**Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration**

**Decatur County Board of Elections Meeting Room**

**122 W. Water St.**

**Bainbridge, GA 39819**

**May 27, 2016**

**Call To Order**

**Administrative Notes**

The monthly meeting of the Decatur County Board of Elections and Voter Registration was called to order by Interim Chairman Willie Lamb at 5:57 p.m. and stated that the meeting has been duly advertised in the newspaper and on the buildings properly identifying meeting date, time and location as required by governing laws.

**Board Members present: Staff present:**

Interim Chairman Willie Lamb Jr. Carol P. Heard (Chief Elections Official)

Beverly W. Holmes Linda Walton (Clerk of Voter Registration)

Keith Sellars IT: Sterling Widner

Gina Burke Elections Staff to serve as duplication team: Carla Robinson and Margaret Bryant.

**Approve Minutes**

Board Member Gina Burke made a motion to accept the minutes of the May 10, 2016, meeting. Board Member Keith Sellars seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

**Old Business**

**(A) Budget**

The budget had not changed significantly since the last meeting, so discussion on it was waived.

**New Business**

**(A) Consideration of provisional ballots**

Clerk of Voter Registration Linda Walton presented the 35 provisional ballots cast in the May 24, 2016, Primary/Nonpartisan General Election.

Persons who cast ballots but were not registered or who had been canceled:

* **Attapulgus:** Tina Marie Surrency (not registered)
* **Coliseum:** Alexandra Bush (not registered) and Dana J Turner (canceled)
* **Fairgrounds:** Jasmine Tate (not registered), Tonnee Williams (not registered) and Matthew H Hitchcock (registered after April 26 deadline)
* **Mount Pleasant:** Clavance Brown (not registered)
* **West Bainbridge:** Sandra Faye Allen (canceled) and Kristin P Cox (registered after April 26 deadline)
* **Advance voting – Courthouse Annex:** Brenda Lajean Bowen (canceled), Donna Avery (canceled), Randall Brian Donalson (canceled), Sybil Michelle Reffitt (canceled) and Montavious Moten (registered after April 26 deadline)
* **Advance voting – Fairgrounds:** Joette Ann Cutchin (registered after April 26 deadline); Robert Maston Harrell (canceled), John Marvin Mills (registered after April 26 deadline) and Kathy Harrell (registered after April 26 deadline).

Voters who voted out of precinct but registered in Decatur County:

* **Attapulgus:** Ethel Wills and Terri Henry Shilo.
* **Fairgrounds:** Amber Cook, Betty W. Elkins, Ronna Carole Faircloth, Bradley Garrett Hanks, Mary Ruth Gilliam, Ricky E Howard, Roy W Howard, Sheddrick Hurst, Learom Jones, Garon Sellars, Gary D Sellars and Bobby Dale Williams.
* **Mount Pleasant:** Randal Irwin Faircloth
* **Recovery:** Rita Sekula
* **West Bainbridge:** Parker Hansen Heard.

Board member Keith Sellars made a motion to reject those provisional ballots voted on by persons not registered in Decatur County or who had been canceled. Board member Gina Burke seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Board member Keith Sellars made a motion that those persons who registered after the April 26 deadline be rejected. Board member Beverly Holmes seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Board member Beverly Holmes made a motion that those voters who are registered in Decatur County but voted out of precinct that their votes be accepted and counted. Board member Keith Sellars seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

The board’s duplication team of elections staff members Margaret Bryant, Carla Robinson, Linda Walton, Carol Heard and Board Member Keith Sellars logged in the ballots, duplicated them onto the voters’ correct ballot and then counted.

The one UOCAVA ballot that was not a part of the early tabulation was also counted.

**(B) Association of County Commissioners of Georgia regional meeting on voting and elections**

Chief Elections Official Carol Heard said she received an email from a representatives of the Association of County Commissioners announcing regional meetings with one of many subjects being voting and elections. Heard said she was awaiting word from County Administrator Alan Thomas on if he would recommend going.

Board Member Keith Sellars made a motion to allow the Elections Board staff to go if our schedule would allow it. Board Member Beverly Holmes seconded that motion. Motion passed unanimously. (Mr. Thomas didn’t recommend we go because he said we would travel for four hours for a 10- to 20-minute presentation. Staff informed Chairman Willie Lamb of the county administrator’s recommendation.)

Board Member Keith Sellars recommended that Interim Chairman Willie Lamb reach out to Chairman Wendell Cofer to rejoin the board after he recused himself for the month of May. Lamb said he’s already talked with him after the election. Sellars said it would be a big loss to the board for Cofer not to rejoin it, and Sellars added that he was comfortable with how things were handled. Board member Beverly Holmes said if Cofer was here he would have been proud of how things were handled.

The Board adjourned by 6:12 p.m.