

**CAMDEN COUNTY, GEORGIA
BOARD OF ELECTIONS & REGISTRATION
CALLED MEETING MINUTES
CAMDEN COUNTY ANNEX BUILDING, KINGSLAND
FEBRUARY 11, 2022, 6:30 PM**

In Person Attendance: Kyle Rapp; Anthony Kicklighter; Barbara Hahn; Dr. Jannett Bradford; Elections Supervisor Shannon Nettles; Assistant Elections Supervisor Deborah Felix; and Elections Assistant Sandra Rayson.

A. Opening Ceremonies

Chair Kyle Rapp called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Chair Rapp noted that all members were present, except Mr. Michaels.

Chair Rapp delivered the invocation.

Barbara Hahn led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Adoption of Agenda

Chair Rapp noted, after receiving no objections from the Board Members, that the agenda was adopted as written.

C. Public Comments

- Tom Canning (St. Marys) requested that the Board Members provide detailed information when discussing the 3 items on the Agenda under New Business. Mr. Canning asked how many registered voters would be affected by the changes to the Voting District Maps as a result of Redistricting. Also, when would new precinct cards be sent out to those affected.

D. Old Business

1. Consideration of Maple Ford (Waverly) Polling Location

Elections Supervisor Shannon Nettles discussed needed repairs for the existing building at Maple Ford Park. She received a quote on placing a temporary portable building on site for the upcoming election. The cost estimate was over \$11,000.00 for one month (the shortest rental period the company offered). The next option is to return to the Waverly Fire Station No. 17. The Board Members and Ms. Nettles discussed the budget and available funds to use for a portable building. Vice Chair Jannett Bradford

stated that the estimate on the portable building did not include a lot of work that would need to be done such as hooking up utilities. Board Member Barbara Hahn questioned whether the existing handicap parking area would be usable with the portable building. She is concerned about the safety of the voters if the Poll is moved back to the Waverly Fire Station. The Board Members agreed that the Waverly Fire Station was the best solution at this time until a more permanent solution could be found. Election Supervisor Nettles advised the Board Members that this move was allowable under emergency procedures (Election Code 21-2-265). Motion made by Barbara Hahn, seconded by Anthony Kicklighter to move the Waverly Poll back to Waverly Fire Station No. 17. Vice Chair Bradford asked if there would be a time limit on how long the Poll stayed at the Fire Station. Elections Supervisor Nettles advised that it would stay at the Waverly Fire Station No. 17 until a better location could be found.

The motion was approved unanimously.

2. Discussion regarding the Tarboro Polling location.

Election Supervisor Nettles updated the Board Members on moving the Tarboro polling location from the Tarboro Fire Station No. 16 across the street to Brown's Chapel AME Church. That change will happen after the March 8 election is over.

3. Redistricting Update

Election Supervisor Nettles stated that the County has hired a new GIS technician who is familiar with the Redistricting process. He has been very helpful in resolving issues and answering questions. Glynn County's election staff have also been very helpful. The map on the County's website (camdencountyga.gov) is very user friendly. She noted that her office would produce a public education release as best they could prior to the March 8th Election. A general discussion ensued on how best to get the information to the public regarding changes to voter districts.

E. New Business

1. Consideration of Advance Voting Dates & Location for Special Election

Chair Rapp presented to the Board, based on the availability of poll workers, a proposed Advance Voting schedule for the March 8 Election with the option of only 1 Advanced Voting location either the Annex or Woodbine:

2/26/22 – Saturday Advance Voting, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

2/28/22 – 3/4/22 – Advance Voting, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

These are the only dates available for this election. Vice Chair Bradford stated that Coastal Coaches was offering free transportation to the Polls on Election Day.

Motion made by Jannett Bradford, seconded by Barbara Hahn, to approve the above dates, times and the Annex for Advance Voting for the March 8 Election.

The motion was approved unanimously.

2. Discussion concerning Voter Registration Deadline, Last Day to Issue an Absentee Ballot & Early Tabulation

Chair Rapp stated that we should notify the Secretary of State's office that we would do Early Processing and Tabulation of Absentee Ballots and if we don't process or tabulate early, then "no harm, no foul".

Voter Registration for the March 8th Election is close of business on 2/15/2022.

The last day to apply for an Absentee Ballot is 11 days prior to Election Day or 2/25/2022.

The last day to mail an Absentee Ballot to a voter is NLT 3 days after 2/25/22.

3. Poll Worker Training Dates & Times

Election Supervisor Shannon Nettles advised the Board Members that there would be two classes offered – one during the day and one in the evening. Dates and times to be announced. Vice Chair Bradford stated that she had been told that Ms. Nettles was not selecting new Poll Workers from people who were calling the office. Ms. Nettles advised that she was only planning to use Poll Workers that were already experienced in Camden County elections for this election. She is holding all new applications for the next election (May 24, 2022).

4. Dominion Support Contract for Special Election

Election Supervisor Nettles stated that she had received a quote from Dominion Voting for 5 days in the amount of \$8,500.00. Glynn County has offered to loan us 2 of their staff for the L&A Process and on Election Day. We would be providing a learning experience for their intern. Vice Chair Bradford asked if we needed preclearance from the Secretary of State's Office. Ms. Nettles advised that we do not have ask for approval from the Secretary of State. Motion made by Anthony Kicklighter, seconded by Barbara Hahn, to deny the support contract with Dominion. A discussion was had about whether or not a motion was needed. As a result of the discussion, all motions were withdrawn. The contract will not be signed.

5. Discussion of the Hiring of Outside Legal Counsel Specializing in Georgia Election Law

Election Supervisor stated that the Secretary of State's Office has recommended that the Board consider hiring their own outside counsel. Hiring outside counsel is becoming more and more prevalent for local Boards. It is not in the budget at this time.

F. Important Upcoming Dates

Chairman Kyle Rapp announced the following upcoming dates:

1. Last Day to Register to Vote in the March 8th Election – February 15, 2022
2. President's Day – February 21, 2022
3. Last Day to apply for an Absentee Ballot – February 25, 2022
4. Advance Voting Dates: 2/26/25 and 2/28/22 thru 3/4/2022
5. Election Day (All Polling Locations) – March 8, 2022

G. Additional Public Comments

John Royal (St. Marys) Commended the Elections Staff for a job well done and suggested they weren't paid enough.

Tom Canning (St. Marys) Discussed changes to voters in Districts Nos. 1, 2, 4, and 5 as a result of the Redistricting process and noted that the map on the County Website was up to date.

June Maxwell (Woodbine) Discussed the proposal of free transportation from Coastal Coaches on Election Day and encouraged the Board to publicize this as much as possible.

Peggy Beutel (St. Marys) Discussed advance voting locations.

Steve Weinkle (Woodbine) Thanked the Board for a very crisp meeting. Commended everyone in the Elections Office, including the Board, for their work on the Special Election, especially working on the details of the Spaceport petition.

H. Adjournment

Chair Kyle Rapp, after receiving no objections from the Board Members, adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

By: _____
Kyle Rapp, Chair

Attest: _____
Shannon Nettles, Elections Supervisor