

BOARD OF ELECTIONS
AUGUSTA-RICHMOND COUNTY, GEORGIA
REGULAR MONTHLY AND CERTIFICATION MEETING
March 22, 2019

Chairman Tim McFalls called the meeting to order. Present were Board Members, Sherry Barnes and Bob Finnegan. Also present were Executive Director, Lynn Bailey, Assistant Director Travis Doss, Board Attorney Rachel Mack and members of the public. Board member L. C. Myles and Terence Dicks were absent.

The first item on the agenda was the approval of the minutes from the February 11, 2019 Regular Monthly Meeting. Mrs. Barnes made a motion that the minutes be approved as disseminated. Mr. Finnegan seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was to consider the disposition of any provisional or challenged ballots cast during the March 19, 2019 Special Election. Mr. Doss disseminated a report and explanations as follows:

Group A – 1 voter cast a provisional ballot out of precinct either because they thought they were at their correct polling place or did not have time to get to their correct polling place. Mr. Finnegan made a motion that the ballot be accepted, but duplicated onto a ballot card for the voter's correct precinct. Mrs. Barnes seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Group B – 1 voter cast a ballot in Richmond County although currently registered to vote in another county in Georgia. A search was made of all available databases and it was confirmed that the individual had once been registered to vote in Richmond County, but had properly transferred their voter registration to another county in Georgia and had not since re-registered to vote in Richmond County. Mrs. Barnes made a motion that the ballot be rejected and not counted. Mr. Finnegan seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The final tally for provisional ballots was 2 ballots cast - 1 accepted and 1 rejected. Mr. Doss was then excused from the meeting to finalize the reports for certification.

The next item on the agenda was a recap of the March 19, 2019 Special Election. Ms. Bailey disseminated an Election Recap report. She explained Election Day points of interest as follows:

- The election saw an extremely low turnout with less than 6% of eligible voters casting a ballot
- The election was a four way race that was won outright by one candidate with no runoff required
- There were no reported issues from the election

Continuing with the Recap, Ms. Bailey stated the following:

- All polling locations were open for voting at 7:00 AM

- 824 voters cast a ballot on Election Day, 27 voted by mail, and 125 voted during Advance Voting
- Turnout was 5.92%
- 2 provisional ballots were cast
- 7 Election Day polling locations were open and 1 Advance Voting sites was open
- 40 Election Day poll workers were used and Board of Elections staff conducted Advance Voting in the Board of Elections Main Office
- 52 voting units were deployed for Election Day and 6 during Advance Voting
- The estimated cost of the election is \$14,500

The next agenda item was Old Business. Ms. Bailey stated that the 2019 Capital Budget allocations had been distributed and that the Board's request for \$250,000 in Capital funding to purchase voting equipment had been approved. Continuing, Ms. Bailey stated that she had reviewed preliminary reports of the allocation of state procured voting equipment and that as of now Richmond County was scheduled to receive 615 ballot marking devices, 59 polling place scanners/tabulators, 142 electronic poll books and 1 central count high speed scanner. Ms. Bailey stated that the current inventory of DRE Touchscreen voting units was 649, which included approximately 20 units that were out of service, and 142 electronic poll books. She concluded by stating that between the proposed state allocation projections and the receipt of the county Capital funding that Richmond County should be well poised for the successful implementation of the installation of the new voting system.

Mr. Doss rejoined the meeting. The next item on the agenda was the Certification of the Results of the March 19, 2019 Special Election.

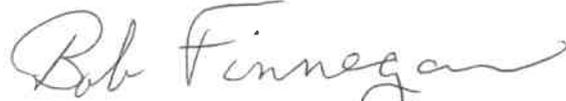
Ms. Bailey presented the Board with a report of the Final and Complete Official Election Results following the addition of the 1 accepted provisional ballot. She stated that there were no additional absentee ballots received after Election Day to add. The Board then compared the report of the Unofficial Election Night Results to the Final and Complete Official Election Results to ensure that 1 ballot was accurately added and reflected in the totals on the report. Chairman McFalls called on Ms. Bailey to commence with the reading of the results, as required. In addition to announcing the results, Ms. Bailey stated that the total number of eligible voters was 16,491, that 977 ballots were cast and counted, and that the total turnout was 5.92%.

At the conclusion of the announcement of the votes, Mr. Finnegan made a motion that the results be certified by the Board as read and sent to the Secretary of State's Office. Mrs. Barnes seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Staff circulated the certification documents and each Board member present affixed their signature thereby completing the certification of the results of the March 19, 2019 Special Election.

The next agenda item was New Business. Ms. Bailey informed the Board that the next scheduled Board meeting was set for April 8, 2019 and suggested that since that date was the Monday of Master's Week that the Board consider rescheduling the meeting to Monday, April 15, 2019. The Board agreed to the change by consensus.

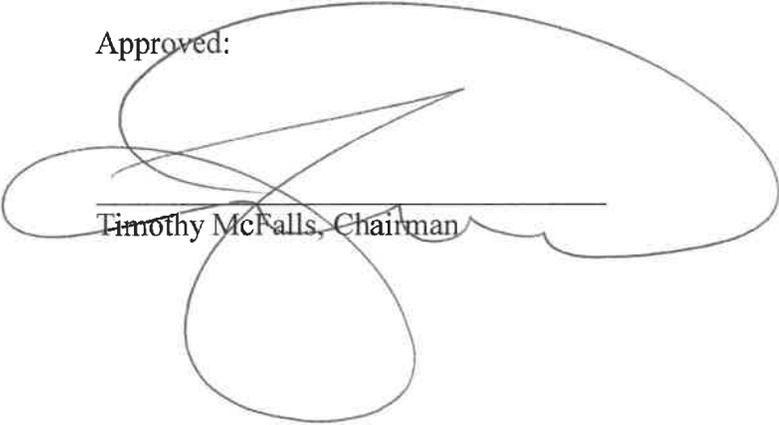
There being no further business to come before the Board, Mrs. Barnes made a motion that the meeting stand adjourned. Mr. Finnegan seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Bob Finnegan, Secretary for the Board

Approved:



Timothy McFalls, Chairman