**Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration**

**Decatur County Elections Office, Courthouse Annex**

**122 W. Water St.**

**Bainbridge, GA 39817**

**November 12, 2019**

**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 meeting date, time and location as required by governing laws. Board Members Gina Burke and Dan Provence had notified staff and Chairman Sellars they could not attend.

**Public Participation**: None

**Board Members present: Staff present:**

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

Board Vice Chairman Beverly Holmes Tasia Porter, Clerk of Voter Registration

Board Member Johnny Brown Margaret Bryant, office staff

Poll workers Suzan Yates and Melba Andrews

Dominion Voting Technician Dedrick Smith

**Approved Minutes**

Board Vice Chairman Beverly Holmes made a motion to accept the minutes from the October 8, 2019, regular meeting and the October 11, 2019, hearing. Board Member Johnny Brown seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Budget**

Chairman Keith Sellars said the Board is unable to review the latest budget because the county office was unable to produce a copy of it due to the county transferring computer programs.

**Old Business**

1. **Consideration of requesting renovation/construction funds for proposed renewal of SPLOST.**

Chief Elections Official Carol Heard said County Administrator Alan Thomas said the county is proposing to renew the Special Purpose Local Option Sale Tax, perhaps in March. Mr. Thomas had expressed interest in assisting the Elections Office and Board with capital expenses such as making minor repairs and sprucing up the Courthouse Annex, Fairgrounds and VFW building as a voting location.

**New Business**

1. **Certify Nov. 5, 2019, General Municipal Election.**

Chief Elections Official Carol Heard said there were two provisional ballots that were accepted and counted, which are included in the unofficial and incomplete results. Board Chairman Keith Sellars requested a motion to certify the General Municipal Election results. Board Vice Chairman Beverly Holmes offered a motion to certify the Nov. 5th General Municipal Election results, and Board Member Johnny Brown seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

1. **Coliseum precinct and electrical infrastructure problems.**

CEO Heard reported that on the day prior to the Election, and on Election morning, prior to the polls actually opening, several outlets were not usable. This was cause for some concern about the electrical infrastructure at the Coliseum. She was concerned because during this election, there were only 12 ballot-marking devices, 12 printers, plus UPS’s and two scanners. But in November, she hopes to place 20 BMDs at the Coliseum.

Chairman Sellars said some of the options are to find an equivalent building that is available, such as the Kirbo. Splitting the precinct up to lessen the load on one precinct. He also said the immediate need is to work with the Board of Education to ensure the outlets and electrical circuit board is repaired and could handle the load of equipment we will need during a busy election day.

CEO Heard made a suggestion to split the Coliseum precinct into two, having voters within the Bypass and Tallahassee Highway continue to vote at the Coliseum and the remaining voters vote at perhaps the Kirbo Center. That would make the Coliseum much smaller and could handle the load of fewer ballot-marking devices, printers, etc.

Chairman Sellars suggested we first contact the School system and get some direction and feedback on correcting the electrical situation.

1. **New equipment – need for feedback and notes to take to Pilot Program debriefing.**

Chairman Keith Sellars suggested this item be tabled because CEO Heard is to attend a debriefing in Atlanta. Board Vice Chairman Beverly Holmes offered a motion to table the item, Board Member Johnny Brown seconded the motion. Motion passed uniamously.

**Adjournment --** The meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.