

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD  
OF REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS  
DEKALB COUNTY  
May 11, 2017**

The DeKalb Board of Registration and Elections convened to conduct its monthly meeting on May 11th, in the Absentee Area at 4380 Memorial Drive with Board Chair Samuel Tillman presiding.

Present:                   Michael Coveny, Board Member  
                              Leona Perry, Board Member  
                              Anthony Lewis, Board Member  
                              Baoky Vu, Board Member  
                              Erica Hamilton, Assistant Director  
                              Mary Frances Weeks, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Tillman called the meeting to order at approximately 4:35 PM and asked for approval of the agenda. A motion was made by Mr. Lewis to adopt the agenda. Ms. Perry 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. Vu to approve the minutes as written from the April 24th meeting. Ms. Perry 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

Mr. Tillman explained the rules and time limitations on public comments. Several individuals signed in to speak on behalf of expanding advance voting sites and times for the Congressional 6 Special Runoff Election, one regarding the relocation of the Hawthorne Elementary polling location, and one in favor of utilizing paper ballots for the upcoming special election. Mr. Tillman stated that, as a rule, the Board does not respond to public comments, but he would like to make it clear that the Board is aware of the public interest and has received numerous e-mails, texts, letters, etc. regarding this; however, there are many things that have to be considered in order to secure advance locations including, but not limited to, availability and security.

Advance Polling Location Expansion Consideration for Special Runoff Election

The Voter Registration & Elections staff has done due diligence in securing locations for possible advance voting sites for the Congressional 6 Runoff Election and the Board was presented with all options. A motion was made by Mr. Coveny to utilize the following early voting locations in addition to the main office: North DeKalb Senior Center at 3393 Malone Drive, Chamblee; Tucker Recreation Center at 4898 LaVista Road, Tucker; Briarwood Recreation Center at 2235 Briarwood Way, Brookhaven for the three week period and Dunwoody Library at 5339 Chamblee Dunwoody Road for the week before the election. All locations will be open on Saturday, June 10. Ms. Perry seconded the motion. Mr. Lewis inquired about the cost of adding the advance voting sites. Ms. Hamilton was hesitant to respond; however, indicated that it could be as much as an additional \$20,000 per location. After additional discussion, considering a possible Board policy change, Mr. Tillman stated the motion was made and seconded. The question was called and the motion was approved.

Unfinished Business – None

New Business

- A) Polling Place Temporary Relocation – Hawthorne Elementary -- Ms. Hamilton explained that we were told we could not use Hawthorne Elementary for the June 20 Election by the DeKalb County Board of Education Facilities Department and suggested that we relocate to Warren Tech. A motion was made by Mr. Vu to approve the temporary move. Mr. Lewis seconded the motion. Mr. Tillman stated the motion was made and seconded. The question was called and the motion was approved. A letter has been prepared to go out to all voters in the precinct advising them of the move. Because of earlier concerns expressed, Mr. Convey asked Mr. Richard Boyd, Director of Design and Construction, who represented DeKalb County Schools to comment. He explained that the power supply is being switched out and there would be no power at Hawthorne Elementary the last three weeks of June. Mr. Tillman commented that we have had a wonderful working relationship with the School Board.
- B) Whitefoord Elementary School Relocation to Coan Recreation Center -- Ms. Hamilton explained that Whitefoord Elementary School was being closed at the end of this school year and would be unavailable for the November Elections and we had secured Coan Recreation Center as a replacement, which we have also used as an Advance Voting location. A motion was made by Mr. Convey to approve the relocation. Mr. Vu seconded the motion. Mr. Tillman stated the motion was made and seconded. The question was called and the motion was approved.
- C) Voter Registration Court Order – The Board was provided with a copy of the Court Order extending the registration deadline for the Special Federal Runoff Election to May 21, which Ms. Hamilton summarized. She reported that initially we were getting in about 1,000 new registrations daily, but they have since tapered off to around 600 per day.

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

- A) Work Performed in Office
- B) Staff Minutes

Comments from the Board – None

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Mary Frances Weeks, Administrative Assistant  
Registration and Elections