

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, November 7th, 2018 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:

Mildred Schmelz, Chair and Democratic Party Appointee

Dan Richardson, Vice-Chair and Republican Party Appointee

Jon Kirkpatrick, Democratic Party Appointee (arrived late)

Andy Callaway, Republican Party Appointee

Arch Brown, Board of Commissioners Appointee

Also attending was: Tina Lunsford, Elections and Registration Supervisor, Grayson Davis, Annette Edwards, Eugene Edwards, Christi Hansen.

Call to Order.

Chair Schmelz called the meeting to order.

Acceptance of the Agenda.

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

Approval of the October minutes.

Chair Schmelz called for a motion to accept the October minutes. Vice Chair Richardson made the motion to accept the October minutes; Board Member Callaway seconded. The motion carried 4-0-0.

County Manager and Deputy County Manager – Capital Project Plan.

(Board Member Kirkpatrick arrived at the meeting)

County Manager Hobson-Matthews introduced Deputy County Manager Johnson and herself. The County Manager and Deputy County Manager presented their priorities and plans for the future regarding the Capital Project Plan. These included; available parking, square footage needed for the building, funding and budgeting for a new building, an estimated timeline of three years for completion, using more government buildings for advanced voting, and potential temporary solutions. The temporary solutions included finding a suitable building to enter a short term contract with and/or having the voting units stored at a separate location.

The Board thanked the County Manager and Deputy County Manager for coming and providing the information. The Board stated that there was a lot of valuable information and that they'd have to review it. The Board inquired to the County Manager if the Election Department could be added as a subject to future citizen academies. The County Manager and Deputy County Manager replied that they would like to add Elections as a topic.

Board discussion and vote on November 6, 2018 General Election.

The Board mentioned and discussed issues that they noticed when observing the polling locations on Election Day. These issues included; increasing handicap parking signs, having more assistance for the set up and break down of voting units, the removal of annexation maps after a voter's complaint, two locations having the incorrect units delivered, questions about the voting process, voter access cards not being programmed, usage of backup poll workers, and more signs to denote handicap ramps.

The Board asked the Director if there were any issues with procuring the trucks. The Director stated that the office had reserved four trucks, but only ended up being able to obtain three of them. She stated that the third truck was also delayed in arriving. The Board discussed and decided to draft a letter expressing their concerns with the situation to management. Chair Schmelz stated that she will draft the letter.

Supervisor Report

The Director stated that there was triple turnout compared to the previous midterm election. She also stated that every piece of working equipment was sent out for use and that we still had multiple units fail on Election Day.

The Board Members discussed attending the upcoming legislative session in regards to voting units. They discussed the sense of urgency in needing a new voting system as soon as possible. Chair Schmelz recommended for each Board Member to contact their respective representative in regards to the voting units.

Old Business

Chair Schmelz stated that she talked to the head of the EMS in Henry County in regards to the Business Continuity Plan. She stated he was willing to help and that she will pass along his contact information to Vice Chair Richardson.

Chair Schmelz asked for an update in regards to obtaining pictures of poll workers during training. The Director stated that those poll workers who were approached didn't want to have their pictures taken.

Vice Chair Richardson stated that he had reached out to Storm Water. He stated that he was informed we can use the interactive maps and contact them if we have any questions. Vice Chair Richardson requested a list of the new polling locations in order to begin research.

New Business

The Board discussed about asking the sheriff to provide additional security at the schools for the December Runoff Election. After discussion, the Board decided not to proceed.

Public Comments

Ms. Annette Edwards discussed the voting units.

Announcement – Next board meeting on December 5th, 2018

Chair Schmelz stated that she attended the citizen's academy and encouraged future participation. She also stated that she did a presentation about elections at the Windsong Subdivision.

Chair Schmelz announced the date and location of the next meeting.

Adjournment

Board Member Callaway made motion to adjourn; Vice Chair Richardson seconded. The motion carried 5-0-0.