

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, February 3, 2021, held on Zoom. Notice of this meeting was posted in the entrance foyer of the Elections and Registration Building and on the County website. The Daily Herald was notified of this meeting. Those present were:

Donna McBride, Chair and Democratic Party Appointee

Andy Callaway, Vice Chair and Republican Party Appointee

Arch Brown, Board of Commissioners Appointee

Donna Crumbley, Republican Party Appointee

Mildred Schmelz, Democratic Party Appointee

Also in attendance: Director Ameika Pitts, Superintendent Mary Davis, Terrika Davis, Patrick Jaugstetter, Cheri Matthews, Ken Pollock, Brook Schreiner, and Will White.

I. Call to Order

Chair McBride called the meeting to order.

II. Acceptance of the Agenda

Vice Chair Callaway made the motion to accept the agenda with the following amendments: add "CTCL Grant" to 'Old Business". Board Member Crumbley seconded. The motion carried 5-0-0.

III. Acceptance of the January Minutes

- A. Board Member Crumbley accepted the January 13, 2021 minutes, Vice Chair Callaway seconded. The motion carried 5-0-0.

IV. Old Business

- A. Director Pitts stated that staff was unable attack a massive task with all that was going on, so they looked at vendors who could do this, but with the Absentee Supervisor out sick and limited staff present, that was unable to be done. Board Member Schmelz stated that she was concerned with Board Members not being told of these situations. The Board discussed further. Chair McBride asked Director Pitts to put a process in place to be able to inform the Board of such situations.
- B. Chair McBride stated that the Board voted on putting the ESPLOST on the ballot pending that the Board of Education pay for the election since they are on the ballot alone. Board Member Schmelz stated to the Board to look at code 27-2-71 and look at Attorney General Bowers opinion from 1985 for clarification. Attorney Jaugstetter said that the research into this matter has yielded correspondence from 2009 where Board of Education had a standalone referendum and found very little authority that spoke one way or another. Attorney Jaugstetter stated that going further there needs to be dialogue about this issue between Attorney White, Attorney Jaugstetter himself, County Manager Matthews, and Director Pitts. Board Member Schmelz asked if it was possible for the Board of Election and Board of Education to have a memorandum of understanding. Attorney Jaugstetter said yes and felt this was an appropriate way to move forward with elections. The Board discussed further. Chair McBride made the motion that Attorney Jaugstetter, Director Pitts, County Manager Matthews, and Chair McBride herself go into a meeting with the Board of Education to discuss the funding of ESPLOST and have a memorandum of understanding moving forward for any business, Vice Chair Callaway seconded. The motion carried 5-0-0. Board Member Schmelz stated that she wanted it to be understood that no decision would be made out of that meeting on behalf of the Board of Elections. Chair McBride said that it would be brought back to the Board.

C. Board Member Crumbley stated that in the minutes from January, Director Pitts would get \$787,780.41 from the grant and only \$505,399.72 was paid by the grant. She continued asking where Director Pitts got the difference of \$282,000. Director Pitts made the correction that the \$787,780.41 was the total from June to December. She continued stating that Kimberly Monast sent Board Member Crumbley the information that she requested and explained that those were through the dates of August 14- December 11. Chair McBride asked for clarity on how much the CTCL Grant was. Director Pitts stated \$487,793.75, and the amount exceeded was \$505,799.72 that Board Member Crumbley is referring too. Chair McBride asked how the amount was exceeded. Director Pitts said it was to pay temporary staffing from August to December. The Board discussed further. Board Member Crumbley requested a report that isn't redacted of the payroll addendum. Attorney Jaugstetter stated that the County would not release any personal information such as banking information. Board Member Crumbley stated that she wants to the full names.

V. Director Report

A. Director Pitts stated that 89 voters have voted during early voting. She continued stating there were two to request an Absentee Ballot, two ballots mailed out, and zero returned. Director Pitts said that on Election Day 5 BMD's would be sent out along with 1 scanner, and 2 Poll Pads.

VI. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

VII. Board Member Comments

The Board Members made their comments.

VIII. Announcement of next meeting

Chair McBride announced that the next meeting would be March 3, 2021.

IX. Adjournment

Board Member Schmelz made the motion to adjourn the meeting, Vice Chair Callaway also seconded. The motion carried 5-0-0.