

# **Sumter County Board of Elections and Voter Registration**

## **Called Meeting**

**Tuesday, July 26, 2022, at 4:30 P.M.**

### **I. Call to Order**

Dr. Shirley Latimore called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

### **II. Roll Call**

A. Board Members Present

All Board members were present: Dr. Shirley Latimore, Carson Walker, Rhonda Reddick, Dr. Valerie Roberts, and Dennis Taylor.

B. Attorney

Hayden Hooks

C. Staff

Randy Howard and Julia Sims

### **III. Motion to Adopt the Agenda**

Rhonda Reddick made the motion to adopt the agenda, seconded by Carson Walker. Motion carried.

### **IV. Call for the Election of the Sumter County School Board Members (non-partisan) for Districts 1, 3, 5, and 7.**

Mr. Howard explained the qualifying period for the school election would be August 22-26 at the Sumter County Election and Voter Registration office, on August 22-25 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on August 26<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. He explained the Court Order No. 1:14-CV 42 (WLS), Mathis Kearsae Wright, Jr. vs. Sumter County Board of Election and Registration orders these seats to be up for election at this time. The Secretary of State is already building the base for our ballots. Mr. Howard will be sending notice of this to the school, and putting it in the newspaper and on the radio. Carson Walker made the motion to call for the election and Rhonda Reddick seconded. Motion carried.

### **V. Early Voting Change of Location for the November 8, 2022 General Election due to the closure for remodeling of the Griffin Bell Golf and Conference Center (GSWU), 1800 South Lee Street, Americus, Georgia.**

Mr. Howard explained we had been using GSW since 2020 for early voting as it was already an established precinct. Covid created social distance concerns and GSW served our need but because of remodeling of GSW, we need to ask the Board to approve a new location of the Sumter County Fair Grounds located on Hwy 30 or 903 Adderton Street. He stated that he, Dr. Latimore and Mr. Walker had visited the site on Monday and found it capable for the early voting needs, and is property owned by the county. After a discussion, Rhonda Reddick made a motion to approve the Sumter County Fair Grounds

as the new early voting site for the November 8, 2022 election, seconded by Dennis Taylor. Motion carried.

**VI. Election Day Precinct located at the Griffin Bell Golf and Conference Center (GSWU), C2-27, 1800 South Lee Street, Americus Georgia needs to be moved to another location due to the closure of the Convention Center for remodeling during the November 8, 2022 General Election.**

Mr. Howard asked the Board for permission to move the GSW precinct, C2-27, from 1800 South Lee Street to 805 Harrold Avenue, formerly the Americus and Sumter County High School, to the JROTC building located next to the gym. He stated that he, Dr. Latimore and Mr. Walker had visited the facility and thought it would be good for election day for the voters of C2-27. The building is large enough, entrances are good with adequate parking. Attorney Hooks explained the timeframe in which we would need to advertise, to give our voters a chance to have a say, and then make a final vote at the August 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. Dr. Latimore wanted to know about precinct cards if we do change. Mr. Howard stated he was working to find out. Dr. Roberts made a motion for the process to begin to move the GSW precinct from the GSW location to the Harrold Avenue location, seconded by Carson Walker. Motion carried.

**VII. Executive Session**

No Executive Session needed.

**VIII. Board Members Comments**

Mr. Howard presented the Board with a copy of a check in the amount of \$6,226.53 from the Secretary of State's Office for reimbursement when we mailed the 17,000+ precinct cards after redistricting.

Mr. Walker stated the Courthouse is not clearly marked as the Sumter County Courthouse and he would like to see some signs placed out front on the lawn that states "Register to Vote Here". Mr. Howard stated we are also planning to have 2 Voter Registration drives before the November Election. We are working on the locations.

**IX. Adjourn**

Motion made by Carson Walker to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Dr. Roberts. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Julia Sims  
August 2, 2022