

# BOARD OF REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS SCHEDULED MEETING

June 23, 2025 12:00 PM Memorial Drive Auditorium

DCTV's UStream channel: <a href="https://video.ibm.com/channel/xUJgKs6n2VW">https://video.ibm.com/channel/xUJgKs6n2VW</a>

- 1. ROLL CALL
- 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
  - A. May 8, 2025 Scheduled Meeting (p. 2)
  - B. June 9, 2025 Special Called Meeting (p. 5)
  - C. June 18, 2025 Special Called Meeting (p. 7)
- 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS
- 5. ITEMS FOR DECISION
  - A. Certification of the Special Primary Public Service Commissioner Election (p. 9)
  - B. Early Voting Locations, Dates, and Times for Election Runoff (p. 23)
- 6. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION
  - A. Pre-Certification Meeting | | Special Primary Public Service Commissioner Election Runoff
  - B. DeKalb County Board of Registration & Elections Bylaws
- 7. EXECUTIVE SESSION
- 8. BOARD COMMENTS
- 9. ADJOURNMENT

# DeKalb County Board of Registration and Elections Meeting Minutes

May 8, 2025

Start Time: 4:46 p.m. End Time: 5:33 p.m.

Board Attendees: Karli Swift, Chair

Vasu Abhiraman, Vice-Chair

Nancy Jester Anthony Lewis Susan Motter

Other Attendees: Keisha Smith, Executive Director

Terry Phillips, Deputy County Attorney Michael Petty, Assistant County Attorney

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chair Swift called the Board of Registration and Elections meeting to order at 4:46 p.m. Ms. Austin read the roll by calling each board member by name. A quorum was met.

Motion by Mr. Lewis, seconded by Vice-Chair Abhiraman, to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Vice-Chair Abhiraman, seconded by Ms. Motter, to approve the minutes of the March 13 scheduled meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Vice-Chair Abhiraman, seconded by Mr. Lewis, to approve the minutes of the April 10 scheduled meeting. Ms. Motter abstained as she was not present for that meeting. The motion passed.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Ms. Austin read the rules for public comment:

Public comments may be made in person or submitted by sending an email of one printed page or less at a minimum font of 12 to electionspubliccmnt@dekalbcountyga.gov which must be received between 35 and 5 minutes before the scheduled start of the meeting. The body of your email must include your first and last name. By submitting an email for public comment, you agree to have your name and the email broadcast on the UStream and entered into the record and minutes. The DeKalb Board of Registration and Elections reserves the right, at the DeKalb Board of Registration and Elections' sole discretion, to (1) add your email to the record/minutes without reading any of it into the broadcast or (2) read all or a portion of your email into the record/minutes. All public comments will be limited to 2 minutes. Abusive, profane, or derogatory language, holding up signs, clapping, yelling, standing or laying in the aisles to show support for or opposition to a speaker will

not be permitted, but a show of hands or quietly standing in place will be permitted to show support for or opposition to a speaker's position.

The following citizens provided public comment:

- Elizabeth Shackelford
- Cheryl Dudley
- Gail Lee
- Janet Grant
- John Arnold
- Nancy Arnold
- Denise Peterson
- Bill Henderson
- Online Comment- Marla Tepper

### **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

#### A) Director's Report

Director Smith reported on registration and returned mail processing, election activities including poll worker hiring, absentee ballot requests, ballot proofing, and L&A testing, budget activities, poll worker training, and outreach efforts.

Mr. Lewis asked what expenses were charged to the line item for dues in the budget. Director Smith replied that she would research that expense and get back to him. Mr. Lewis asked what accounted for the decrease in inactive electors and if it could have been due to state actions, county actions or if they expired off the inactive list. Director Smith replied that a combination of those factors could attribute to that change.

#### B) Legislative Updates

Mr. Petty advised that none of the election related bills had been signed by the Governor yet, and that there were 6 days remaining for them to be signed.

### C) Date for Pre-Certification Meeting || June Special Election

Chair Swift stated that the state required pre-certification meeting had to be held no later than 3 p.m. on the Friday following the PSC election on June 17<sup>th</sup>. She asked Mr. Petty if the precertification and certification meetings could be held on the same day and Mr. Petty replied that they could not be. Discussion ensued and the date for the pre-certification meeting was set for Wednesday, June 18<sup>th</sup> at 10a.m.

### **BOARD COMMENTS**

Vice-Chair Abhiraman thanked the public that regularly attend the meetings.

Ms. Motter thanked the staff, Executive Director Smith, the attorneys, and the Board and stated that this would be her next to last Board meeting. She also stated that she recently traveled to Japan and presented Japanese Kit Kats for the VRE staff.

Mr. Lewis shared concerns presented to him by the public expressing feelings regarding the Board's composition. He recounted details from his years of experience on the Board and encouraged interested

individuals to seek information on becoming a Board member. He went on to thank the security team, the staff, and the public.

Ms. Jester thanked Mr. Lewis for his comments and years of service and went on to thank the staff and Director Smith for a great report.

Chair Swift thanked the public for their comments, the staff, and Director Smith and further expounded on the composition of the Board.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Ms. Motter, seconded by Vice-Chair Abhiraman, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 5:33 p.m.



# DeKalb County Board of Registration and Elections Meeting Minutes

June 9, 2025

Start Time: 10:16 a.m. End Time: 10:30 a.m.

Board Attendees: Karli Swift, Chair

Vasu Abhiraman, Vice-Chair

Nancy Jester Susan Motter

Other Attendees: Keisha Smith, Executive Director

Terry Phillips, Deputy County Attorney Michael Petty, Assistant County Attorney

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Swift called the Board of Registration and Elections meeting to order at 10:16 a.m. Ms. Austin read the roll by calling each board member by name. A quorum was met.

Motion by Ms. Jester, seconded by Ms. Motter, to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Ms. Austin read the rules for public comment:

Public comments may be made in person or submitted by sending an email of one printed page or less at a minimum font of 12 to electionspubliccmnt@dekalbcountyga.gov which must be received between 35 and 5 minutes before the scheduled start of the meeting. The body of your email must include your first and last name. By submitting an email for public comment, you agree to have your name and the email broadcast on the UStream and entered into the record and minutes. The DeKalb Board of Registration and Elections reserves the right, at the DeKalb Board of Registration and Elections' sole discretion, to (1) add your email to the record/minutes without reading any of it into the broadcast or (2) read all or a portion of your email into the record/minutes. All public comments will be limited to 2 minutes. Abusive, profane, or derogatory language, holding up signs, clapping, yelling, standing or laying in the aisles to show support for or opposition to a speaker will not be permitted, but a show of hands or quietly standing in place will be permitted to show support for or opposition to a speaker's position.

The following citizens provided public comment:

- Quotisha Lundy
- Ida Davis
- Online Comment- Judy Sophianopoulos

#### ITEMS FOR DECISION

A) Emergency Polling Place Changes

Chair Swift began by providing context on the necessity of the special called meeting advising that emergency polling place changes were needed due to unfortunate circumstances that recently rendered two polling locations unavailable for the June 17 PSC election.

Director Smith presented the 2 proposed polling location changes. She stated that the first proposed change was due to Henderson Mill Elementary being unavailable and that Midvale Road and Henderson Mill precincts would temporarily combine with the Warren Tech precinct at Warren Technical School.

Ms. Motter elaborated the proposed changes for the public.

Chair Swift clarified that the changes are all related to construction occurring at the schools.

Director Smith presented the second proposed change stating that Toney Elem precinct would temporarily combine with Kelley Lake Elem precinct at Kelley Lake Elementary.

Vice-Chair Abhiraman also expressed his concern for voters that are accustomed to voting at Henderson Mill Elementary.

Ms. Motter confirmed that signage would be placed at the former polling sites to direct voters to the new locations and that letters would be sent to the impacted voters.

Director Smith added that letters to impacted voters were prepared and ready to be mailed out following the Board's vote.

Motion by Ms. Motter, seconded by Vice-Chair Abhiraman to approve the proposed emergency polling place changes for Midvale Road and Henderson Mill from Henderson Mill Elementary to Warren Technical School and Toney Elem from Toney Elementary to Kelley Lake Elementary. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **BOARD COMMENTS**

Ms. Motter said she was saving her comments for later.

Ms. Jester thanked the members from the school district for their attendance.

Vice-Chair Abhiraman echoed the comments from Ms. Jester and thanked everyone that was present.

Chair Swift thanked the community that was present and stated that efforts were being made to ensure that every eligible voter can vote and that the office would remain available for anyone that had questions.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Ms. Jester, seconded by Vice-Chair Abhiraman, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

# DeKalb County Board of Registration and Elections Meeting Minutes

June 18, 2025

Start Time: 10:04 a.m. End Time: 10:12 a.m.

Board Attendees: Karli Swift, Chair

Nancy Jester Anthony Lewis Susan Motter

Other Attendees: Keisha Smith, Executive Director

Michael Petty, Assistant County Attorney

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chair Swift called the Board of Registration and Elections meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. Ms. Austin read the roll by calling each board member by name. A quorum was met.

Motion by Ms. Jester, seconded by Mr. Lewis, to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no comments from the public.

#### **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

#### A) Pre-Certification Report

Chair Swift began by providing background for the public stating that the pre-certification meeting was a legally required meeting prior to certification.

Director Smith stated that in accordance with SEB Rule 183-1-12-.12 the department was required to present the pre-certification report and compare ballots cast to total number of unique voter IDs. She went on to present the pre-certification report.

Ms. Jester asked why write-ins were not available on the ballot. Director Smith replied that write-ins are not an option during primary elections.

Mr. Lewis commented that voter turnout on Election Day was higher than during the early voting period, constituting 4% of the total 6% turnout. Director Smith added that DeKalb's turnout was higher than the state average for both early voting and Election Day.

Ms. Motter noted that most of the discrepancies in the pre-certification report were from Election Day and was curious if that was a trend and could be addressed. Director Smith stated that during early voting there is time to do hourly checks for any discrepancies, but Election Day discrepancies are reconciled during the canvassing process which occurs between Election Day and certification.

Chair Swift reiterated that the pre-certification meeting was legally required and stated that the fully audited final data would be presented at the certification meeting.

### **BOARD COMMENTS**

Chair Swift stated that she would not be present at the certification meeting. She thanked the public who attended the meeting and the transitioning Board members for their years of service.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Mr. Lewis, seconded by Ms. Jester, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:12 a.m.



### **Election Summary Report**

Closed Primary DeKalb

June 17, 2025

Summary for: All Contests, All Districts, All Tabulators, All Counting Groups Official and Complete

Elector Group	Counting Group	Ballots	Voters	Registered Voters	Turnout
Total	Election Day	20,053	20,053		3.95%
	Advance Voting	8,730	8,730		1.72%
	Absentee by Mail	297	297		0.06%
	Provisional	28	28		0.01%
	Total	29,108	29,108	508,223	5.73%

Precincts Reported: 191 of 191 (100.00%) Registered Voters: 29,108 of 508,223 (5.73%)

Ballots Cast: 29,108

### PSC - District 2 - Rep (Vote for 1) REP

Precincts Reported: 191 of 191 (100.00%)

		lotal	
Times Cast		1,617 / 508,223	0.32%
Candidate	Party	Total	
Tim Echols (I)		1,005	62.89%
Lee Muns		593	37.11%
Total Votes		1,598	
		Total	

### PSC - District 2 - Dem (Vote for 1) DEM

Precincts Reported: 191 of 191 (100.00%)

		Total	
Times Cast		27,491 / 508,223	5.41%
Candidate Party		Total	
Alicia M. Johnson		23,942	100.00%
Total Votes		23,942	
		Total	

### PSC - District 3 - Rep (Vote for 1) REP

Precincts Reported: 191 of 191 (100.00%)

		Total	
Times Cast		1,617 / 508,223	0.32%
Candidate	Party	Total	
Fitz Johnson (I)		1,292	100.00%
Total Votes		1,292	
		Total	

### PSC - District 3 - Dem (Vote for 1) DEM

Precincts Reported: 191 of 191 (100.00%)

		Total	
Times Cast		27,491 / 508,223	5.41%
Candidate	Party	Total	
Peter Hubbard		12,147	47.37%
Robert Jones		4,606	17.96%
Keisha Sean Waites		8,892	34.67%
Total Votes		25,645	
		Total	



# DeKalb County Voter Registration & Elections

Board of Registration and Elections
June 17, 2025

Keisha L. Smith, MPA
VRE Executive Director

### **Key Priorities**



Our key priorities center on enhancing the voter experience for all eligible voters in DeKalb County. We will work to ensure the integrity of our elections, improve operational efficiencies, enhance staff training for full-time and seasonal employees and integrate technology and innovation to better our processes and upgrade our voter experience.











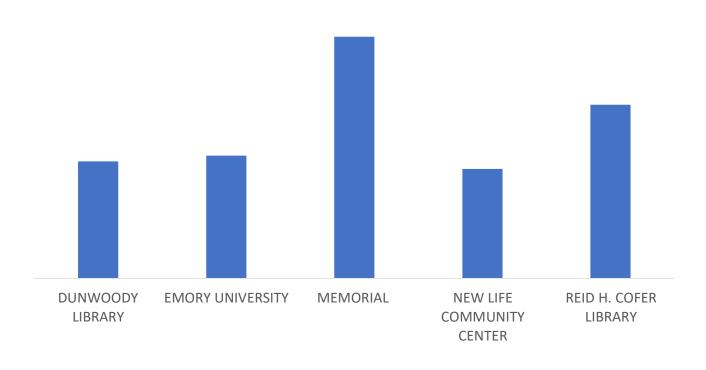
# Post-Election Report

June 17, 2025 Special Primary Public Service Commissioner

### **TURNOUT**

Total	29,108	100.00%	
Provisional	28	0.10%	
Absentee by Mail	297	1.02%	Election Day
Early Voting	8,730	29.99%	
Election Day	20,053	68.89%	
Overall Fulliout	3.73%		
Overall Turnout	5.73%		Early Voting
<b>Ballots Cast</b>	29,108		
Registered Voters	508,223	(Active)	Absentee by Mail

### **ADVANCE VOTING**



Memorial was the most popular early voting location, accounting for 21% of votes.

### **ABSENTEE BY MAIL**

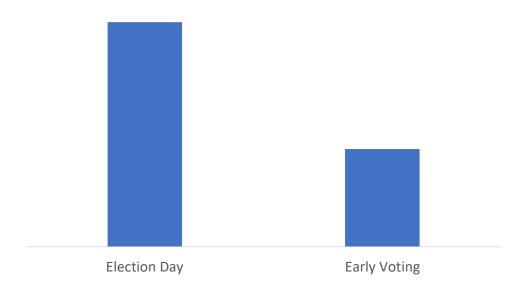
<b>Ballots Accepted</b>	297
Domestic	297
Overseas	0
Rejected/Spoiled	0
<b>Total Received</b>	297

### **ABSENTEE BY MAIL**

Provisional Ballots		Rejected Ballots	
Missing ID	8	Missing ID	1
Incorrect ID	2	Incorrect ID	1
Missing Signature	3	Missing Signature	0
Electronic Signature	1	Total	2
Total	14		
Cured Provisional	2	Cured Rejected	2

### **ELECTION DAY**

# Election Day turnout was more than double early voting



### **ELECTION DAY**

191		
147		
971		
<b>Equipment Tested &amp; Deployed</b>		
298		
1,249		
158		

### **ELECTION DAY PROVISIONALS**

	Accepted	Rejected	Total
<b>Out of Precinct</b>	28	7	35
Other	0	0	0
Total	28	7	35

### **COUNTY PARTNERS**

A huge thank you to our county partners who worked along side us to facilitate another successful election!



## 2025 Special Primary Public Service Commissioner RUNOFF

### **EARLY VOTING**

**July 7 - July 11** 







### **EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS**

Monday, July 7-Friday, July 11, 7 a.m.-7 p.m.

### DeKalb Voter Registration & Elections Office \*

4380 Memorial Drive, Decatur, GA 30032

### Dunwoody Library \*

5339 Chamblee Dunwoody Road, Dunwoody, GA 30338

### Salem-Panola Library

5137 Salem Road, Lithonia, GA 30038

**\*** = Drop Box Locations

### **KEY DATES**

July 7- July 11	Early Voting period for the July PSC Special Primary Runoff
July 7	Last day to request an absentee ballot for the July PSC Special Primary Runoff
July 15	Election Day – PSC Special Primary Runoff

During the designated Early Voting period, registered voters can vote at any of DeKalb County's Early Voting locations.

For more information, visit <u>dekalbvotes.com</u> or call 404-298-4020.

