

MCINTOSH COUNTY
BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATION
December 12, 2022
BOARD MEETING

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: DeCalvin Hughes at 6:00 PM.

INVOCATION: DeCalvin Hughes

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: All Present

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: DeCalvin Hughes - CHAIRMAN, Marilyn Lynn – VICE CHAIRMAN, Michael Mock, Joseph Washington, and Doll Gale – ELECTION SUPERVISOR. Mr. Hughes recognized that there was a quorum.

Public Participation: There were 6 visitors. Linda Daniels requested to speak at this meeting.

Approval of Agenda – Motion to approve with one additional item was made by Michael Mock and seconded by Marilyn Lynn. Motion Approved.

Linda Daniels stated that she had concerns with the pre-printed return address label that is on the outside envelope of the Absentee Ballot. She feels that there is too much information and suggests that this label be placed on the inside envelope, where the voter signs, rather than the outside envelope which can be seen by anyone. Mrs. Gale stated that the label and envelopes are designed by the State and her petition should be directed to the state. She also commented that we will have a new system in 2023 and we don't know what that will change for the future. Michael Mock asked if the Board should forward this matter to the state. Jason Nix suggested that the individual party would be more appropriate, that she could take it to the State Board or her party; but that it is something that we don't have any control over. Mrs. Daniels said that she would pursue it with the state.

Mr. Hughes asked that Marilyn Lynn read the minutes of October 10, 2022.

MOTION to Accept November 14, 2022 minutes with corrections was made by Michael Mock with the addition of the amendments as described and seconded by Joseph Washington. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

REPORTS:

Supervisor: Mrs. Gale asked to report at the end of the meeting.

Chairman: Mr. Hughes stated that he had no items to present at this time.

OLD BUSINESS: Mr. Mock brought up that there is a county municipal code that states that the poll workers shall be selected by the Board from lists provided by the Party. He noted that we had not been doing that and suggests that we either comply with the code or change it. Adding, "I prefer to comply with it". Mrs. Gale asked if the code applies to municipal elections (city rather than county elections). Mr. Mock explained that since it is a county code it should apply to each election we handle. Mr. Nix read to the Board the following statement from the County code: Section A (about half-way down the statement): The board shall be responsible for the selection, appointment, and training of poll workers for primaries and elections and such workers shall be appointed, insofar as practicable, by lists provided to the county by the executive of each political party. He went on to say that we had addressed this partially in a previous meeting when Mrs. Gale stated she had never received a list from either party since 1997, so the board has had no list in the past. This [county] code mirrors pretty much the same wording as the 21-2-92 by the State. He feels that the wording suggests poll workers but that it is not binding that the list is the exclusive pool from which poll workers can be hired. Mrs. Gale stated that the State of Georgia gives us a list every two weeks, approximately 8,000 currently on total statewide list. She used two people from this list on the last election. Mr. Mock asked if paragraph A is at least not in conflict to State law. Mr. Nix agreed; he stated that his view is that the board should consider all the people suggested on the 'party's' lists and if they meet the qualifications of 21-2-92 then they should have the opportunity to apply. Mr. Mock asked to make a Motion that if a party submits a list of poll workers, insofar that is practicable, the board should select workers from those lists. Marilyn Lynn stated that "the Board" includes Mrs. Gale, she oversees this. Mr. Mock added: The Board shall be authorized to organize itself, determine its procedural rules and regulations, adopt by-laws, specify the functions and duties of its employees, and otherwise take such action as appropriate to the management of the affairs committed to its supervision. Mr. Hughes stated that the foundational concern is with the quality of workers, the length of time – are they to work for one election or for a season – the primary and the general? – for two years? There is also a conflict that the duties of the supervisor shall be as follows: Responsible for day-to-day operations of the department, submission of the budget, the hiring of poll workers preparation and conduct of all primaries and election and registration... and so forth. Mr. Nix stated that it is not a conflict, that by the board enacting that [the wording of the duties of the Superintendent] they have delegated the hiring to this office. So, then the board, through Mrs. Gale, has hired each poll worker. Mr. Mock asked if we always have the option to delegate it to Mrs. Gale. Mr. Nix responded yes or amend the wording in the by-laws. He added that it could become complicated and cumbersome to the board to do that with the current one meeting per month schedule. Mr. Hughes made a motion to accept the lists without any other modification at this time. Mr. Mock suggested that we state that the lists are accepted and that Mrs. Gale follow the lists, insofar as practicable, when hiring

poll workers. Mrs. Gale asked if the wording suggests that we use only the party lists. After discussion it was decided to use all means of acquiring poll workers. (Motion was not restated/reworded) Mr. Hughes called for a vote. Motion approved.

New Business: Mr. Hughes asked that each board member monitor a particular poll at the last election and to report any incident that they saw or anything that would improve the process. Mr. Mock stated that Darien went very smoothly, no incidents. Mr. Hughes stated that they had no marked handicapped parking, so they used a sign but it kept blowing away. Mrs. Gale suggested that the county worker paint a handicap parking space near the door; for Shellman Bluff as well. Mrs. Gale will check on that. Mrs. Gale stated that the state inspector did come to every poll except Crescent and Sapelo and checked everyone off. Mr. Nix suggested that a cone be placed in front of a parking space with a homemade sign if not properly marked. Mr. Hughes also stated that some of the serial numbers on the ballot scanners did not match the numbers on the sheet. Mrs. Gale stated that she was aware of the transposition of the number and that it was crossed out and written in correctly. Mr. Mock said the "front" and "back" of the lid of the scanner is confusing and it appeared the numbers were switched. Mrs. Gale stated that if the two [both] numbers were on that particular lid it would be okay. The handle and plug in are on the back.

Mr. Hughes stated that we need to amend the by-laws to state that the board consists of five members and that "special" meetings are called meetings and are spelled out according to Roberts Rules. Mr. Nix stated that it should be as per Georgia statute.

February's meeting will be scheduled on the 6th as the GAVREO conference will include the second Monday of the month. She will put January 9th and February 6th as the next two meeting dates in the paper. No objections.

Mr. Hughes states that we go into executive session. Marilyn Lynn made the motion to go into Executive session. Joseph Washington seconded. Approved. The board members moved to another room so that the visitors would not have to. Mrs. Gale stated that we are doing the Risk limit audit on the 14th at 9:00am. Mr. Mock asked if the parties have representation. Mrs. Gale has notified Mr. Gravitt and Mr. Knox and that Mr. Hughes and Mrs. Lynn are coming as well. She will find out the batch to be audited tomorrow. She has six poll workers coming to do the audit and it will be handled just like the last one. She will go to Athens in the first week of January to attend training on GARVIS and then will go to Glynn County for training for the office staff on January 24th. The office will be closed that day. Mrs. Gale will be taking the certification of the December 6th election. Motion to approved certification was made by Michael Mock and seconded by Joseph Washington. Approved.

NEXT BOARD MEETING Monday, January 9, 2023 AT 6:00 PM at the office.

WITH NO FURTHER BUSINESS:

MOTION TO ADJOURN was made by DeCalvin Hughes and seconded by Michael Mock. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:00 PM.

DECALVIN HUGHES, CHAIRMAN

MARY FLY, SECRETARY