

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

HOUSTON COUNTY GOVERNMENT BUILDING
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MEETING MINUTES Tuesday, May 5, 2020

The May 5, 2020 meeting of the Houston County Board of Elections was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman Katherine Shelton.

Members of the Board Present: Katherine Shelton – Chairman
John Applegate
Henry Childs
Sherman Falana

Member(s) of the Board Absent: Barbara Waddle, Vice Chair

Member(s) of the Staff Present: Debra Presswood, Registration/Election Supervisor

Chairman Shelton called for the approval of the minutes of the March 3, 2020 meeting. A motion was made by Henry Childs and seconded by John Applegate to approve the March 3, 2020 meeting minutes. The motion carried by all.

REGISTRATION/ELECTION SUPERVISOR REPORT:

Due to mounting concerns over the COVID-19 Virus and the current State of Emergency, Secretary Raffensperger moved the March 24, 2020 Presidential Primary Election to coincide with the State Primary Election scheduled for May 19, 2020. All in-person early voting was suspended but vote by mail continued through March 20, 2020. Every vote already cast, whether by mail or in person, will be counted. This announcement was made March 14, 2020.

On April 13, 2020 Chris Harvey, Georgia State Election Division Director, issued official statement concerning the May 19, 2020 Election. Again, due to the health concerns caused by the COVID-19 virus, Secretary Raffensperger moved the May 19, 2020 Presidential Preference Primary, General Primary, and Nonpartisan General Elections to June 9, 2020.

Secretary Brad Rafensperger mailed absentee ballot request forms to 6.9 million voters to allow Georgia voters to vote by mail with no risk of exposure to COVID-19 virus.

Active and inactive voters' registration figures for April and May, an updated 2020 Election Date Calendar, State Election Board (SEB) Rule 183-1-14-0.6 Secure Absentee Ballot Drop Boxes and Drop Box Emergency Rule and Signage, O.C.G.A. §21-2-266 (a), and an updated Early Voting Schedule with dates, locations, and times, for the June 9, 2020 Presidential Preference Primary/General Primary/Nonpartisan Election were given to the Board Members.

While practicing social distancing due to concerns over COVID-19 (Coronavirus), the April 7, 2020 Board of Elections meeting was canceled.

Election Day is June 9, 2020.

The next board meeting will be June 2, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

Old Business:

John Applegate was selected to represent the Board of Elections on the Vote Review panel for the June 9, 2020 Election and Katherine Shelton was selected as alternate representative.

New Business:

A motion was made by Henry Childs and seconded by John Applegate to forego implementing absentee drop boxes until the need for drop boxes is determined. The motion carried by all.

A time for the Board to review provisional ballots and certify the June 9, 2020 Presidential Preference Primary Election/General Primary/Nonpartisan Election was tabled until next meeting.

There being no further business motion to adjourn by Henry Childs, seconded by Sherman Falana. Motion carried by all. Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.



Katherine Shelton, Chairman
June 2, 2020



Debra Presswood, Secretary

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