**Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration**

**Decatur County Elections Office, Courthouse Annex**

**122 W. Water St.**

**Bainbridge, GA 39817**

**January 31, 2020**

1. **Call To Order**
2. **Administrative Notes and Announcements**
3. The regular meeting of the Decatur County Board of Elections and Voter Registration was called to order by Board Chairman Keith Sellars at 5 p.m., and stated that the meeting had been placed on the appropriate building properly identifying meeting date, time and location as required by governing laws.
4. **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 Poll workers: Suzan Yates, Melba Andrews, Billy

Board Member Dan Provence Ward, Edith Miller and Emma Sales.

1. **Old BUSINESS**
2. **Certification of Jan. 28, 2020, Special Election for House District 171**

Chief Elections Official Carol Heard said there were four provisional ballots. All of them were out of precinct from the Fairgrounds. All were counted, and all those voters were given credit for voting. Heard also gave the board members a copy of final and complete results.

Chairman Keith Sellars requested an explanation of the “unresolved write-in” line in the results.

CEO Heard said a voter wrote-in the name of an uncertified candidate, and the tabulator counts that vote as an “unresolved write-in.” Heard said a blank ballot is also noted as a vote cast, but there are no votes to go toward a candidate’s count. Heard said it is very important for voters to review their ballots.

A motion was forwarded by Chairman Keith Sellars to accept the final and complete returns of the Jan. 28, 2020, Special Election for House District 171, and to certify the election. Board Member Dan Provence moved the motion, Vice-Chairman Beverly Holmes seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

1. **Recap of Special Election**

CEO Heard said the county’s poll workers did an exceptionally great job. She said there were some poll watchers this election, and they were very complementary of the poll workers.

The deployment worked well this time by using the cages to secure and transport the equipment. She said she would like to order additional smaller cages for the PPP.

Chairman Keith Sellars encouraged poll workers to be forthcoming with any suggestions on improving our operations. He told the poll workers that they are a vital part of what the election office does and a vital part of improving the office’s operations. Chairman Sellars also expressed appreciation for their work and willingness to accepting the new equipment.

**Adjourned at 5:08 p.m.**