

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD
OF REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS
DEKALB COUNTY
April 11, 2019**

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

Present: Michael Coveny, Board Member
 Leona Perry, Board Member
 Baoky Vu, Board Member
 Erica Hamilton, Director
 Tiffani Gilbert, Elections Supervisor
 Twyla Hart, Registration Supervisor
 Mary Frances Weeks, Administrative Assistant

Absent: Anthony Lewis, Board Member

Mr. Tillman called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM and asked for approval of the agenda. There were no changes or additions and the agenda was adopted.

Minutes

A motion was made by Ms. Perry to approve the minutes as written from the February 14th meeting. Mr. Coveny 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

One citizen signed in to speak in support of hand marked paper ballots.

Legislative Update

Ms. Hamilton reported that the primary legislation that impacts our Department was HB 316 that changes the ballot marking devices as well as some voter registration clean up, provisional and absentee ballot items, which has been signed into law by the Governor. Mr. Tillman spoke on the Ethics Bill which is on the Governor's desk to be signed and will require a referendum. The bill that restructures Board appointments also passed whereby two nominations will come from each local political party with the Chief Judge of Superior Court making the four partisan appointments and then name a 5th nonpartisan member.

Unfinished Business -- None

New Business

- A) Introduction of New Elections Supervisor – Ms. Hamilton announced that Elections Coordinator Tiffani Gilbert from the Department has been promoted to the position of Elections Supervisor after three candidates were interviewed. Ms. Gilbert has been on staff as a temporary employee since 2008 and became a permanent employee in 2015. Mr. Tillman welcomed and congratulated Ms. Gilbert on her new position on behalf of the Board and commented she was, by far, the most qualified candidate.

B) Polling Place Relocations

- 1) Epworth/Candler Park – The Epworth Precinct was temporarily moved from Epworth UMC to Mary Lin Elementary last year due to extensive renovations. The precinct is now able to return; however, since the church has changed its name, they requested that the precinct be renamed to Candler Park Precinct. A motion was made by Mr. Coveny to approve the proposed changes. Mr. Vu seconded the motion. Mr. Tillman stated the motion was made and seconded. The question was called, and the motion was approved.
- 2) MLK Jr. High/Snapfinger Road – Due to difficulty in finding an adequate location within MLK Jr. High School to place the polling place, Solid Rock AME Zion Church has agreed to serve with the name of Snapfinger Road Precinct. A motion was made by Mr. Coveny to approve the proposed change. Mr. Vu seconded the motion. Mr. Tillman commented on the name since we already have other precincts with “Snapfinger” in their names. Mr. Tillman stated the motion was made and seconded. The question was called, and the motion was approved.
- 3) Tucker/Tucker Library – The First Baptist Church of Tucker is no longer available to serve as a polling place and the First Methodist Church of Tucker has agreed to take its place. In an effort to correctly identify precincts within the City of Tucker, the Tucker Precinct will be located at the First Methodist Church of Tucker and the Tucker Library Precinct will be located at the new Tucker Library. A motion was made by Mr. Coveny to approve the proposed changes. Mr. Vu seconded the motion. Mr. Tillman stated the motion was made and seconded. The question was called, and the motion was approved.

- C) Upcoming Audit – Ms. Hamilton reported that the Board of Commissioners approved an independent outside auditor to come in and review the department’s performance and procedures. The department is ready and willing to completely cooperate with any requests they have in order to perform their audit. It is expected to take six to nine months to complete.

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

A) Work Performed in Office

Ms. Hamilton reported that she has asked both Election Supervisor Tiffani Gilbert and Registration Supervisor Twyla Hart to start attending Board meetings so that the entire management team will be aware of everything that is taking place.

Ms. Hamilton reported on two SEB cases next Wednesday at 9 AM – one regarding a UOCAVA voter and the other regarding an ADA polling place complaint, both from 2015.

Comments from the Board – None

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Mary Frances Weeks, Administrative Assistant
Registration and Elections