MACON-BIBB COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING

2525 PIO NONO AVE., STE 1200 MACON, GA 31206

*(HELD VIA TELECONFERENCE)*

JUNE 23, 2020

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Board Members Present: Dr. Henry Ficklin, Mr. Mike Kaplan, Ms. Cassandra Powell, and Herbert Spangler

Rinda Wilson was absent

Staff Present: Mrs. Jeanetta Watson, Elections Supervisor, Mrs. Veronica Seals, Chief Registrar, Ms. Charlene Maynard, Administrative Assistant, Mr. Thomas Gillon, Elections Officer

Board of Elections’ Attorney: Mr. William Noland

Visitors: Maria Bryant, Macon-Bibb NAACP, Elaine Johnson, Peanut Gallery, Ashlyn Webb, WMAZ, Peter F. Taylor, Jr., Claudia Kirkwood, League of Women Voters, Juawn Johnson, Candidate Bibb BOE, Marc Whitefield, Candidate for Mayor

CALL TO ORDER:

Mike Kaplan, Chairperson, called the Special Call meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Kaplan asked the Board to defer approval of the Minutes from the May 28, 2020 Board meeting. Dr. Ficklin made a motion to defer the approval of the minutes from the Regular Board meeting held Thursday, May 28, 2020. Mr. Spangler seconded. Mr. Kaplan and Ms. Powell agreed. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. According to O.C.G.A. 21-2-497 Mrs. Watson requested the Board to approve the consolidated certification of returns for the June 9, 2020 Presidential Preference Primary/General Primary & Nonpartisan General Election as permanent records of the June 23, 2020 minutes. Mr. Spangler made a motion to approve submitting the consolidated certification of returns for the June 9, 2020 Presidential Preference Primary/General Primary & Nonpartisan General Election as permanent records of the June 23, 2020 minutes. Dr. Ficklin seconded. Mr. Kaplan and Ms. Powell agreed. The motion passed unanimously.
2. **Mrs. Watson provided the Board with the races and names of candidates which will appear on the August 11, 2020 Nonpartisan General Runoff Election ballot. The Board members were also provided with a copy of the Sample Ballot.**
3. **Mrs. Watson informed the Board that the rollover list which consists of voters 65 & older and/or listed as disabled on their absentee ballot application will automatically receive absentee ballots for the duration of the 2020 election cycle. The Secretary of State will be mailing absentee ballots to voters on the rollover list for the counties and will be using the same vendor which was used to mail out ballots for the June Primary. Voters not on the rollover list must submit a request for an absentee ballot application for the August Runoff.**

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Mrs. Watson provided the Board with an update concerning the absentee ballot drop box. She stated the purchasing process has gone through procurement. The wording requirements has been approved. We are now waiting on a confirmation on the delivery date.

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Items from Board Members
   1. Ms. Powell stated she was very concerned about issues with poll workers which occurred at the Northeast High School polling location. Also, Dr. Ficklin stated the designated area for voting and parking was inconvenient for voters. Mrs. Watson stated in-person hands-on poll worker training will be provided for all poll workers prior to the August 11, 2020 Runoff election. The concerns presented about the Northeast High School polling location and poll workers will be addressed.
2. Items from the Supervisor
   1. Mrs. Watson stated this office has submitted a request to receive grant fund reimbursements from the Help America Vote Act (HAVA grant) for election related purchases and from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief & Economic Security Act (CARES Act grant) for the purchase of personal protective equipment (PPE).
   2. Ms. Maynard provided the Board with an update concerning the Board of Elections FY 2021 adopted budget. After much discussion, Mr. Kaplan recommended for the Board members to meet with the County Manager to discuss the elections office FY 2021 adopted budget.
   3. Mrs. Watson stated the budget report does not show where this office has submitted revenue from 2018 – 2020 which was generated from candidate qualifying fees, open records requests and copies made.
3. Correspondence (Copies for Board meeting files)
   1. Copy of the Board of Elections Adopted Budget for FY 2021 (Worksheet Report)
   2. Copy of the Composite Sample Ballot for the August 11, 2020 Nonpartisan Runoff General Election
   3. Certification of the consolidated returns for the June 9, 2020 Presidential Preference Primary/General Primary and Nonpartisan General Election

ADJOURNMENT:

Dr. Ficklin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:17 p.m. Mr. Spangler seconded. Mr. Kaplan and Ms. Powell agreed. The motion passed unanimously.

***Minutes transcribed by Jeanetta Watson***