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## **GLYNN COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATION**

Meeting, Tuesday, May 10, 2022

The May meeting of the Board of Elections and Registration was called to order by Chairman Featherstone at 2:00 p.m.

Present were Patricia Featherstone, Chairman; Keith Rustin, Vice-Chairman; Sandy Dean, Secretary; Ward Schaumberg, Member; Christopher Channell, Director; Christina Redden, Assistant Director; Gordon Jackson, *The Brunswick News*; Joyce Kitchens, Terry Starry. Tommy Clark, member, was absent due to illness.

### ***Public Comment***

There were no public comments.

### ***Approval of Minutes: April 12, 2022, Regular Meeting***

Mr. Channell presented the minutes. Mr. Schaumberg made a motion to approve the minutes, Ms. Dean seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0

### ***Old Business***

#### ***Redistricting Update***

This will be the final redistricting update. All precinct cards will be mailed by the end of the current week. The county mail processing machine has difficulty stamping the postcard-sized documents. This, combined with other unique Elections postal needs, has led staff to examine mass mailing alternatives for the future. Ms. Redden will begin assembling quotes and reviews to be examined by the Board later.

#### ***Office Space Update***

Mr. Channell had recently attended a successful meeting with the leadership team and contractor. The contractor intends to maintain open communications including bi-weekly project updates, tracking software, and monthly written reports for Board meetings. The Board should expect the first walk-through in the Fall. Construction begins June 1.

#### ***Legislative Update***

The County Commissioners plan to discuss the machine ratio and purchase issue at a June work session. Mr. Channell and Board members will attend the meeting to answer questions and discuss concerns. The County Attorney is examining related laws to see if there are legal alternatives to purchasing the unnecessary equipment, especially considering the State legislature could eliminate the Dominion equipment in 2023. Mr. Channell has been in contact with the State to discuss the possibility of equipment loans or rental from the State warehouse. The State has not yet determined if they will have the available equipment. If equipment is borrowed from the State, Glynn County will arrange for transport to and from Atlanta. Ms. Redden is pursuing counties with reduced populations which may have extra equipment for loan or sale. Ms. Featherstone requested that a county attorney attend the June Board meeting, before the Commissioner's work session, to discuss the options available.

#### ***General Primary Update***

Early Voting turnout is ahead of past primaries but is not substantially increased. 156 Absentee ballots have been accepted and approximately 550 mailed to date. Mr. Starry will manage absentee ballot tabulation beginning Monday, May 23. The Board discussed member assignments for the election and equipment delivery. Ms. Featherstone inquired about voter wait times during advanced voting. Mr. Channell stated there has been no wait at any location. The Board discussed the date of election certification because not all Board members will be available on the Friday after the election and Mr. Clark is unable to participate in certification. Mr. Channell will discuss options with the county attorney and update the Board accordingly.



## ***Office Report***

Ms. Redden updated staff on the recent Blog posts. Ms. Featherstone noted the blog posts had been circulated on the radio and online. Ms. Featherstone inquired about public comments and input. Ms. Redden noted the county policy does not currently allow for general comments on the website. However, there is the capability to poll the public with specific questions. After the General Primary, the Board will release a poll asking for feedback about voting experiences. This will work similarly to the Redistricting public comment portal. Ms. Redden also noted subscriptions to the blog and News alerts have increased in the past month.

Mr. Channell presented the current financials and noted the increases due to redistricting postage. Other increases included advertising and education fees. Although 44% of the budget remains, this will likely be used before June 30 due to the two upcoming elections and remaining postage needs. Mr. Schaumberg inquired about the status of GARViS. Mr. Channell explained the State will continue to use ENet until after the June runoff then transition back to GARViS. In the meantime, user testing and enhancement continues. Glynn County is actively participating in GARViS testing and development.

## ***Set Calendar for Board of Elections Meetings 2022-2023***

The Board agreed to continue to hold meetings the second Tuesday of each month at 2:00PM. The exception to this schedule will be the November meeting which would coincide with the General Election. The November date will be listed as To Be Determined until closer to the date once the election timeline is established. Ms. Dean made the motion to accept this 2022-2023 calendar, Mr. Schaumberg seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

## ***Reorganization of Board Officers for 2022-2023***

Mr. Rustin noted the absence of Mr. Clark. Ms. Featherstone made a motion to postpone reorganization until the June meeting when all Board members can be in attendance. Mr. Schaumberg seconded this motion. The motion passed 4-0.

## ***Board Member Comments***

There were no additional Board Member comments.

## ***Executive Session***

Ms. Dean made the motion to move into Executive Session to discuss personnel. The motion passed 4-0 and the Board moved into Executive Session.

## ***Adjournment***

The Board moved out of Executive Session. Mr. Schaumberg made the motion to adjourn and Ms. Dean seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0.

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Patricia Featherstone, Chairman

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Sandy Dean, Secretary