# MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS DEKALB COUNTY October 10, 2019

The DeKalb Board of Registration and Elections convened to conduct its monthly meeting on October 10<sup>th</sup>, in the Absentee Area at 4380 Memorial Drive with Board Chair Samuel Tillman presiding.

Present: Anthony Lewis, Board Member

Susan Motter, Board Member

Dele Lowman Smith, Board Member

Baoky Vu, Board Member Erica Hamilton, Director

Tiffani Gilbert, Elections Supervisor Twyla Hart, Registration Supervisor

Sharon Hillman, Administrative Coordinator

Mr. Tillman called the meeting to order at approximately 4:33 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 Mr. Vu to approve the minutes. Ms. Smith seconded the motion. The question was called and the motion was approved unanimously.

### Comments from the Public

Six citizens signed in and addressed the Board. Citizens voiced their concerns on placing voters in cancelled status and of their concerns on keeping voter rolls up-to-date. One citizen provided information regarding an agenda item.

<u>Challenges</u> -- Director Erica Hamilton provided the Georgia Code section for challenging voters and presented the following challenges.

- A) John Coleman —The Board was provided information from Jamie Schickler and Winston Persaud that John Coleman did not reside at the registered address. A letter was mailed to Mr. Coleman asking to verify his address. With no return correspondence, the staff recommended to place the voter into cancelled status. Mr. Vu made a motion to follow the staff recommendation and change the status to cancelled. Mr. Lewis seconded the motion. The question was called and the motion was passed with a 3-2 vote. Ms. Smith and Ms. Motter voted nay.
- B) <u>Simba McWonder</u> The Board was provided information from Thomas Bowen who resides at the registered address that Simba McWonder does not reside at the address. A letter was mailed to Simba McWonder. No return correspondence was received. The staff recommended to place the voter into cancelled status. Mr. Lewis made a motion to follow the staff recommendation and change the status to cancelled. Mr. Vu seconded the motion. The question was called and the motion was passed with a 3-2 vote. Ms. Smith and Ms. Motter voted nay.
- C) <u>Jesse Posey</u> The Board was provided information from Sheryl Shanholtzer who resides at the registered address that Jesse Posey does not reside at the address. A letter was mailed to Jesse Posey, and no correspondence was returned to the office. The staff recommendation was to place the voter in cancelled status. Mr. Vu made a motion to change Jesse Posey's registration status to cancelled. Mr. Lewis seconded the motion. There was a discussion regarding the site where Mr. Posey registered. Mr. Vu motioned

to table any vote or discussion while Registration Supervisor Twyla Hart gathered additional information. Ms. Smith seconded the motion. The question was called and the motion was approved unanimously.

After discussion of unfinished business and with new supporting evidence, Ms. Smith motioned to remove Jesse Posey from the table. The motion was second by Mr. Vu. Ms. Hamilton brought additional information on Mr. Posey's registration history. Mr. Vu made a motion to place Mr. Posey into cancelled status. Mr. Lewis second the motion. The question was called and the motion was unanimously passed.

- D) <u>Michael White</u> The Board was provided information from Michael White who resides at the registered address that the particular Michael White in question does not reside at the registered address. A letter was mailed to Mr. White. No return correspondence was received. The staff recommended to place the voter into cancelled status. Ms. Smith questioned status regarding the voter registration process. Mr. Vu made a motion to follow the staff recommendation and change the status to cancelled. Mr. Lewis seconded the motion. The question was called and the motion was passed with a 3-2 vote. Ms. Smith and Ms. Motter voted nay
- E) <u>DeShawn Tracy Willborn</u> The Board was provided information from the resident of the registered address that Mr. Willborn did not reside at the address but that he actually resides across the hall. A letter was mailed to Mr. Willborn, and the office did not receive correspondence back. There was a discussion on contacting Mr. Willborn by different means. Mr. Vu motioned to table to the vote until further research was completed. Mr. Lewis seconded the motion. The question was called and the motion was passed unanimously.

### **Unfinished Business**

A) Challenge List Provided By Lawrence H. Hoskins – Members of the Board discussed the new format requested at the September meeting for the challenges brought by Mr. Lawrence Hoskins. Chairman Tillman stated that because the Registration Deadline for the November 5, 2019 deadline had passed, he was hesitant to place any voters from this group into the cancelled status. Ms. Smith motioned to table the discussion until the November Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Motter. The question was called and the motion was passed unanimously.

## **New Business**

- A) November Board Meeting Date Ms. Hamilton stated that due to HB 316, the certification deadline has been extended, and she recommended the November Board Meeting be moved to November 15<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Vu made a motion to change the date to November 15<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Smith seconded the motion. The question was called and the motion passed unanimously.
- B) Approve the November 5, 2019 General Municipal/Special Election Poll Officials The Board was provided a list of Election Officials with demographical information, in accordance to O.C.G.A § 21-2-90. Ms. Hamilton stated the training would complete next week. A motion was made to approve the list of Poll Officials and was seconded. The question was called and the motion was unanimously passed.
- C) Emory Road Precinct Change Ms. Hamilton stated that the staff was not able to find an adequate permanent replacement for the Emory Road Precinct. It is the recommendation of the staff that the precinct be split between the Fernbank Elementary Precinct and the Druid Hills Precinct. Per Georgia Law, the precinct changes would be brought to the Board of Commissioners for a vote if the Board of Voter Registration and Elections approved them. Mr. Vu made a motion to approve that the changes recommended by the staff be brought to the Board of Commissioners. Ms. Smith second the motion. After discussion on engaging the community on the changes, the question was called and the motion was approved unanimously.

 $\underline{\text{Comments from the Board}} - \text{Mr.}$  Lewis spoke on the importance of considering both sides of challenges when brought to the Board.

 $\underline{\text{Comments from the Staff}}$  – Ms. Hamilton informed the Board that final preparations were being made for the start of Early and Election Day voting as well as that some staff training had begun on the new equipment.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Sharon Hillman, Administrative Coordinator. Registration and Elections