

Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration

Decatur County Elections Office, Courthouse Annex

122 W. Water St.

Bainbridge, GA 39817

September 13, 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 6:32 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 could not attend.

Public Participation: None

Board Members present:

Board Chairman Keith Sellars

Vice Chairman Beverly Holmes

Board Member Dan Provence

Board Member Johnny Brown

Staff and others present:

Joyce Coddington, Chief Elections Official

Linda Walton, Assistant Chief Elections Official

Margaret Bryant, Deputy Registrar

Rebecca Harrell, Charles Harrell, Emma Sales,

Megan Phillips, Evelyn Severson, Patricia Williams

Melba Andrews, Edith Miller, Ebony Christmas

Approved Minutes

Vice Chairman Beverly Holmes made a motion to accept the minutes from the September 13, 2022, regular meeting. Board Member Johnny Brown seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Budget

Chief Elections Official Joyce Coddington reviewed the current budget. The ideal remaining should be 93 percent. Coddington said this was due to the beginning of the new physical year. Coddington also expressed that the budget would change over the coming months for the November election. Board Member Dan Provence asked about an item in operating expenses for \$1240.00. Coddington expressed that she would look into the amount and email the Board. Vice Chairman Holmes asked for a more complete breakdown of the budget. Coddington agreed to have it for the Board on next meeting.

Absentee Ballots

Absentee Ballots began on August 22, 2022, Chief Coddington expressed that over 300 applications have been received to date, with the expectations of more to come. Coddington also advised the Board of the advertisements that will hopefully make a difference in voter turnout.

Old Business

A. Job Interviews on September 6, 2022

Chairman Sellars reviewed the job interviews from September 6, 2022. Chairman Sellars expressed that the interviews went very well and he was very impressed with the interviewees; which made it very hard to decide.

B. Announcement for the new CEO and Assistant CEO

Chairman Sellars stated that after interviews the decision was made to vote by email (unanimously) to appoint Coddington to Chief Elections Official and Linda Walton to Assistant Chief Elections Official. According to Ga Election law which allows for an official vote to be made electronically (email) as long as that vote is unanimous. Chairman Sellars read the motion that was put forth in the email on September 6, 2022; which included two motions. The first motion was to appoint Coddington to the CEO position at a starting salary of \$43,918 yearly, with a stipulation that a review be made after 6 months to reassess salary. The second motion was to appoint Linda Walton to Assistant CEO at a starting salary of \$37,500 yearly and the same 6 months stipulation to reassess salary. The email vote was unanimous.

Chairman Sellars expressed his gratitude to the poll workers and employees of the office.

Chairman Sellars read the upcoming events.

Poll worker Miller asked about the Annual Award for Poll Workers. Coddington agreed to look into when that will happen.

ADJOURNMENT:

Vice Chairman Holmes motioned for adjournment; Board Member Provence seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Time of adjournment 6:48pm