

**Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration**  
**Regular Monthly Meeting Summary**  
**Tuesday, February 14, 2012**  
**6:00 pm**  
**Decatur County Administrative Offices Meeting Room**

**I. Call to Order**

The Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration Regular Monthly Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm with Chairman Ray Chambers presiding.

Present Board Members:

Chairman Dr. Ray Chambers  
Keith Sellars  
Lisa Reeves  
Joe Sweet, III

Absent Board Members:

Vice-Chair Wendell Cofer

Present Staff:

Chief Election Official (CEO) Doris White  
Clerk of Registrations Peggy Richardson

**II. Administrative Notes**

Chairman Ray Chambers stated that the meeting had been duly advertised as required by governing laws and that a quorum was present (which would allow for business to be conducted as scheduled).

**III. Approve Minutes**

*a. Regular Monthly Meeting – January 24, 2012*

The minutes of the January 24<sup>th</sup> Regular Monthly Meeting – Dr. Chambers brought up one change to be made to the minutes – the year. Keith Sellars made a motion to approve the minutes as amended and Joe Sweet seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.

**IV. Old Business**

- a. Peggy's Computer – Peggy said she hope<sup>d</sup> to receive the computer this week. Keith asked if the old computer was completely dead. Peggy informed him that Kyle came by and got it up and going enough that she can use it for now and get old files off of it.
- b. Storage Space – The Board discussed the concerns it had about our secure storage space for Absentee ballots at the last meeting. Doris White stated that all County department heads are scheduled to meet on Thursday morning to discuss the matter of storage of County records. They are being strongly encouraged to dispose of any records that are not on the retention schedule. Doris stated that there is also the issue of storing our materials in the basement of the Annex and it not being climate controlled. Dr. Chambers asked about the cabinets that were discussed as a possibility at the last meeting and Doris said she was informed that James Coddington and the inmates he oversees were currently too busy working on the new Ag Building. He thinks it can be done, but not anytime soon. Lisa asked if Tom Patton realizes that our issue is a security issue of ballots, not long term storage of materials. Doris said she didn't think he did. She said that for now she would just have to clean out the vault and make space in there. It will make it difficult to easily work with the Absentee ballots for the July Primary election. Some things in the Vault that the Secretary of State says should be under lock and key will have to be moved out to make room for the ballots. Keith suggests that we need to communicate the urgency of secured storage in the office to the County Administrator. He also asked what the fire rating of the safe in the Vault was. Doris didn't know how hot the safe

would take. She knows the safe is fire safe, but not necessarily the Vault. She said she would get some of the inmates to move the scanners out of the Vault to make room for the ballots.

## V. New Business

- a. Ballots returned - Incomplete – We have had three Absentee ballots returned due to the Oath being incorrectly filled out. Doris stated that in the past the office has gone above and beyond contacting voters that have filled them out incorrectly even going to a voter's home, but with the volume that will be coming up in this year's elections, the office will not be able to do that. Peggy said that with incomplete Absentee applications, a letter is sent letting them know what was incorrectly filled out. For the ballots, the time constraints are generally more urgent due to turn around time. Dr. Chambers pointed out that Election Code 21-2-381 section a-1-A-4 says an application for an absentee ballot can and must be sent regardless of the accuracy of the initial application so long as the ballot can be received in the office 11 days following the date of the election. Then Code 21-2-381 section a-1-G-b-3 states that if found ineligible, the office shall send a letter telling the voter the ballot is ineligible and the reason. Lisa pointed out that the first code section only applies to a very narrow set of circumstances. After more discussion to ensure that voters are not being disenfranchised and Code 21-2-386 section a-1-C that specifically states what the oath must have, a motion was made by Keith Sellars that in the case that a ballot by an eligible voters is received with the an incomplete or incorrectly filled out oath, the office shall comply with State law and write Rejected across the face of the envelope along with the reason and notify the voter. The motion was seconded by Lisa Reeves. All present unanimously passed the motion.
- b. Contract for Contracted Poll Workers – A motion was made by Keith Sellars to accept the current contract with Joe Sweet seconding the motion. Much discussion took place regarding term and compensation. Doris brought up that the County Attorney has requested that we have these contracts in place for our election workers and that they just cover a specific election period. Dr. Chambers raised that he is not happy with the office having to do a new contract for every worker every election. When Keith asked why it can't be open ended, Dr. Chambers stated that the County Attorney wants very specific terms since it gives us more control over if we want to use them again or not. Doris brought up that other counties have had the problem that without a contract, the workers fall into the hourly worker category and if they don't use them, they can sue the county for unemployment compensation. Lisa also pointed out that the length of hours worked on Election Day is over what is legal under OSHA if we don't have a contract in place. She stated that the term is not specific enough because that covers a long period of time. Doris and Keith suggested adding "as needed". Dr. Chambers stated that the words "for the duration" need to be removed. Lisa asked if two separate contracts would need to be in place for those workers who work Advance voting and the Poll on Election Day at two different pay rates. Dr. Chambers suggested removing the Term paragraph totally and adding the dates under the Compensation paragraph. Keith also suggested under Duties and Responsibilities changing "Election Official or her designee" to Election Official or his/her designee" and Lisa suggested just removing her and leaving "Election Official or designee". Dr. Chambers reiterated that the motion was on the floor with the grammatical change about tasks and removing "her". Keith made a motion to amend the agreement by deleting the paragraph pertaining to Term and Lisa seconded the motion. All present approve unanimously. All present unanimously voted to approve the Employment Agreement as amended.
- c. Door – Handicapped Ramp – Doris stated that they have had problems with people coming to the back door and it being locked. She asked for some sort of doorbell or buzzer for that door. The consensus of the Board is for Doris to explore the options. Lisa suggested a wireless buzzer from Walmart or something similar.

## VI. Other Business

- a. Peggy had a felon show up on her Felon report that required further research. In researching, she determined that this individual had pled NOLO and received 10 years unsupervised

probation. Peggy stated that Brown Moseley's response is that the individual is not considered a felon since he entered a NOLO plea. The Board agreed with the County Attorney's judgement and that he not be removed from the database and be allowed to vote.

- b. Peggy's chair needs to be replaced – The Board directed Peggy to order a working chair.
- c. Discussion took place regarding upcoming meetings. The Board will need to meet on the Friday after the Election to discuss any Provisional ballots and also on the following Monday if any Military ballots are returned. The Board will still meet on the second Tuesday for our monthly meeting.

**VII. Adjournment** – With no other business to discuss, the February 14, 2012 Regular Meeting of the Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration was adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

**Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration**  
**Special Meeting Summary**  
**Friday, March 9, 2012**  
**2:30 pm**  
**Elections & Voter Registration Office Meeting Room**

**I. Call to Order**

The Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration Special Meeting was called to order at 2:30 pm with Chairman Ray Chambers presiding.

Present Board Members:

Chairman Dr. Ray Chambers  
Vice-Chair Wendell Cofer  
Lisa Reeves

Absent Board Members:

Keith Sellars  
Joe Sweet, III

Present Staff:

Chief Election Official (CEO) Doris White  
Clerk Peggy Richardson

**II. New Business**

a. **Provisional Ballots from the March 6, 2012 Presidential Preference Primary Election – 7**  
Provisional Ballots were voted at the Polls in the Presidential Preference Primary Election.

1. Russell Lee Willis – Was not showing as being in the City Limits in the computer. Research shows that the residence was annexed into the City Limits but the office was not informed of the change. Wendell Cofer made a motion to approve the ballot and Lisa seconded. All present approved and his ballot was accepted.
2. Elizabeth Marie Willis - Was not showing as being in the City Limits in the computer. Research shows that the residence was annexed into the City Limits but the office was not informed of the change. Wendell Cofer made a motion to approve the ballot and Lisa seconded. All present approved and her ballot was accepted.
3. Eric Wayne Miller – believed he registered to vote at DMV, but research showed that he registered on February 8<sup>th</sup>, which was two days past the February 6<sup>th</sup> cutoff date. Lisa Reeves made a motion to reject the ballot and Wendell Cofer seconded the motion. All present approved and his ballot was rejected.
4. Barbara Ann Cliffe-Miller – believed she registered to vote at DMV, but research showed that she registered on February 7<sup>th</sup>, which was one day past the February 6<sup>th</sup> cutoff date. Lisa Reeves made a motion to reject the ballot and Wendell Cofer seconded the motion. All present approved and her ballot was rejected.
5. Jinnie Marie Donalson – she is registered to vote in Brinson and voted out of precinct with ample time to drive to Brinson. Wendell Cofer made a motion that based on Code section 2-21-419 C-2 the ballot for that one Presidential Preference Primary selection and Lisa Reeves seconded. All present approved and her ballot was accepted.
6. Michael Eugene Boyd – is not registered to vote in Decatur County and research shows that on 10/29/2009 when he renewed his license, he stated that he did not

3 Rejected  
4 Accepted

wish to register to vote. He did register on 11/16/2007 in Laurens County, GA but was deleted on 9/3/2010 due to a hearing in Laurens County. Wendell Cofer made a motion to reject his ballot since he is not legally registered to vote and Lisa Reeves seconded the motion. All present approved the motion.

7. Teresa Lynne Hurst – she is registered to vote in Kendrick and voted out of precinct with ample time to drive to Kendrick. Wendell Cofer made a motion that based on Code section 2-21-419 C-2 the ballot for that Presidential Preference Primary selection and Lisa Reeves seconded. All present approved and her ballot was accepted.

### **III. Adjournment**

With no other business to discuss, the March 6, 2012 Special Meeting of the Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration was adjourned at 2:49 p.m.

**Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration**  
**Regular Monthly Meeting Summary**  
**Tuesday, March 13, 2012**

**6:00 pm**

**Decatur County Administrative Offices Meeting Room**

**I. Call to Order**

The Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration Regular Monthly Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm with Chairman Ray Chambers presiding.

Present Board Members:

Chairman Dr. Ray Chambers  
Keith Sellars  
Lisa Reeves  
Joe Sweet, III

Absent Board Members:

Vice-Chair Wendell Cofer

Present Staff:

Clerk of Registrations Peggy Richardson

**II. Administrative Notes**

Chairman Ray Chambers stated that the meeting had been duly advertised as required by governing laws and that a quorum was present (which would allow for business to be conducted as scheduled).

**III. Approve Minutes**

*a. Regular Monthly Meeting – February 14, 2012 & Special Called Meeting – March 9, 2012*  
The minutes of the February 14<sup>th</sup> Regular Monthly Meeting – Dr. Chambers brought up one change to be made to the minutes – Old Business a. should be “hoped”. Keith Sellars made a motion to approve the minutes as amended and Joe Sweet seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously. The minutes of the Special Called Meeting on March 9<sup>th</sup> – Dr. Chambers brought up a few changes. Under #2 – All present “approved”. Under # 5 & #7 – Should read Presidential Preference Primary “selection be accepted”. Joe Sweet made a motion to approve the minutes as amended and Keith Sellars seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.

**IV. Old Business**

- a. Peggy’s Computer – Peggy’s new computer is installed and is wonderful.
- b. Storage Space – Doris White attended meeting on storage space and each department head is supposed to give the County Administrator an idea how much storage space each needs. With the lack of County Administrator, the matter of secure storage for ballots has not been able to be addressed.

**V. New Business**

- a. Letter Received – Dr. Chambers reported that he and Doris have received letters from a member of the military stationed in Kentucky. Mr. Brim applied for an absentee ballot from his home county of Richmond and received it. His wife applied for an absentee ballot from Decatur County and never received it. It was sent by our records on February 6<sup>th</sup>, the same day the application was received. When she notified our office that the ballot did not arrive, Peggy sent her another ballot. This ballot, also, did not arrive. Apparently, the D on the Apartment 2D on the address was left off by the computer system. When Peggy was notified the second time that the ballot did not arrive, she discovered that the D was being left off and made sure the third ballot was sent to Apartment 2D. In the meantime, Mr. Brim sent a letter to bring this difficulty

to our attention. Dr. Chambers has prepared a response to Mr. Brim and explained the discovery made in researching why the ballots were not being delivered and let him know it had been rectified and another ballot sent to what should be the correct address. He also let him know we have not received the third ballot back or a completed ballot from Mrs. Brim. He asked him to let the office know if she has received the ballot. The Board agreed that the letter was fine and should be sent. Dr. Chambers wanted it to be known for the record that Peggy went above and beyond finding the problem and sending the ballots, and that she should not take to heart any of the hurtful things that Mr. Brim stated in the letter because she was not at fault. The Board is fully behind her and felt she did a good job. Keith asked for clarification on when the third ballot was sent and was informed that it was sent in time for it to be returned. Peggy stated the only possible problem with the Post Office could have been that Mrs. Brim's registration is still under her maiden name of McGriff and that maybe that was a point of confusion.

- b. Precinct Voting on Election Day – Dr. Chambers brought up a matter from the Special Called Meeting on March 9, 2012. It was discovered at that meeting a provision in Election Code 21-2-419 C (2) that suggested to Dr. Chambers and Wendell Cofer that a person could technically vote anywhere at any precinct without penalty or being sent somewhere else. This may precipitate ordering more ballots to have on hand at every precinct. Dr. Chambers gave everyone a copy of the code and the Board will discuss the matter at the next meeting. Dr. Chambers pointed out that two of the provisional ballots fell into this case and Keith mentioned that his brother had a similar situation happen to him. He said a provisional ballot was requested but that he was sent to the other precinct and did not get there in time to vote.

**VI. Other Business**

- a. The next meeting will be April 10, 2012.

**VII. Adjournment** – With no other business to discuss, the March 13, 2012 Regular Meeting of the Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration was adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

**Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration**  
**Regular Monthly Meeting Summary**  
**Tuesday, April 10, 2012**  
**6:00 pm**  
**Decatur County Administrative Offices Meeting Room**

**I. Call to Order**

The Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration Regular Monthly Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm with Chairman Ray Chambers presiding.

Present Board Members:	Chairman Dr. Ray Chambers Vice-Chair Wendell Cofer Keith Sellars Lisa Reeves
Absent Board Members:	Joe Sweet, III
Present Staff:	Chief Election Official (CEO) Doris White Clerk of Registrations Peggy Richardson
Visitor:	2 Students from Dr. Chamber's class

**II. Administrative Notes**

Chairman Ray Chambers stated that the meeting had been duly advertised as required by governing laws and that a quorum was present (which would allow for business to be conducted as scheduled).

**III. Approve Minutes**

*a. Regular Monthly Meeting – March 13, 2012*

The minutes of the March 13<sup>th</sup> Regular Monthly Meeting – Keith Sellars made a motion to approve the minutes as amended and Wendell Cofer seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.

**IV. Old Business**

a. Precinct Voting on Election Day – Discussion took place concerning providing ballots for all districts in all precincts. Doris White informed us that according to the Secretary of State's office it's not really possible to accomplish this since all ballots have to have the precinct information (Combo numbers) printed on them. This also applies to the electronic version that is voted on the machines (since that is what the print version comes from). So even though the code suggests it as a possibility, it's not really a viable option to give to voters. Lisa Reeves also stated that she found an answer to a frequently asked question (FAQ) on E-Learn that says the State Election Board has ruled a voter at a "Wrong Precinct" can be given a Provisional ballot at the Poll Manager's discretion, but that shows the State Election Board has made a distinction between a "right" and a "wrong" precinct. Wendell suggested that we make a Board policy that we stress to our Poll Managers that we direct them to give a voter that option. Discussion took place concerning giving Poll Managers a cutoff time for sending a voter to another precinct. Discussion also took place concerning new Combo splits due to new lines drawn due to Redistricting. The Board consensus was that the Poll Manager is within their rights to refuse to issue a Provisional if the voter has sufficient time to get to their "right" precinct, but if the Poll Manager does issue a Provisional ballot, the Board must accept it if they are a registered voter for any races that would apply to the voter in their "right" precinct. Wendell said he didn't think



we could set a Board policy concerning the Provisional ballots, that we just need to follow state law. With no proposals being made, no action was taken.

- b. Absentee Ballot Problem – Mr. Brim and his wife arrived at the office and Peggy provided all the information needed. He understood that Peggy had gone above and beyond to provide his wife with an Absentee ballot. His wife updated her information while they were there. He seemed satisfied.

## V. **New Business**

- a. Budget – The budget request for FY2013 was discussed. The budget hearings are due to start on Thursday, April 12. Discussion took place about the line item amounts. General operating supplies went up due to the office having to print out more things that the State used to print. Dr. Chambers suggested that the justification wording for the printing of ballots be worded as “estimated” instead of a “guestimate”. Advertising will probably be higher. Repair of equipment may be higher due to the age of our machines. Doris brought up that we might be able to move the Recovery precinct back to the Volunteer Fire Department, now that it will be ADA compliant in a few days. If we can move it back, we won’t need to budget rental to the church to use it as a precinct. Wendell made a motion for the Board to officially adopt the budget as our proposal to the County for FY2013 and Keith seconded the motion. The motion to approve the budget passed unanimously. Discussion then took place about moving the Recovery precinct back to the Volunteer Fire Department. Keith made a motion to move the precinct back to the Volunteer Fire Department and Lisa seconded the motion. Doris brought up that we have to send new voter cards out due to Redistricting and we might as well get this change done at the same time. Wendell asked if this had been cleared with the Fire Department and Doris stated she would make inquiries. The motion was amended to move the precinct back to the Volunteer Fire Department provided Doris found out that the Fire Department was in agreement for us to do so. The amended motion to approve the move was passed unanimously.
- b. Informational article regarding voting for PSL – Dr. Chambers presented the Board with a draft of an article to appear in the Post Searchlight. He asked for suggestions for changes. Keith asked to be excused to attend class at the College. Doris asked that Dr. Chambers add the Secretary of State’s website to paragraph 5. Wendell asked for the wording to be “softened” on paragraph card concerning voters not reading their registration cards. Doris asked for it to be made clear that the IDs the office make are only for voting purposes.
- c. Door Bell for back entrance to office from Handicapped Ramp – Inspection – The door bell is needed due to lack of staff and the need to keep the GEMS server secure in that back room. Doris has researched it and determined that they need something with a different chime from the front door. Wendell suggested just going to Home Depot and that his maintenance person could hook it up. Discussion took place about the best way to hook it up and the best kind to get. The Board directed Doris to get a door bell.
- d. Redistricting – Peggy says we do have the maps and we have to have it completed by April 20<sup>th</sup>. It needs to be updated in the system and then the state will send out the new cards. There will be three or four split precincts. Peggy has to assign new Combo numbers and for the splits it has to be done street by street. She asked for help from the Board interpreting the maps and establishing the boundaries. There will probably be some overtime and she has Alvada Chandler coming in to help her, since she has helped in the past and knows how to do it. Doris said part of the problem is that we didn’t have a written legal description of the boundaries. If we don’t get it done by the 20<sup>th</sup>, we’ll have to wait until next year to be able to make the changes.
- e. Conflict with next regular Board Meeting – GEOA – Doris and Peggy will be going to Savannah in May and will be gone for the monthly Board meeting. The Board agreed to change the meeting to May 15<sup>th</sup> instead of the 8<sup>th</sup>.
- f. April – Student Voter Registration Month (BHS, GCA, & BC) – Doris has had Ms. Cross at Bainbridge High School come by and pick up registration forms. Dr. Vanzo has made arrangements to have a voter registration day with demo machines at Bainbridge College. Doris has been unable to reach the contact person at Grace Christian Academy.

isolated Computer per instructions from KSU – KSU is asking for an isolated computer to be used to upload the results to the State website so the GEMS server will not be used for that purpose. Doris has asked for a monitor for use with one of the older computers. After discussion it was decided that another laptop is what was really needed. Dr. Chambers directed Doris to research prices before the budget hearing.

**VI. Other Business**

- a. Doris requested that the phone system in the office be updated. Three phones with an intercom are needed. Doris will get that information to have before the budget hearing.

**VII. Adjournment** – With no other business to discuss, the April 10, 2012 Regular Meeting of the Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration was adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

# Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration Regular Monthly Meeting Summary

Tuesday, June 12, 2012

6:30 pm

Decatur County Administrative Offices Meeting Room

## I. Call to Order

The Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration Regular Monthly Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm with Chairman Ray Chambers presiding.

Present Board Members:

Vice-Chair Wendell Cofer  
Keith Sellars  
Lisa Reeves

Absent Board Members:

Chairman Dr. Ray Chambers  
Joe Sweet, III

Present Staff:

Chief Election Official (CEO) Doris White  
Clerk of Registrations Peggy Richardson

## II. Administrative Notes

Vice-Chair Wendell Cofer called the meeting to order at 6:41 p.m. and stated that the meeting had been duly advertised as required by governing laws and that a quorum was present (which would allow for business to be conducted as scheduled). It was noted that Chairman Dr. Chambers is absent on a trip and that Dr. Joe Sweet has resigned from the Election Board.

## III. Approve Minutes

*a. Regular Monthly Meeting – May 15, 2012*

The minutes of the May 15<sup>th</sup> Regular Monthly Meeting – Keith Sellars made a motion to approve the minutes and Lisa Reeves seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.

## IV. Old Business

- a. Budget – The County is holding budget meetings to cut the budget due to a large shortfall.
- b. Redistricting- Ballot Proofs – Doris White stated that they had a big problem this time getting their ballot proofs. They took their laptops to VRAG in order to be able to approve the proofs but did not receive the proofs until today. The holdup on KSU's end seemed to be the referendum for T-SPLOST. They misspelled Ralph C. Smith, Jr.'s name. Doris got the correction made and hopefully the ballots are at the printers and will be received by Friday so they will be sent out to our Military voters. Doris stated that since we were not a part of the first re-districting meetings, we ended up with a lot of splits in the precincts as far as Combination numbers go. We ended up with 80 different ballots Countywide and it was multiplied for the Primary with the split for Democratic, Republican and Non-Partisan ballots. We have to order at least 25 of each of the ballots. Ballots cost .35 each currently with a \$250 setup fee per election. The July Primary will cost about \$10,000.00 for ballots and any extra ballots leftover are shredded after 30 days. Doris is waiting for her paperwork to get them ordered. Discussion took place about how the Combo numbers are created and why.
- c. Deceased Voters – Everything has been taken care of with this.
- d. Two Voters with same info – Peggy Richardson entered Ms. Rowe into the system and a letter has been sent to Dorothy Emmons to let her know she's been removed from the voting roll.

Discussion took place to clarify the situation for Board members. Doris stated she has made contact with the District Attorney about the situation since that's what the Georgia Code says we must do. Wendell asked that the contact information be sent to him at the Sheriff's Department since an investigation will need to take place for the identity theft/voter fraud. More discussion took place concerning all the details of the situation.

- e. Ballots on Demand – Doris talked to Jeb at ES&S and he suggested that we might want to make contact with surrounding counties about them printing their ballots through us and we would charge them a fee to do this. It would help us offset the yearly fee. The yearly fee is \$4500.00-\$5500.00 and then we pay .45 per ballot, but we only pay for what we actually print and they supply paper and ink.
- f. Telephone System – The new phone system has been installed.
- g. Election Night Reporting Results – The new system allows us to export the election results from the GEM server to a Flash USB drive and then upload that information on a separate computer to the Secretary of State's website where anyone, including the news agencies, can access the information. This will save Dr. Chambers from having to separately enter the information into his computer and e-mail it to the various news agencies. Doris is going to check on getting the Firehouse Gallery for displaying the results.

## V. New Business

- a. VRAG Report – Peggy reported that they talked about the new Voter Registration system that they hope will be rolled out to all counties by next April. They will be going to training on the new system in Macon in January 2013. The new system is Windows based and should make the reporting much easier. The new system won't cost us anything except travel for the training and is State mandated. It should make data entry easier and get rid of duplications due to misspelling.
- b. New Voter Registration System – see a.) above.
- c. Van needed to move ALL voting machines to Chamber 1, Fairgrounds on June 25<sup>th</sup> – Doris said that Anthony at the Courthouse will be overseeing the move, but a van is needed to move them. Wendell said the SWAT van is the only thing the Sheriff's Department has and it would have to be completely unloaded in order to use it. He said there might be a really nice horse trailer they've seized that we can use. He'll check into it.
- d. City Directory – It's time to order the new City Directory. Keith made a motion authorizing Doris to make the purchase and Lisa seconded the motion. All present voted to approve the purchase.

## VI. Other Business

- a. Cell phones for Election Day use – Colonel Breedlove talked to Doris concerning the cell phones that we use for Election day. Some don't work anymore and don't work at the precincts. Some other counties are just giving their Precinct managers a stipend for the day to use their personal cell phones. Currently the County is activating the cell phones for the election, paying the monthly fee and then paying a suspension fee between elections. It would cost \$180.00 per election if we paid each Poll Manager \$20.00 each and should be a substantial savings since there are three potential elections for this year. After some discussion about an appropriate stipend to pay and if we need to do the Poll Manager and Assistant Manager or just the Poll Manager, Keith made a motion that we pay the Poll Manager a stipend of \$20 to cover use of their personal cell phone on Election Day and Lisa seconded the motion. All present approved the motion and Wendell said he would bring it up to the Commissioners at the budget meeting on Wednesday.

## VII. Adjournment – With no other business to discuss, the June 12, 2012 Regular Meeting of the Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

# **Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration Regular Monthly Meeting Summary**

**Tuesday, July 10, 2012**

**6:30 pm**

**Decatur County Administrative Offices Meeting Room**

## **I. Call to Order**

The Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration Regular Monthly Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm with Chairman Ray Chambers presiding.

Present Board Members:

Chairman Dr. Ray Chambers  
Vice-Chair Wendell Cofer  
Keith Sellars  
Lisa Reeves

Present Staff:

Chief Election Official (CEO) Doris White  
Clerk of Registrations Peggy Richardson

Visitors:

Kelvin Bouie  
Willie Lamb, Jr.

## **II. Administrative Notes**

Chair Ray Chambers called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and stated that the meeting had been duly advertised as required by governing laws and that a quorum was present (which would allow for business to be conducted as scheduled).

## **III. Approve Minutes**

*a. Regular Monthly Meeting – June 12, 2012*

The minutes of the June 12<sup>th</sup> Regular Monthly Meeting – Ray Chambers mentioned one change to the minutes – the Call to Order stated the Chairman was presiding when it should have been the Vice-Chair. Wendell Cofer made a motion to approve the minutes with the amendment and Lisa Reeves seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.

## **IV. Old Business**

- a. Budget – Doris stated that we still have not received the final approved budget. Wendell said that further cuts had been made and we should be getting the final one soon.
- b. Ballots – Doris said the ballots were received on Thursday. Ballots on Demand is not in place yet, but we hope to have it for the General Election in November.
- c. Two Voters with same info – Wendell stated that he had been in touch with the District Attorney and a GBI investigation would probably be started. There is nothing else needed from the Elections office or Board at this time.

## **V. New Business**

- a. Ballots Mailed – Peggy said that Absentee ballots were being sent out. Of the 114 sent out so far, 50 have been received back.
- b. Early Voting – Early voting has begun. Peggy said that we had 63 vote on Monday and 48 on Tuesday for a total of 111. Discussion took place about the reports for numbers of voters and the breakdown thereof. Early voting is going smoothly so far.
- c. Fairground Precinct – Doris said that only one of the HVAC units is working and it is not working at full capacity. It was hot and uncomfortable for L & A testing. After talking to Col. Breedlove, Doris was directed to call Cooper Heating and Air. They told her it would cost

\$3286.00 to repair it. Col. Breedlove asked if the precinct could be moved to the Carl Cloud Building and Doris told him that without clearance from the Department of Justice it could not be moved during the Primary or Runoff. She told him she would talk to the Board about the possibility of moving it for future elections. Lisa asked about how many voters were in the Fairgrounds Precinct that would require an updated card mailed to them if we moved it and was told there are a little over 3000 in that precinct. If everyone one approved it and the County Attorney sent in the change to the Department of Justice, the change could be done before the General Election. Dr. Chambers asked if the cost is for a repair or a replacement and was told it was just for repair. Some of the signs would need to be moved and some signs added. Lisa pointed out that the facility was a nicer facility with better bathrooms. Doris stated that she would rather stay where we are. Wendell pointed out that we would further confuse the voters by moving yet again. Wendell made a motion that the Board instruct the Chair to communicate to the County Administrator our desire that the air conditioner be repaired and we remain there. Lisa seconded the motion. All present approved the motion.

## **VI. Other Business**

- a. Wendell stated that he was contacted by Janice Lewis that works at 911 and is also a caterer. She would like to donate her services to cater our returns at the Firehouse Gallery on Election night. She is asking for permission to do this. She has no campaign affiliation and would do it in a patriotic theme. Doris was directed to contact Phyllis Lucas to see if we can use the Firehouse. The food would be for anyone that goes to the Firehouse on Primary Election night and would be done after the Polls close. A motion was made by Wendell that pending approval to use the Firehouse, we allow her to cater and Lisa seconded it. All present approved the motion.
- b. Kelvin Bouie asked about how the information at the end of the day was tabulated. He was told by Peggy that the information was entered at the time the person voted in person and that she entered the information in about the Absentee ballots as they were sent and then returned. Wendell stressed that the ballots themselves were not counted at that time. They would not be counted until Election night after the polls had closed. Kelvin asked for clarification about the rules for Poll Watchers. Doris stated that she could get him information together that would get anyone signed up that wanted to be a Poll Watcher. Kelvin also introduced Willie Lamb, Jr. as the new appointee to the Board. He asked if more bids on the air conditioning unit had been received and Doris informed him that Cooper has the County contract.

## **VII. Adjournment** – With no other business to discuss, the July 10, 2012 Regular Meeting of the Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

**Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration**  
**Regular Monthly Meeting Summary**  
**Tuesday, August 14, 2012**  
**6:30 pm**  
**Decatur County Administrative Offices' Meeting Room**

**I. Call to Order**

The Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration Regular Monthly Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm with Chairman Ray Chambers presiding.

Present Board Members:

Chairman Dr. Ray Chambers  
Vice-Chair Wendell Cofer  
Keith Sellars  
Lisa Reeves  
Willie Lamb, Jr.

Present Staff:

Chief Election Official (CEO) Doris White  
Clerk of Registrations Peggy Richardson

**II. Administrative Notes**

Chair Ray Chambers called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and stated that the meeting had been duly advertised as required by governing laws and that a quorum was present (which would allow for business to be conducted as scheduled).

**III. Approve Minutes**

*a. Regular Monthly Meeting – July 10, 2012 & Special Called Meeting – July 24, 2012*

The minutes of the July 10<sup>th</sup> Regular Monthly Meeting – Wendell Cofer made a motion to approve the minutes and Lisa Reeves seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously. The minutes of the July 24<sup>th</sup> Special Called Meeting – Wendell Cofer made a motion to approve the minutes and Keith Sellars seconded the motion. All present voted to approve the motion unanimously.

**IV. Old Business**

a. Budget – Doris White provided the Board with a budget printout of the month of August. Wendell asked if the Runoff Election is anticipated to cost the same \$9000.00 the regular election cost. She stated that no, it should not cost as much but that November would be costly. Dr. Chambers welcomed new Board member Willie Lamb, Jr. Some general discussion took place about the current state of the budget.

**V. New Business**

a. Felon Registered to Vote – Peggy informed the Board that on July 31<sup>st</sup> a person came into the office and registered to transfer her from Camden County. Right after she left a staff member of the District Attorney's office stepped in and informed Peggy that the person had just been convicted of a felony. He was concerned that she swore on the form that she had not been convicted of a felony. Peggy told him the form would not be processed until after the Runoff Election and was told the felon record would probably not be updated by then. He was going to talk to the District Attorney and see if there was anything that could be done to stop the registration process. Dr. Chambers asked if the Secretary of State's Office was the only source we can use for verification of felon status. Peggy stated that is where the information usually came from, but that they could ask for clarification from the Clerk of Court's Office. Wendell

stated that he had researched the Code and did not believe that had to be our only source. He also stated that the District Attorney's office would be putting the request in writing and probably interviewing staff for information to use to prosecute her on the falsification charge. She came straight from the courtroom where she was convicted to fill out her registration form. Peggy asked if she should still process the application after the Runoff. Wendell said he felt the Board could accept the information just like any other challenge and Keith agreed, further stating that would be doing a disservice if we allowed the registration. Wendell suggested that after the Runoff a letter be sent to her giving her the option to prove to the Board at the next meeting that the registration should be allowed. Dr. Chambers brought up that on the one hand all we have is word of mouth with no documentation to take as proof of the conviction. The other issue is that the registration cannot be processed until after the Runoff. Staff was directed to check with the Clerk of Court's office after the Runoff to get certified proof of the conviction.

- b. Former County Agent/ASCS Building – Wendell brought up that conversation took place about the possibility of moving the office to that building. There is enough space there that the machines can be stored there during the time between elections and that the Advanced Voting precinct could also be moved there to get all resources under one roof. It would eliminate the problems we have during the Fair, moving of machines for Logic & Accuracy Testing and save many trips back and forth to the Fairgrounds during voting. Wendell had asked Doris to put together a list of pros and cons that she provided to the Board. County Administrator Breedlove had some reservations about the possible move when it was put to him. His primary reservation was that he felt people expected certain services when they came to the courthouse and that one of those was being able to register to vote. The County has no immediate plans for the building and if they do not find a need for it, would just tear it down within a couple of years. Doris pointed out that there is a change in legislation in the works that doesn't not require the Elections offices to post notices at the Courthouse, but rather at the Election Office since many Election Offices have moved away from Courthouses. Discussion took place about the size and layout of the building. Doris stated that the County Building Inspector looked at it and stated it was in good shape. It would need to have an ADA compliant restroom. Dr. Chambers stated that one of his main concerns was security for equipment and staff, since it was in an isolated area. Wendell said using inmate labor could be used to create a secure area for the machines and that a panic button alarm system could be installed for staff safety. The cost of the security system would be offset by the time and effort it takes to move the machines the number of times a year in a busy election cycle. He brought up that voters are already used to going to the Fairgrounds to vote and that probably all the building needed was new flooring and a new roof. Bars can be placed on the windows to make a safe room for the machines to be stored. There is plenty of parking. Dr. Chambers pointed out that the County can't afford to spend money to fix up the building, but Wendell stated there would be no labor cost when using the inmates and the extra money the County will get from leasing the whole Annex to the District Attorney's office will offset some of the renovation costs. He suggested the Board go and look at the building. Dr. Chambers also pointed out that we didn't know if the close proximity of the building to the approved voting precinct would be enough for the Department of Justice or if we would have to apply to have it approved. Doris stated she had planned on checking with the Secretary of State's office about possible grant money to help with the renovation. Also, if they are all located together the contract labor could be used for other purposes during the slack times in the voting in addition to saving time and gas of the staff with running back and forth to the Fairgrounds. The Board agreed to go look at the building immediately following the Board meeting. The decision was postponed until after the tour.
- c. Poll Workers Needed – Doris said that they really needed new poll workers. She was having trouble scheduling them and needs a bigger pool to pull from. Willie Lamb asked what the requirements for being a poll worker are and Peggy informed him they just needed to fill out a form and go through training. Dr. Chambers asked if we needed to advertise and Doris said that



the ads didn't seem to bring many in, that word of mouth seems to be best. She would just like the Board to help spread the word.

## **VI. Other Business**

- a. Peggy brought up that on August 6<sup>th</sup> she received a call from Investigator Chuck Miller from the Secretary of State's office regarding the McGriff/Brim ballots. He sent her an e-mail requesting copies of any and all postmarked absentee ballots and envelopes, her absentee ballot log and a sworn notarized statement. She got the copies together and contacted Dr. Chambers who went over the sworn statement with her. It was all sent certified mail and as of the meeting, she has not heard anything in response. Dr. Chambers said he believed that it was clear cut on our end and that the problem lay in the Post Office or the receiving end. Dr. Chambers gave an synopsis of the situation for Board members that were not present at the time the issue came up.
- b. Keith brought up an issue that was raised by one of the candidates for Sheriff on Election night. The candidate had a problem with a Board member, who is a deputy, being present that night and handling the ballots and also the issue of Deputies handling the voting equipment. Keith felt there was no issue there. With a county as small as ours, there is always going to be someone related to/acquainted with someone on the ballot. He just wanted to bring the subject up for discussion. He saw no appearance of impropriety, but knows there was some questioning. He didn't see any need to even ask Wendell to excuse himself from his Board duties that night. Wendell informed the Board that Doris told him that someone had lodged a complaint with the Secretary of State's Office and a investigator contacted her. She informed him that Consolidated Voter Elector Oaths had been taken that night and that Wendell was operating in his capacity as Vice-Chair of the Board in the absence of the Chair. As a staff member, all she could do was advise him which holds true for any member of the Board. No one Board member has more authority than the other members except when it comes to the law vesting the role of public spokesperson to the Chair. Wendell said he was acting in his capacity of Vice-Chair to ensure that the election went as it was supposed to go. There are several levels of redundancy built into the process. He asked at what point we drew the line in regards to relatives, party preferences, friends, race, etc. Keith brought up that the very nature of the board is set to insure that there are checks and balances and the whole process is open. Lisa brought up that the whole process is full of checks and balances and changes can't be made, like some believe it can, without it being brought into the open. Wendell said that if a contested ballot for that race had come up he would have abstained himself, but not for the other races on the ballot that he had a duty to oversee. Lisa pointed out that Board members swear an oath when appointed to the Board and another oath on election night. Dr. Chambers said that as sworn officers to the Board we know that there are legal ramifications if wrong doing occurs and that as duly appointed, sworn-in members of the Board, we have a duty to carry out that oath. Doris said that when she informed the investigator that she had the Consolidated Oath signed by Wendell that night, he asked for a copy of it and she e-mailed it to him. She does not believe she will hear from him again on the matter.
- c. Peggy brought up that she had two absentee ballot applications that she needed Board clarification on. She wanted the Board's opinion on the signature match due to the short time before the election. The two ballots appeared to be signed by the same person. Peggy said she could send a letter letting them know they could go to the polls on Election day. Wendell made a motion that the applications be rejected and Keith seconded the motion. All present approved the motion.

**VII. Adjournment** – With no other business to discuss, the August 14, 2012 Regular Meeting of the Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration was adjourned at 7:24 p.m. to travel to the ASCS building to inspect it. While there, the Board agreed for Doris in check into the possibility of moving the office to the site, which could not take place until after the General Election was over – giving time for any clean-up and renovations to take place. The Board also agreed to make the

August 31, 2012 meeting to handle Provisional and UOCAVA ballots the official next meeting in place of a September meeting.

**Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration**  
**Special Called Meeting Summary**  
**Friday, August 31, 2012**  
**5:00 pm**  
**Decatur County Administrative Offices' Meeting Room**

**I. Call to Order**

The Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration Special Called Meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm with Chairman Ray Chambers presiding.

Present Board Members:

Chairman Dr. Ray Chambers  
Vice-Chair Wendell Cofer  
Lisa Reeves  
Willie Lamb, Jr.

Absent Board Members:

Keith Sellars

Present Staff:

Chief Election Official (CEO) Doris White  
Clerk of Registrations Peggy Richardson

**II. Administrative Notes**

Chair Ray Chambers called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. and stated that the meeting had been duly advertised as required by governing laws and that a quorum was present (which would allow for business to be conducted as scheduled).

**III. Approve Minutes**

*a. Regular Monthly Meeting – August 14, 2012*

The minutes of the August 14<sup>th</sup> Regular Monthly Meeting – Willie Lamb, Jr. made a motion to approve the minutes and Wendell Cofer seconded the motion. Dr. Chambers pointed out one change to make – New Business, Section a. should be researched instead of research. The motion to approve the minutes with amendment passed unanimously.

**IV. Old Business**

a. Former County Agent/ASCS Building – Craig Smith, the County Building Inspector, met Peggy Richardson at the building to look it over and while they were there Colonel Breedlove came by and was not receptive to moving the Election Office to the building. Craig stated that the end of the building that was formerly the Extension Office should be avoided due to mold/mildew problems. He couldn't see any other obvious problems. Doris White stated she had consulted a friend that has experience with concrete block buildings and he told her about various seals for keeping out moisture and about putting sheetrock on it. Dr. Chambers said he mainly thought it was the cost for the renovations that concerned the County. Wendell suggested approaching Colonel Breedlove about a more definite answer. Dr. Chambers was tasked with talking to Colonel Breedlove so that we can know one way or the other. Wendell pointed out that it would be a way for us to consolidate our services and provide better services to the public. Lisa brought up that it would also end the conflicts with the District Attorney's office.

**V. New Business**

a. Provisional Ballot – the Provisional Ballot was handled by Wendell Cofer and Lisa Reeves before the meeting started. The ballot by Liz Tomlin was approved and scanned with reports printed and uploaded to the Secretary of State.

- b. Deputy Registrar – Doris had a request by someone to be a Deputy Registrar and she gave him a packet of information. He was supposed to read it over and come to the Board meeting, but did not show up. Doris brought up that there have been a lot of changes to being a Deputy Registrar and that even the Voter Registration sites have to be approved ahead of time by the Department of Justice. There is not enough time for that approval before the October 8<sup>th</sup> cutoff for registrations. Lisa pointed out that we also have to advertise it.
- c. Complaints – Peggy brought up two complaints on Run-off Election day. The two individuals were not in District Three, but showed up at their polling places expecting to vote for the District Three race on the Run-off ballot. They stated that they would call the Secretary of State's office and complain. Our office received a call from Erica Hamilton with the Secretary of State's office and our staff informed her about what the problem was. She was going to contact them and try to explain it to them. The voters had voted Democrat in the Primary Election and since they were not in District Three, they did not have any races to vote for in the Run-off Election. There was also a case where a voter that was in District Three thought that he might not have gotten the right ballot after he left the polls and saw the next day that the race was very close. He contacted the Election Office, but only after he contacted the Post Searchlight and they had called the office intending to put it in the paper that we had not allowed him to vote for the race. When he called the office, he admitted that he couldn't really remember if it was on his ballot or not. Doris stated he said he got the Republican ballot, but not the Non-Partisan ballot.
- d. Media – Wendell stated that during Advance Voting for the Run-off Election he went to the Fairgrounds and found the Poll Manager giving an interview to the Press. And since according to the legislation that created the Board states that no one except the Board Chair is supposed to be doing that, he asked that we develop a Media Policy to disseminate to the Poll Workers, especially the Poll Managers. We might be able to get one from somewhere else to use as a guide. We might want to issue a "No Media" blanket statement except for the Chair or his appointed representative. Dr. Chambers stated that the people that need to be reminded are the Press. Lisa brought up that it should also be covered in training for the Poll Workers. Dr. Chambers brought up that we just need to remind everyone of what is permissible. Wendell stated he would like a written policy that addresses what should happen and chain of command if the Chair is absent. Lisa asked if photography in the Polls needed to be addressed. Discussion took place about use of electronics in the Polling place and how the Georgia Code addresses the issue. Wendell said he had two citizens had complained to him that Poll Workers stopped them taking pictures of their child's first time voting. The two signs that address the issue are in conflict with each other. Doris said that even in the training they attend the information is confusing. Lisa stated she thought some of the confusion stems from what is interpreted as the Polling Place – the whole Precinct or just the area around the voting booth. Dr. Chambers directed staff to remind Poll Workers about talking to the Media and to research other County's Media policy. The Board needs to address clearer specifics about Polling Place definitions and what is appropriate where within that Place. Wendell made a motion tabling the matter until the next meeting and Lisa seconded the motion. All present approved the motion.
- e. Batteries – Express Polls – Doris state that batteries are \$199.00 each and 19 are needed. Lisa made a motion that we spend the \$3800.00 to buy the needed batteries and Willie seconded the motion. All present approved the motion.

**VI. Adjournment** – With no other business to discuss, the August 31, 2012 Special Called Meeting of the Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

**Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration**  
**Regular Monthly Meeting Summary**  
**Tuesday, October 9, 2012**  
**6:30 pm**  
**Decatur County Administrative Offices' Meeting Room**

**I. Call to Order**

The Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration Regular Monthly Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm with Chairman Ray Chambers presiding.

Present Board Members: Chairman Dr. Ray Chambers  
Keith Sellars  
Lisa Reeves  
Willie Lamb, Jr.

Absent Board Members: Vice-Chair Wendell Cofer

Present Staff: Chief Election Official (CEO) Doris White  
Clerk of Registrations Peggy Richardson

**II. Administrative Notes**

Chair Ray Chambers called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and stated that the meeting had been duly advertised as required by governing laws and that a quorum was present (which would allow for business to be conducted as scheduled).

**III. Approve Minutes**

*a. Special Called Meeting – August 31, 2012*

The minutes of the August 31<sup>st</sup> Special Called Meeting – Keith Sellars made a motion to approve the minutes and Willie Lamb, Jr. seconded the motion. All present voted to approve the motion unanimously.

**IV. Old Business**

- a. Former County Agent/ASCS Building – Dr. Chambers talked to Col. Breedlove and he wants a “one-stop” for people that pay for tags and property tax and could also register to vote. Joe Mulholland has come up with \$30,000 that could be used for renovation purposes in order for the District Attorney’s office to have full access of the Annex. This could be in addition to the possible grant money we can get from the State. Joe has been asked to approach the County, but nothing has been heard regarding the matter.
- b. Batteries – Express Polls – The batteries have been ordered and are supposed to be received between the 20<sup>th</sup> and the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month.
- c. Media – Wendell Cofer made a motion at the last meeting that we discuss at the next meeting about dealing with the Media. Who was allowed to talk to the Media and what was allowed to be said. Media must talk to the Chair of the Board of Elections and Registrations. Wendell asked for a formal policy. The motion was made by Keith to postpone the discussion until the next meeting when Wendell could be present and Lisa seconded the motion. All present approved the motion. Doris stated that all poll workers have been cautioned to not speak to the Media except to direct them to the Election Office or the Board Chair.
- d. Use of Cell Phones & other electronics by voters – Doris stated that she had talked to the County Attorney and he advised that since the law is not clear signs be made that state that no cell phone use is permitted after the voting certificate has been filled out. Doris said the Secretary of State’s

Office says that pictures of people voting are permissible as long as the information on the person's voting machine is not captured. Keith brought up the point that other voters machine information cannot be captured either. With digital cameras, the picture can be zoomed in and almost every cell phone is has a digital camera. Peggy said that the Cherokee County policy that Wendell requested she get at the last meeting only covers cameras, not cell phones and is still a work in progress. Dr. Chambers stated that it seems this topic overlaps with the Media policy and that one overall policy needs to be put in place. We need to ensure that no voter's right to privacy is infringed upon. For the purpose of the coming election, no cell phone or other photographic/electronic device is to be used during the voting process. Dr. Chambers stated that as long as a picture is not recorded the use of a cell phone while voting was acceptable. Lisa pointed out that it is illegal for a person to be in the booth with a person while they are voting and possibly influencing their vote and if the voter is on their cell phone the person the voter is talking to is for all intents and purposes in the voting booth with the voter and possibly influencing their vote. Keith made a motion that we establish a policy that use of any cell phone or device capable of capturing an image or recording is prohibited within the confines of the precinct. The motion was seconded by Lisa Reeves and all present approved the motion.

## **V. New Business**

- a. New Poll Workers – Doris presented the Board the information on 12 new possible poll workers. A new form is being used to ensure that the minimum qualifications are being met. The Board looked over the applications and discuss took place over various parts of the applications. Nine of the applications have been approved by the Office staff and Lisa made the motion that they be accepted as poll workers. Keith seconded the motion and all present approved the motion for the new poll workers. Four others were questionable. Altavist McCall is not registered to vote in Decatur County. All present voted to accept her as a poll worker. Terry Williams, Jr. did not answer the question “Are you willing to be politically impartial during the election?” All present voted to NOT accept him as a poll worker. Alexander Bird did not answer the impartiality question. All present voted to NOT accept him as a poll worker. Erin Smith is not registered to vote. All present voted to NOT accept him as a poll worker.
- b. Baker County Election Problems – Wendell wanted to talk about some problems that Baker County was having with their election, but in his absence the topic was tabled.
- c. Cell Phone needs to be provided for Early Voting – There is no phone at the Fairgrounds and needs to be provided. Doris stated that Wendell usually gets one from the Sheriff's office and that she would talk to him about the use of one.
- d. Special Election – Third Tuesday in March 2013 – Doris said that there is some question about if we will be having a special election in March of next year. Legislation seems to lead toward the County Commissioners being able to just appoint someone to fill the remainder of Earl Perry's term on the Commission. This is still being researched and a county charter is trying to be located. The Board is waiting to hear from the County and will hold an election the third Tuesday of March if called upon.

## **VI. Other Business**

- a. The Board will meet on November 9<sup>th</sup> in the Election Office at 5 p.m., but Dr. Chambers will not be able to be there. Wendell will oversee the meeting.
- b. Peggy brought some questionable Absentee ballots for the Board to look over and make a decision about. After examining the ballots, Keith made a motion to reject two that failed to sign their oath and one incorrectly filled out county and address. Lisa seconded the motion and all present approved the motion. Four voters failed to fill in the Oath of Elector and Keith made a motion to reject. Lisa seconded the motion and all present approved the motion. One voter filled in that he lives in the county of February and Lisa made a motion to reject the ballot. Keith seconded the motion and all present approved the motion. Two voters put their names instead of their address and Keith made a motion to reject the ballots. Lisa seconded the motion and all

present voted to approve the motion. Peggy will send the voters a letter and they have time to request another ballot.

- c. Peggy received two ballots that appear to be UOCAVA ballots from France that she did not send out and could not determine where the ballots should be sent to for processing. The Board examined the ballots and Doris suggested that the ballots be sent the Secretary of State's Office for determination on how the ballots should be handled. The Board agreed with this course of action.
- d. Peggy received a Federal Postcard application and ballot. Doris pointed out that there is no oath on the papers received. He is not currently registered to vote, but Doris pointed out that the Federal Postcard is a registration and request in one. Lisa found in Georgia Code 21-2-219b that Georgia allows it for members of the military or citizens stationed overseas, but makes no provision for military station within the States. Discussion took place about various aspects of the Federal Postcard and the Georgia Code that pertains to it. The Board directed Staff to check with Virginia to see if he can still register to vote there and inform the person of his options there..

**VII. Adjournment** – With no other business to discuss, the October 9, 2012 Regular Meeting of the Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration was adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

**Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration  
Special Meeting Summary  
Friday, November 9, 2012**

**5:00 pm**

**Elections & Voter Registration Office Meeting Room**

**I. Call to Order**

The Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration Special Meeting was called to order at 5:09 pm with Vice-Chairman Wendell Cofer presiding.

Present Board Members:

Vice-Chair Wendell Cofer  
Lisa Reeves  
Willie Lamb, Jr.

Absent Board Members:

Chairman Dr. Ray Chambers  
Keith Sellars

Present Staff:

Chief Election Official (CEO) Doris White  
Clerk Peggy Richardson

**II. New Business**

- a. **UOCAVA ballots** – Four ballots were replicated and the ballots were counted.
- b. **Provisional Ballots from the November 6, 2012 General Election** – 29 Provisional Ballots were voted at the Polls in the General Election.
  1. Cynthia Plumber – Research by office staff showed that her registration was too late (October 26, 2012) for this election. Wendell Cofer made a motion to reject the ballot and Willie Lamb, Jr. seconded. All present approved and her ballot was rejected.
  2. Steven C. Small – Not a registered voter. Wendell made a motion to reject the ballot and Lisa Reeves seconded. All present approved and his ballot was rejected.
  3. Christopher L. Clark, Jr. – Clerk error accidentally put his registration on his father's registration. Wendell made a motion to accept the ballot and Lisa seconded the motion. All present approved and his ballot was accepted.
  4. Andre Conner, Jr. – Sent a letter that he was not verified and marked for deletion. Wendell made a motion to reject the ballot and Willie seconded the motion. All present approved and his ballot was rejected.
  5. Winifred Williams – Office staff research showed a computer error. Wendell made a motion to accept the ballot and Willie seconded. All present approved and her ballot was accepted.
  6. Fidel Angel Gomez – He was on the Supplemental List and precinct workers failed to check it. Wendell made a motion to accept his ballot and Lisa seconded the motion. All present approved the motion and his ballot was accepted.
  7. Crystal Akins – Registered in Miller County. Wendell made a motion to reject the ballot and Willie seconded. All present approved and her ballot was rejected.



8. Ashleigh Lafferty – She voted out of precinct but not out of county and there was not enough time for her to go to her correct precinct. Wendell made a motion to accept the ballot and Willie seconded the motion. All present approved and her ballot was accepted.
9. Silvia Treving-Garcia – He was on the Supplemental List and precinct workers failed to check it. Wendell made a motion to accept his ballot and Willie seconded the motion. All present approved the motion and his ballot was accepted.
10. Mary Jane Wells – Poll Worker error showed she had already voted, but she had not according to the poll manager (Bubba Hester). Wendell made a motion to accept her ballot and Willie seconded the motion. All present approved the motion and her ballot was accepted.
11. Charles Sheely – Poll Worker error showed he had already voted, but research revealed he had not. Wendell made a motion to accept his ballot and Willie seconded the motion. All present approved the motion and his ballot was accepted.
12. Arlene Edwards - Poll Worker error showed she had already voted, but research revealed she had not. Wendell made a motion to accept her ballot and Lisa seconded the motion. All present approved the motion and her ballot was accepted.
13. Tiffany Culverson – Research showed no registration or voting history. Wendell made a motion to reject her ballot and Lisa seconded the motion. All present approved the motion and her ballot was rejected.
14. James Tyus – Poll Manager said he stated that the machine did not accept his ballot card, the card was recreated he said it still would not accept it. The Poll Manager (Bonnie Malloy) then gave him a provisional ballot. Wendell made a motion to accept his ballot and Lisa seconded the motion. All present approved the motion and his ballot was accepted.
15. Demetrius Michelle Cooper – Felon with status of Delete. Wendell made a motion to reject her ballot and Lisa seconded the motion. All present approved the motion and her ballot was rejected.
16. Bryan Bush – Inactive voter and out of precinct without time to get to his correct precinct. Wendell made a motion to accept his ballot and Lisa seconded the motion. All present approved the motion and his ballot was accepted.
17. Cleo Braswell – Poll Worker error showed he had already voted, but research revealed he had not. Wendell made a motion to accept her ballot and Lisa seconded the motion. All present approved the motion and her ballot was accepted.
18. Brittany K. Scott – No record found of registration. She said she voted in the 2008 General Election, but she would not have been 18 years old then (her birthdate is 11/19/90). Wendell made a motion to reject her ballot and Lisa seconded the motion. All present approved the motion and her ballot was rejected.
19. Shatara Rogers – Research showed she registered on 10/4/2012 at the Decatur County Health Department, but the registration was not timely sent in. Wendell made a motion to accept her ballot and Lisa seconded the motion. All present approved the motion and her ballot was accepted.
20. Ciera Scott – She said she registered at Bainbridge High School, but no registration was found. Wendell made a motion to reject her ballot and Lisa

- seconded the motion. All present approved the motion and her ballot was rejected.
21. Christine D. Scott - - No registration was found. Wendell made a motion to reject her ballot and Lisa seconded the motion. All present approved the motion and her ballot was rejected.
  22. Danny E. Brown - Active voter in Decatur County. Wendell made a motion to accept his ballot and Lisa seconded the motion. All present approved the motion and his ballot was accepted.
  23. Richard Johnston - Poll worker error - Poll Workers looked under Johnson. Wendell made a motion to accept his ballot and Lisa seconded the motion. All present approved the motion and his ballot was accepted.
  24. Marilyn Sanders - Active Registered voter in Decatur County. Wendell made a motion to accept her ballot and Lisa seconded the motion. All present approved the motion and her ballot was accepted.
  25. Jason M. Rose - He said he registered at Bainbridge High School, but no registration was found. Wendell made a motion to reject his ballot and Lisa seconded the motion. All present approved the motion and his ballot was rejected.
  26. Raymonde Paul-Victor - No registration could be found. Wendell made a motion to reject his ballot and Lisa seconded the motion. All present approved the motion and his ballot was rejected.
  27. William F. Aultman - He is registered in New York. In November 2011 he requested to be deleted from Decatur County. He said that there was an executive order that because of the flooding in New York, he could vote wherever he was. Wendell made a motion to reject his ballot and Lisa seconded the motion. All present approved the motion and his ballot was rejected.
  28. Nixie Junior McMillan - Former clerk made an error when entering the registration. Wendell made a motion to approve his ballot and Lisa seconded the motion. All present approved the motion and his ballot was approved.
  29. Tanginita Castell - No ID at the polling place, but came in later to show ID. Wendell made a motion to accept her ballot and Lisa seconded the motion. All present approved the motion and her ballot was accepted.

### **III. Adjournment**

With no other business to discuss, the November 9, 2012 Special Meeting of the Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration was adjourned at 5:42 p.m.