

BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND VOTER REGISTRATION OF JASPER COUNTY

JASPER COUNTY BOARD OF CANVASSERS HEARING AND BOARD MEETING

REVISED BOARD MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, JUNE 12, 2014

PRESENT: Chairman Joseph Arzillo; Vice Chairman Albert Stiffler; Commissioner Donald Sheftall, Sr.; Commissioner Pamela Williams; Commissioner Carl Tyler; Commissioner Rodney Catterton; Commissioners Patricia Walls; Commissioner Donald Sheftall, Sr., and Commissioner Warren Johnson and Director Jeanine Bostick.

ABSENT: Commissioner Lillian King

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Arzillo.

Pledge of Allegiance by all.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motioned by Commissioner Walls to approve the agenda, seconded by Vice Chairman Stiffler. Motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTER OATHS: Chairman Arzillo administered the oath to Board of Canvass and to the Director. The Director administered the oath to Chairman Arzillo.

CANVASS HEARING: Twenty-Two Ballots were challenged. After reviewing each ballot motions were made individually on each ballot and the outcome was as follow: 19 ballots were counted and 3 ballots were not counted. Ballot 1 not counted: voter had already voted Absentee in house and later turned in a paper absentee ballot; Ballot 2 and 3 not counted: voters voted at wrong precincts.

CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION: Motioned by Commissioner Tyler, seconded by Commissioner Williams to certify the unofficial results of the Democratic Party election results adding in those votes tallied by the Board. Motion carried unanimously. Motioned by Vice Chairman Stiffler, seconded by Commissioner Williams to certify the unofficial results of the Republican Party election results, there were no additions to the Republican results. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Arzillo stated that the certification process was concluded and asked for a motion for the Board to now enter into Board meeting. Motioned by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Tyler that the Board would now enter into Board meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motioned by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Commissioner Johnson to approved April 22, 2014; April 29, 2014 and May 8, 2014 Board meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS: Discuss time and date to inspect Sun City area new Precinct. It was discussed and motioned by Vice Chairman Stiffler, seconded by Commissioner Williams that the Board would meet on June 20, 2014 at 3pm at the proposed Sun City location to review the building for approval as the new Okatie 2 precinct. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS: Selection of Poll workers for the Run-Off Election. It was discussed and motioned by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Vice Chairman Stiffler that the Chairman, the Director, Commissioner Sheftall and Commissioner Williams meet and select Poll workers for the Run-off Election. Motion carried unanimously.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: The Director shared with the Board a proposed Referendum Question submitted by the County Attorney to be placed on the November 4, 2014 General Election Ballot. The Director stated the Referendum question will be forwarded to the State by August 15, 2014.

The Director informed the Board of the upcoming Delegation meeting, scheduled for June 23, 2014 at 4pm in Hardeeville in the City Hall Chambers.

The Director shared with the Board the proposed bill requesting the redistricting of the School Boards, submitted by Senator Pinckney.

The Director shared and discussed with the Board the email posted on Electionnet. The email talks about State Law S.815 "Combining of Board." The bill states authority will be given to the State Election to audit counties for compliance with state and federal law by requiring reviews, audits or other post election analysis and if a county is found to be noncompliant with the state or federal law or if the county is unable to certify an election, the State Election Commission can take over the administrative functions of the county board of voter registration and elections until such time as necessary to remedy any noncompliance issue.

The Director informed the Board in their packet is the guidelines to follow when approving a new voting precinct.

The Director shared with the Board a thank you card received from the City of Hardeeville Municipal Election Commissioner John Kemp thanking the Director for her help and support during the City of Hardeeville Election.

The Director reminded the Board that there will be a Run-off Election on June 24th and certification of the Run-off Election will be held on June 26th at 8am in County Council Chambers.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Chairman Arzillo stated we had a really good election; there were a few issues that came up, but were handled. Chairman Arzillo went on to thank the Board members who were on the Board before the new current members for all their help and input during the election. Chairman Arzillo also commended the Director for a job well done.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Dr. Patricia DuPont distributed to the Board a letter of complaint of her observation at the Grahamville 1 voting precinct. Dr. DuPont stated she was a Poll Watcher for the Candidate for Probate Judge Mr. Rodney Brown. Dr. DuPont read the letter. Dr. DuPont spoke about how two poll workers at the Grahamville 1 voting precinct, one being the Clerk of the precinct and the other being a Poll Manager. Dr. DuPont stated she observed the Clerk and the Poll Manager advising at least 10 Caucasian voters that she counted of which party to vote in. Dr. DuPont went on to say how she observed several conversations that the Clerk and the Poll Manager having with the Caucasian voters telling those voters to go back and look at the sample ballots after the voter stated that they were voting Republican. Dr. DuPont stated that this was unlawful and something needed done about this matter. Dr. DuPont stated how she felt this disenfranchise the Democratic Party and finally Dr. DuPont stated she became so upset she stopped counting and had to leave the voting precinct and contacted the Democratic Party President Mr. Arthur Murphy.

Mr. Arthur Murphy spoke to the Board concerning the incident at the Absentee Precinct where a Poll Watcher put their hands on a voter and he hoped that the Board does not allow that individual to work an election every again.

Commissioner Walls asked if Executive Session could be on the agenda at our next meeting to discuss discrimination and intimidation at the polls. Per Commissioner Johnson perhaps identifies the reason for Executive Session as follow "Poll Managers Conducts". Chairman Arzillo asked both Commissioners to please submit their topic of discussion for Executive Session to be added to the agenda of the next Board meeting. **Commissioner Sheftall asked to please also add to Executive Session to discuss "Recommendation Procedures for Reprimanding Staff." Commissioner Sheftall stated this process should be handled by the Board as a whole and not a single individual.**

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business motion to adjourned by Commissioner Walls, seconded by Vice Chairman Stiffler. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jeanine M. Bostick, Director

cc: Mr. Andrew Fulghum, County Administrator

Judy Frank, Clerk of Council

Jasper Delegation