

Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration
Decatur County Board County Commissioners Meeting Room
203 W. Broughton St.
Bainbridge, GA 39817
July 11, 2017

Call To Order

Administrative Notes

The monthly meeting of the Decatur County Board of Elections and Voter Registration was called to order by Board Vice Chairman Willie Lamb Jr. at 6:34 p.m. and stated that the meeting had been duly advertised in the newspaper and on the appropriate buildings properly identifying meeting date, time and location as required by governing laws. Board Chairman Wendell Cofer had an emergency call and was unable to attend. Chief Elections Official Carol Heard was attending professional development courses in Fort Myers, Fla.

Public Participation: None

Board Members present:

Board Vice Chairman Willie Lamb Jr.

Board Member Beverly Holmes

Board Member Gina Burke

Board Member Keith Sellars

Staff present:

Linda Walton, Clerk of Voter Registration

Staff Member Margaret Bryant

Approve Minutes

Board Member Keith Sellars made a motion to accept the minutes from the June 13, 2017, meeting, and Board Member Beverly Holmes seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Budget

Clerk of Voter Registration Linda Walton presented the Board members with the ending 2016-17 budget and said nothing has changed with the incoming 2017-18 budget. Board Member Keith Sellars said he noticed that the budget is at a higher percentage because of upcoming training and travel. Member Keith Sellars moved that further discussion on the budget be tabled until the next meeting. Board Member Beverly Holmes seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

Old Business

A. Poll Worker Agreement and new compensation package.

Clerk of Voter Registration Linda Walton presented three separate pay rates for poll workers that would be uniformed across the nine precincts. Staff recommended the following package: Managers at all nine precincts would be paid \$12 an hour; assistant managers would be paid

\$10 an hour; clerks and greeters would be paid \$9 an hour, and advance voting clerks would be paid \$9 an hour. Board Member Beverly Holmes said the ultimate difference in the overall cost per election is not much. Board Member Gina Burke made a motion to approve the above detailed poll workers compensation package. Board Member Beverly Holmes seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Discussion of changing meeting place.

Board Member Beverly Holmes made a motion to table the changing of the meeting place to await a report from Chairman Wendell Cofer. Board Member Gina Burke seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Board Member Keith Sellars suggested staff follow up with Chairman Cofer to ensure that necessary information from County Administrator Alan Thomas was obtained prior to the next board meeting.

C. Discussion of computer security and worst-case scenario.

Board Member Keith Sellars said he wished he had been at the last meeting when IT Manager Roy Reynolds discussed the computer security with the Board at the last meeting. Considering his expertise and background, Sellars said he had experienced a ransom malware incident at his job and said he fears the elections office may not be doing enough to protect itself. Sellars said the Elections Office needs to have a good back-up plan for all computers and databases, and the Board needs to take a much stronger look at what the elections office has in terms of backing-up its computers.

All the voter registration information is through the Secretary of State's eNet website, which is controlled by the Secretary of State. Election results are not connected to the internet and are backed-up with CDs during each stage of working with the DREs and the GEMS. For example, during logic and accuracy operations, a CD is created as a back-up.

Board Member Beverly Holmes recommended that the discussion continue at the next meeting with IT Manager Roy Reynolds in attendance.

Adjournment -- The meeting adjourned at 7 p.m.