Chairman of the Board; upon a motion made by Gwendolyn Ford and seconded by Earl Clark, the nomination was unanimously accepted Betty Bryant as Chairman for 2024. The Board members nominated Gwendolyn Ford to be the Vice-Chairman of the Board; upon a motion made by Earl Clark and seconded by Betty Bryant, the nomination was unanimously accepted Gwendolyn Ford as the Vice Chairman for 2024.

Approval of Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes for the December 7, 2023, regular meeting. Upon a motion by Vice-Chairman Gwendolyn Ford and seconded by Earl Clark to approve the minutes for December 7, 2023, the minutes were unanimously approved and adopted as presented.

Budget Report (November 2023/December 2023)

The budget report for November 2023 was briefly discussed. The Board members accepted the budget report for November 2023 as presented. Elections Supervisor Brenetta Childs informed the Board members that the budget report for December 2023 was not ready yet. The Board members tabled the December 2023 budget report until the next regular meeting.

Update/Upcoming 2023 Elections

Assistant Elections Supervisor Jessica Fudge updated the Board members on the January 2, 2024, Municipal Run-off Election. Assistant Election. Supervisor Jessica Fudge informed the Board members of the following:

- Absentee By Mail: 27
- Advance In Person: 146
- Election Day: 158
- For a total of 331 voter for the City of Vienna Municipal Run-Off Election

Assistant Elections Supervisor Jessica Fudge also informed the Board members that the next upcoming election will be the Presidential Preference Primary which will be held on March 12, 2024. Early voting for the Presidential Preference Primary will begin February 19, 2024 through March 8, 2024.

Redistricting for County Update

Elections Supervisor Brenetta Childs informed the Board members that the Elections Office that the redistricting should be completed soon.

Board Members Terms (Lee Harris/Betty Bryant)

Elections Supervisor Brenetta Childs and the Board members briefly discussed the terms for members Lee Harris and Betty Bryant. Elections Supervisor Brenetta Childs informed the Board members that Lee Harris voluntarily resigned as a member of the Dooly County Elections board and Betty Bryant opted to remain on the board for another term.

Additional Lighting

Scotty Mashburn Economics Director will investigate the request for additional lighting for the election office end of the building. As for the grass on the election end of the building, Director Scotty stated due to the type of dirt it would be difficult to grow.

Office Floors

Quotes have been requested for installing new flooring for the Election Office and will be presented to the Board. Elections Supervisor Brenetta Childs will keep the Board briefed of the progress.

Provisional To Review

Assistant Elections Supervisor Jessica Fudge informed the Board members that there were no provisional ballots for the January 2, 2024, Municipal Runoff Municipal Election.

IGA for City of Vienna for 2024-2027

The City of Vienna submitted a renewal of the IGA (Intergovernmental Agreement) with the Board of Elections and Registration and Dooly County Commissioners for review. The Board requested the County Attorney, Bert Gregory, to review prior to their recommendation.

Bereavement Policy

A Bereavement Policy was put into place to include the Election Office, Board of Election members, Poll Workers, and their immediate family. Immediate family includes spouses, children, parents, grandparents, and siblings. Vice-Chairperson Gwendolyn Ford will be the contact person to keep everyone abreast of events for the election team to pull together.

The next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, February 22, 2024 @ 6:00 p.m. at 402 Hawkinsville, Road, Vienna, Georgia.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:46 p.m.