

Sumter County Board of Elections Meeting January 7, 2021 at 9:30 am

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman James Gaston at 9:35 am.

II. Roll Call

a) Board Members: Chairman James Gaston, Dr. Shirley Latimore, Rhonda Reddick, Carson Walker, Marty McDonald

b) County Attorney: Kimberly Reid – absent

c) Staff: Randy Howard, Addie Bryant, Lois Phillips

III. Motion to Adopt the Agenda

Marty McDonald made a motion to accept the agenda.

Carson Walker seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

IV. Discussion of Any Mail Received from U.S. Post Office to Election Office Since Closing of Polls on January 5

Mr. Howard picked up the US Post Office mail after the post office closed on January 5. He went again early the next morning and picked up 2 more pieces of mail. He also checked again this morning, January 7, and there was no more mail there.

The drop box (outside the courthouse) was checked on Wednesday, January 6, and Thursday, January 7. There have been no more ballots in the drop box since January 5, 2021 at 7 pm.

V. Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Ballots Received

Mr. Howard stated that every ballot that has been received has been counted. And there are no more waiting to come in.

VII. Review of Provisional Ballots Cast by Voters to Approve or Disapprove

Mr. Randy Howard stated that he will present the Provisional Ballots to the Board Members by precinct. The Board Members are to review each ballot individually, have discussion, and approve or disapprove each ballot.

The Precinct results are as follows:

Browns Mill

2 approved, 1 disapproved

GSW

3 approved, 2 disapproved

Leslie

0 approved, 2 disapproved

Reese Park

0 approved, 3 disapproved

Rec Dept

4 approved, 0 disapproved

Plains

0 approved, 1 disapproved

Concord

1 approved, 0 disapproved

Early Voting

3 approved, 6 disapproved

Total Provisional Ballots received – 28

Total approved – 13

Total disapproved – 15

Dr. Latimore commented that it would be helpful to note (on the provisional envelope) the specific time of day that the elector voted provisionally.

VIII. Other Election Business to be Discussed

The next Elections Board meeting will be ***Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 4:30 pm***. There will be discussion regarding the officers on the Board, review of the By-Laws to be finalized, and there will be an update on the E-SPLOST election on March 16. Also, Mr. Howard will have the county attorney draft wording regarding the Commissioners discussion of reimbursement for travel, expenses, etc.

Dr. Shirley Latimore inquired about the move to the new office. Mr. Howard responded that he will continue looking at that after we get through the remaining aspects of this current Election.

IX. Executive Session

None needed

X. Board Members Comments

Mr. Howard expressed his thanks to everyone involved in this Election – the poll managers, the poll workers, the staff, the maintenance crew, etc. Everyone involved has done a great job – it takes teamwork! Here’s hoping 2021 will be a lot better than 2020!! Thanks again to all!!

Dr. Shirley Latimore responded that there has been forward movement since January of 2020, with training, “on the job training”, learning as we go, and communication issues. She is proud of Sumter County and feels that we did very well.

James Gaston verbalized his appreciation of all that was done by the Board Members, Mr. Howard, his staff, and the poll workers.

Rhonda Reddick echoes Dr. Latimore’s comments, and anticipates a new year with new beginnings.

Carson Walker commented on things he observed in the precincts and on social media, and discussion followed.

XI. Adjourn

The next Board of Elections meeting will be held on Thursday, January 5, 2021 at 4:30 pm

Marty McDonald made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Rhonda Reddick seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Lois Phillips

January 9, 2021