

DeKalb County Board of Registration and Elections

Meeting Minutes

August 14, 2025
Start Time: 4:37 p.m.
End Time: 6:24 p.m.

Board Attendees: Karli Swift, Chair
Vasu Abhiraman, Vice-Chair
Travis Bowden
Gail Lee
Dele Lowman

Other Attendees: Keisha Smith, Executive Director
Clark Candler, Senior Assistant County Attorney
Michael Petty, Assistant County Attorney
Tristen Waite, Assistant County Attorney

ROLL CALL

Ms. Austin read the roll by calling each board member by name. A quorum was met.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Swift called the Board of Registration and Elections meeting to order at 4:37 p.m. Ms. Austin read the roll by calling each board member by name. A quorum was met.

Motion to approve the agenda by Vice-Chair Abhiraman and seconded by Ms. Lowman. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Vice-Chair Abhiraman, seconded by Ms. Lowman, to approve the minutes of the July 21, 2025 scheduled meeting. The motion passed 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

APPROVED 09/10/2025

permitted to show support for or opposition to a speaker's position. The following citizens provided public comment:

- Elizabeth Shackelford
- Cheryl Dudley
- Michael Beach
- Bethann Frillman

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- A) Director Smith provided updates on operations including registration and election activities. Conversation ensued around the Secretary of State's list maintenance activities and VRE's processing and communication efforts currently underway. Director Smith also provided updates on the FY 2025 budget and highlighted poll worker training and outreach efforts.

ITEMS FOR DECISION

- A) Municipal Exhibits

Motion by Vice-Chair Abhiraman, seconded by Ms. Lowman to approve the Exhibit A agreements and authorize Director Smith to execute any documents necessary to conduct the November 2025 municipal elections for all municipalities, sans Stonecrest. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Vice-Chair Abhiraman, seconded by Ms. Lowman to approve the Exhibit A agreement and authorize Director Smith to execute any documents necessary to conduct the November 2025 municipal elections in Stonecrest. The motion carried unanimously.

- B) Early Voting Locations, Dates, and Times

Motion by Ms. Lowman, seconded by Mr. Bowman to approve the proposed locations, dates, and times for early voting for the November municipal elections.

- C) Partnership for Large Election Jurisdictions

Motion by Ms. Lee, seconded by Mr. Bowden to adopt the Partnership for Large Elections Jurisdictions agreement. The motion carried unanimously.

- D) September Meeting

Motion by Ms. Lowman, seconded by Vice-Chair Abhiraman to change the date of the September regular board meeting from Thursday, September 11 to Wednesday, September 10. The motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Vice-Chair Abhiraman, seconded by Ms. Lowman to recess for executive session to discuss pending litigation. The motion was carried by unanimous vote. The Board entered executive session at 5:59 pm. No action was taken during the executive session.

Motion by Vice-Chair Abhiraman, seconded by Mr. Bowden to exit recess for the purpose executive session and resume regular order. The motion carried unanimously. The Board exited executive session at 6:22 pm and resumed the regular meeting.

BOARD COMMENTS

Board members were recognized and thanked the legal team for their work and recognized the VRE staff for their continued efforts.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Bowden, seconded by Ms. Lee to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:24 p.m.