

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, June 7, 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

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.

Acceptance of the Agenda

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

Approval of June minutes

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

New KSU Security Protocols

Tina explained the KSU security breach. One of the students there had tried to see how far he could get in the system, and he tripped off alarms on security, so they have mandated new security protocols. We were able to download the absentee file in the past; we are no longer able to do that. Kennesaw would send the actual database to us through UPS. They will now send the CD and we will sign for

it. The CD will have a security code, and we will call Kennesaw and tell them we are in receipt of CD. We will give them the security code and then another person from Kennesaw will call a point of contact in the office and give us another code in order for us to be able to open the database. They will now do that with everything, which means it will take longer for the initial election set-up, but it will ensure that no one can breach security codes. It will now take longer to get database and get the ballot built. On election night they are going to look at new security protocols, but that is still in the planning stage. For big elections they are thinking to have an actual investigator bring us the election materials and we will need to sign for those. Chairman Callaway stated he was all for security and asked if there was any estimate of how much more time it will add to Election Day tabulations. Tina responded that larger counties were doing mock elections and run-off elections and it seems to be adding 2 hours to set-up times. In the past, at the end of the early voting period we would get a bulk upload of all the voters that voted early. We would then duplicate that onto memory cards that are entered into the express polls for Election Day. Now what will happen is Kennesaw will get that file, they will push it to the state server, and we will then log onto our FTP secure site, enter a code, and retrieve Henry County's data, which means all 159 counties will be accessing that server at the same time to get that material. Chairman Callaway asked if Tina could estimate on election night at 7:00pm the time added to actually receive election results. Tina responded hopefully by 7:30 we can start uploading results. Tina stated that with Fulton, Dekalb, and Cobb Counties having elections, and the other counties that are currently having run-off elections that hopefully all the kinks will be worked out. Chairman Callaway asked if this would require additional staff. Tina stated that no additional staff will be needed. Board Member Schmelz asked if the voters would be impacted by the additional time needed to set up election. Tina answered no and that the additional time will be spent on Saturday when setting up express polls for Election Day. She stated that the additional time required would probably require working on Sunday to complete set-up. The problems with that would be if there are corrupt flash cards or if technical support is needed. State technical support could be an issue on Sunday versus Saturday morning. Kennesaw is open for 3 hours on Saturday morning for each county to access the material they need, but we are not sure if they will open on Sunday. The election will occur on Tuesday no matter what. Our first test of this new system will be the main primary election next year. Board Member Brown asked if there were any state conferences upcoming where directors

will be able to have questions answered about what could or could not happen. Tina answered that they will address that in the March conference next year.

Chairman Callaway asked where long-term election history is stored. Tina answered that the state archives are where all the election results are stored. The state gets every piece of paper, but Kennesaw gets electronic stored material. Board Member Schmelz expressed concern about security breach and the hopes that Kennesaw has resolved the security breach issues. Tina explained that is a concern because the information we have stored on voters include driver license numbers, social security numbers, date of birth, address, and other personal information, which is also in the state system, which means the state has access, Kennesaw has access, plus all 159 counties have access to this information statewide.

Discuss new Chairman and Vice Chairman nominations

Board Member Schmelz asked if there was a new committee formed by the commissioners for their nominee. Tina responded that the County Clerk sent her an email last week and stated that the Board of Commissioners had not provided enough names for the committee to form, but that she would keep us apprised of the updates. Board Member Thomas asked how the board selects the members. Tina stated that each board member submits 2-3 names to go on the committee and the actual committee forms and they are the ones to pick one name from each submission and then they vote on their decision. Board Member Brown stated that if the Board of Commissioners did not take any action next month that everyone is to come back and serve until replaced. Chairman Callaway stated that the Republican Party should make an announcement on Friday. Tina stated that each board member appointment is separate and new members will be sworn-in once superior court has recorded it into official county records and from there it is sent to the state who will then send everything to Probate Court. Once Probate Court has information they will contact Tina and she will notify board member to set up appointment to be sworn in.

Update on Polling Place changes

Tina stated that we are on track for making changes. The only issue has been with New Covenant Church of God, which was to be new polling precinct for Wesley Lakes. We are having difficulty getting in contact with the church. They do not answer the phone promptly and both Grayson and Tina have been by in person on several occasions. As the city election will be held in November we are out of

time to make changes, in order to avoid confusion with the voters we will leave things as they stand; Wesley Lakes Elementary School will remain the polling location.

Open Discussion

Board Member Schmelz had a question regarding a young lady being arrested in Georgia and the impact on the election. Chairman Callaway stated that she worked for the NSA as a contractor and leaked information to the media about Russians taking part in our election, and it was his impression that it did not impact us directly; therefore, the question was dismissed.

The board meeting for July has been postponed until July 12 due to July 4th holiday. Tina stated that July 1 board member compensation payment will be 10-14 days late because of fiscal year rollover.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Adjournment

Board Member Schmelz made motion to adjourn; Board Member Thomas seconded. The motion carried 4-0-0.