

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

HOUSTON COUNTY GOVERNMENT BUILDING
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MEETING MINUTES Tuesday, April 6, 2021

The April 6, 2021 meeting of the Houston County Board of Elections was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman John Applegate.

Members of the Board Present: John Applegate, Chairman
Sherman Falana, Vice Chair
Henry Childs
Katherine Shelton
Barbara Waddle

Member(s) of the Staff Present: Debra Presswood, Registration/Election Supervisor
Visitor(s) Present: Pamela Morgan, Poll Manager of Feagin Mill Middle School, City of Warner Robins.

Chairman John Applegate called for the approval of the minutes of the March 2, 2021 meeting. A motion was made by Sherman Falana and seconded by Barbara Waddle to approve the March 2, 2021 meeting minutes. The motion carried.

Chairman John Applegate called for the approval of the minutes of the March 19, 2021 meeting. A motion was made by Barbara Waddle and seconded by Sherman Falana to approve the March 19, 2021 meeting minutes with correction. The motion carried.

REGISTRATION/ELECTION SUPERVISOR REPORT:

The 2021 Georgia Association of Voter Registration and Election Officials (GAVREO) conference will be held Sunday, August 29, 2021 – September 1, 2021 at Jekyll Island Convention Center. The conference will be held in-person. The number of in-person participants per county is based on that county's number of registered voters. Houston County is allowed six in-person participants. The Association will adhere to CDC and state health guidelines, including social distancing, heightened cleaning protocols and use of facial masks.

Board Members were given the following reports:

- March Meeting Minutes
- April 2021 Voters' Registration figures
- State Elections & Voter Registration Calendar for Year 2022.

Old Business:

As the population grows in Houston County so does the need for additional voting locations. It is the consensus of the Board of Elections that physical sites used as polling locations function for both city and county elections so voters will not be confused as to where they vote for either election. Such sites are being explored by a committee of Katherine Shelton and Sherman Falana. Katherine Shelton briefed the Board on potential additional voting locations. Katherine Shelton, Debra Presswood and Andrew Holland toured the Davis Farm Fire Station, 150 Commodore Drive, Perry GA. This study is ongoing as various sites are being explored throughout the county.

Chairman Applegate opened the floor for the public to speak. Mrs. Pamela Morgan greeted the Board and asked Board about consistency of receipt of poll workers pay checks. It was explained that we are working with the cities of Warner Robins, Centerville, and Perry to ensure that this matter is addressed.

New Business:

Krista Bedingfield, City Clerk – City of Centerville, contacted Debra Presswood concerning a potential Special Election, June 15, 2021. A council member is expected to resign as of April 6, 2021. If the City of Centerville has a June 15, 2021 Special Election, Debra Presswood will work with Krista Bedingfield to ensure election needs are handled.

As a part of an ongoing effort to promote confidence in elections, the Georgia Secretary of State is partnering with the University of Georgia to conduct a statewide review of signature matches during the November 2020 General Election.

The next board meeting will be May 4, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

There being no further business, motion to adjourn by Henry Childs, seconded by Sherman Falana. Meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.



John Applegate, Chairman
May 4, 2021



Debra Presswood, Secretary

This meeting was conducted in accordance with the Georgia Meeting Provisions of Title 50, Chapter 14 of Georgia Code.