

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD
OF REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS
DEKALB COUNTY
January 14, 2016**

The DeKalb Board of Registration and Elections convened to conduct its monthly meeting on January 14, in the Absentee area at 4380 Memorial Drive with Board Chair Samuel Tillman presiding.

Present: Michael Coveny, Board Member
Baoky Vu, Board Member
Maxine Daniels, Director
Mary Frances Weeks, Administrative Assistant

Absent: William Mercier, Board Member
Leona Perry, Board Member

Mr. Tillman called the meeting to order at approximately 4:45 PM, once a quorum was attained. He then requested an addition to the agenda to allow the Board to go into Executive Session at the end of the meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Coveny to adopt the revised agenda. Mr. Vu seconded the motion. Mr. Tillman stated the motion was made and seconded. The question was called and the motion was approved.

Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Coveny to approve the minutes as written from the December 4, 2015 meeting. Mr. Vu seconded the motion. Mr. Tillman stated the motion was made and seconded. The question was called and the minutes were approved.

Comments from the Public - None

Challenges - Director Maxine Daniels presented the following challenge with staff recommendation for removal.

- A) Elizabeth S. Springer -- The Board was provided with a request from Dr. Robert Weinberg, who lives at the registered address, stating that Ms. Springer does not live there, along with our challenge letter, which was returned undeliverable. A motion was made by Mr. Coveny to remove Elizabeth Springer's name from the DeKalb County voter rolls. Mr. Vu seconded the motion. Mr. Tillman stated the motion was made and seconded. The question was called and the motion was approved.

Unfinished Business -- None

New Business

- A) Sunday Voting -- Ms. Daniels requested direction from the Board regarding whether or not to offer Sunday voting during the 2016 Election Cycle. Mr. Vu asked the cost incurred for Sunday voting. Ms. Daniels responded that the cost was primarily for staffing since we do not have to pay the three facilities utilized, and estimated approximately \$2,000 per location, equaling \$6,000 per election. A motion was made by Mr. Coveny to decline Sunday voting for discussion purposes only. Mr. Vu seconded the motion. Mr. Tillman stated the motion was made and seconded. The question was called and the motion was approved. After much discussion, Mr. Coveny made the motion to approve Sunday voting for the General Primary and General Elections only. Mr. Tillman seconded the motion. Mr. Tillman stated the motion was made and seconded. The question was called and the motion was approved with a vote of 2-1.

- B) Tax Commissioner Status – Ms. Daniels explained that we are awaiting direction from the Law Department pursuant to the retirement of Tax Commissioner Claudia Lawson, as to whether Mr. Johnson, who is currently serving in that capacity, would be considered the Incumbent on the General Primary Ballot. There are two conflicting state laws, which Ms. Daniels will forward to the Board. It is conceivable that there may be a Special Election in May to fill the remainder of Ms. Lawson’s term at the same time the General Primary is being held for the Office of Tax Commissioner. She stated we will proceed according to the Law Department’s opinion.
- C) Proposed Precinct Change – Terry Mill Relocation
Ms. Daniels explained that we have just been notified that Terry Mill Elementary School will be under construction and unavailable as a polling place in March. Greater Piney Grove Baptist Church was contacted and has graciously agreed to allow the Terry Mill Precinct to relocate and provide a separate area from the Piney Grove precinct that is already housed there. A motion was made by Mr. Coveny to approve the request, seconded by Mr. Vu. The question was called and the motion was approved.
- D) Proposed Precinct Change – Chamblee High Relocation
Ms. Daniels explained that due to timing, we were unable to make the boundary changes approved at the December meeting by the March 1 election. She is requesting the relocation of the Chamblee High (renamed Chamblee 2) precinct to the Chamblee Civic Center for the March election, after which boundary lines will be adjusted as approved last month. A motion was made by Mr. Vu to approve the request, seconded by Mr. Coveny. The question was called and the motion was approved.
- E) Proposed Precinct Change – Clifton Elementary & Meadowview Elementary Relocation
Ms. Daniels explained that we have been notified by the Board of Education that next school year both Clifton Elementary and Meadowview Elementary Schools will be under construction. We are requesting that, effective with the General Primary Election, these two precincts be relocated to Beulah Missionary Baptist Church and renamed Clifton/Meadowview Precinct. A motion was made by Mr. Vu to approve the request, seconded by Mr. Coveny. The question was called and the motion was approved. Mr. Tillman stated that he would be contact the Chair of the School Board for a possible meeting with the VR&E Board regarding precinct issues at DeKalb schools.

Information Items Included in Packet: (Reviewed by Board members with comments)

- A) Work Performed in Office
- B) Staff Meeting Minutes
- C) Information Only – February Board Meeting to be located in Training Room

Ms. Daniels gave a summary of comparisons of work performed in office between 2013 and 2015, with great increases in 2015, particularly with address/name changes.

Mr. Tillman asked for a motion for the Board to go into Executive Session. Mr. Coveny made a motion for the Board to go into Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Vu. The question was called and the motion was approved. The Board excused themselves to another location. Upon return to regular session, Mr. Tillman made the following statement: “No decisions were made and no votes were taken while in Executive Session.” A signed affidavit to this effect will be placed with the minutes.

January 14, 2015

Page 3

Comments from the Board

Mr. Vu reported on an e-mail he received from a former precinct manager, which he had forwarded to Ms. Daniels. Ms. Daniels replied that she had received it and is working on a response.

Mr. Tillman inquired about the status of the Elections Supervisor. Ms. Daniels responded that he is still on Administrative Leave with pay and we are working with both the Law Department and HR for resolution. Investigation by Secretary of State is still in progress and we have provided them with all of the documentation they have requested. Mr. Tillman directed Ms. Daniels to advise HR and the Law Department that the Board would like this resolved as soon as possible, and that the investigation would have little or no bearing on the disposition of the employee. Ms. Daniels stated that she will set up an appointment with attorney Laura Johnson and the Board to discuss the issue.

Mr. Tillman also inquired about employees planning to retire in the near future. Ms. Daniels responded that she knew of four that are planning to retire in 2017, including herself, Glenda Woods, who is currently cross training Tiffani Gilbert, Deborah Christian and Mary Frances Weeks.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Mary Frances Weeks, Administrative Assistant
Registration and Elections

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE BOARD
OF REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS
DEKALB COUNTY
January 14, 2016**

CONFIDENTIAL

Chair Samuel Tillman announced that the Board would adjourn into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter.

An "Open Meeting Affidavit" document was signed and notarized and will be included with the minutes.

There being no further business, the Executive Session was adjourned and the Board returned to open session.

Mary Frances Weeks
Administrative Assistant