**Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration**

**Decatur County Elections Office, Courthouse Annex**

**122 W. Water St.**

**Bainbridge, GA 39817**

**May 27, 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 5:29 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 Member Gina Burke did not attend but had called to ensure that she was not needed for a quorum.

**Public Participation**: None

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

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

Vice Chairman Beverly Holmes Joyce Coddington, Assistant Chief Elections Official

Board Member Johnny Brown Margaret Bryant, Clerk of Voter Registration

Board Member Dan Provence Poll workers Melba Andrews, Suzan Yates,

Zack Calhoun, Charles Harrell and Becky Harrell.

**Approved Minutes**

Board Member Dan Provence made a motion to accept the minutes from the April 12, 2022, regular meeting. Board Member Johnny Brown seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Budget**

Chief Elections Official Carol Heard reviewed the current budget. The ideal remaining should be 25 percent. The Elections Office budget stood at 49 percent. There was some discussion on next year’s budget.

**Old Business**

1. **EPULSE Pilot**

Chairman Keith Sellars said he loved what the EPulse program looked like and the data that was shown on the program, which was live data coming from the Poll Pads on Election Day.

Elections Official Carol Heard also said she liked the program. Despite not having a lot of training on it, the program is pretty self-explanatory. She also said she would eventually like to be able to produce the county’s reports from it.

**Old Business**

1. **May 24 Primary/Non-Partisan General Election**

Chairman Sellars complimented the poll workers impacted by the power outage and the fact that they didn’t miss a best. There was some discussion on the battery life of various voting equipment and ensuring they are properly charged prior to deployment.

1. **Certifying the results** – Vice Chairman Beverly Holmes made a motion to certify the results of the May 24, 2022, Primary/Non-Partisan General Election. Board Member Dan Provence seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
2. **Audit results of District 6 School Board race** – CEO Heard said it’s the board’s policy to do an audit following an election, so Heard said it made sense to do it on the School Board District 6 race since there was a five-point difference. Heard also said that the difference didn’t meet the threshold for a recount, which incumbent Eric Worthington had requested. Heard said the audit took every ballot connected to the race and hand count each. The audit came out exactly the same as election night tabulations.
3. **June 21 Primary Runoff**

CEO Heard ran down what was going to be on each ballot – the Republican Party has one federal election and the Democratic Party has four statewide races. Because one race is federal and the others are state, it presents a little bit of a challenge in registration deadlines. Also, the time between a primary and a runoff is now four weeks, so deadlines were condensed. Advanced voting will be one week beginning on June 13.

Vice Chairman Beverly Holmes requested a moment of silence for former Chief Elections Official Doris White, who recently passed.

**Adjournment --** The meeting adjourned at 6:02 p.m.