**Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration**

**Decatur County Elections Office, Courthouse Annex**

**122 W. Water St.**

**Bainbridge, GA 39817**

**March 8, 2022**

**Call To Order**

**Administrative Notes and Announcements**

The regular meeting of the Decatur County Board of Elections and Voter Registration was called to order by Board Chairman Keith Sellars at 6:31 p.m., and stated that the meeting had been duly advertised in the newspaper, and on the appropriate building properly identifying the meeting date, time and location as required by governing laws. Board Members Beverly Holmes and Gina Burke did not attend.

Chairman Keith Sellars announced the hiring as Assistant Chief Elections Official was Joyce Coddington.

**Public Participation**: None.

**Board Members present: Staff and others present:**

Board Chairman Keith Sellars Carol P. Heard, Chief Elections Official

Board Member Dan Provence Joyce Coddington, Assistant Chief Elections Official

Board Member Johnny Brown Margaret Bryant, Clerk of Voter Registration

 Poll workers Melba Andrews, Suzan Yates,

 Valerie Bush, Emma Sales, Evelyn Severson-Stubbs, Becky Harrell and Tasia Porter.

**Approved Minutes**

Board Member Johnny Brown made a motion to accept the minutes from the March 8, 2022, regular meeting. Board Member Dan Provence seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Budget**

Chief Elections Official Carol Heard reviewed the current budget. The ideal remaining should be 33 percent. The Elections Office budget stood at 60 percent. Heard said there are still two elections to go this fiscal year, a building to complete and an elevator to pay for.

CEO Heard outlined some of the highlights from the proposed budget. There is still in the budget some improvements to the Annex, the Fairgrounds and VFW Building. The most pressing would be to finish the tabulation room upstairs in the Annex building. Proposed travel will decrease because there’s one conference in Jekyll Island. Contract labor expenses will decrease because the Runoff Election has moved from July to June.

**New Business**

1. **Consideration of adding Sunday voting for the General Primary.**

CEO Heard said the Board may consider extending the advanced voting hours to Sunday. She said no one as of yet had requested it but that consideration needs to be taken up by the Board so advanced voting dates can be set. After some discussion, Board Member Dan Provence made a motion to not offer Sunday voting until it will be necessary to evaluate it a later time. Board Member Johnny Brown seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

1. **Consideration to challenge and give notice of a hearing to the following voters under O.G.C.A. 21-2-229:**
2. **07336126 – Voter is using the street address of the Elections Office but has a mailing address in DeKalb County.**
3. **04938202 – Voter is using the street address of the Elections Office but has a mailing address in DeKalb County.**

After much discussion on what alternatives face the two voters and given the history of these voters; under the circumstances they may have had, CEO Heard said she would leave the voters under a challenged status. The voter will be mailed a letter explaining their situation. Their registrations will not be cancelled. Board Member Dan Provence made that motion. Board Member Johnny Brown seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

**Adjournment --** The meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.