**Decatur County Board of Elections and Registration, Decatur County Elections Office, Courthouse Annex 122-W. Water St.**

**Bainbridge, GA 39817**

**July 21, 2025**

**Call To Order**

**Administrative Notes and Announcements**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Decatur County Board of Elections and Voter Registration was called to order by Chairman Holmes at 4:03 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. Member Brown was unable to attend.

**Public Participation:**

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

Chairman Beverly Holmes Joyce Coddington, Elections Supervisor

Vice Chairman Dan Provence Linda Walton, Asst. Elections Supervisor

Board Member Laura Winburn Patricia Williams, and Charles Murphy

Board Member Gina Burke

**Approved Minutes**

Member Burke motioned to accept the meeting minutes from May 13, 2025. Vice Chairman Provence seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously.

**Budget**

Coddington informed the Board that we were currently in the new budget. Coddington informed the Board that the final budget for the previous year was still incomplete. Member Burke had a question regarding the contract labor. Coddington explained that these expenses were part of deployment expenses.

**Old Business**

There was no old business.

**New Business**

Chairman Holmes called for the certification of the July 17, 2025, Public Service Commissioner Democratic Runoff. According to Coddington, this election had a turnout of roughly 1%. Member Burke wanted to know how much this election cost per voter. Because all voting was done at the Annex, and fewer staff were required, Coddington told the Board, the cost per voter would be lower.

Chairman Holmes inquired about absentee ballots for the runoff. On Election Day, Coddington reported that no ballots had been received before the deadline. Chairman Holmes also mentioned that ballots were not being received due to the mail being slow. Coddington agreed that sometimes the mail is slow and that normally if the ballot is mailed locally, then our post office sends it directly to our PO box instead of sending it through other locations. Ballots not locally sent get routed through other locations, such as Jacksonville, FL, before coming here.

Coddington asked the Board to move the next meeting to September 9, 2025, due to the conference in Savannah in August.

Chairman Holmes advised the Board that during the slow seasons, meetings will be scheduled and modified as needed.

The next meeting was set for September 9, 2025, at 5 pm.

Adjournment: 4:17 pm

Vice Chairman Provence 1st

Member Burke 2nd

The motion passed unanimously.