



APPROVED MINUTES

BOARD OF REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS SPECIAL MEETING – JANUARY 19, 2021

The Fulton County Board of Registration and Elections met in Special Session on Tuesday, January 19, 2020, 9:00 a.m.

VIRTUAL MEETING

Please join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

FGTV YouTube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYH7E0jH6HxE-3KTRluH8SQ>

Presiding: Ms. Mary Carole Cooney, Chairperson

Other Board Members Present:

Ms. Vernetta Keith Nuriddin, Vice Chairperson

Mr. Mark Wingate

Mr. Aaron V. Johnson

Dr. Kathleen Ruth

Staff Attending: Mr. Richard Barron, Director; Mr. Ralph Jones, Registration Chief; Ms. Nadine Williams, Elections Chief; Ms. Sharon Benjamin, Deputy Elections Chief; Mrs. Pamela Coman, Registration Manager; Ms. Brenda McCloud, Administrative Manager; Ms. Breauana Jenkins, Administrative Coordinator I; Mrs. Cheryl Ringer, County Attorney; Mr. David Lowman, County Attorney; Mr. James Reese, Production Manager; Mr. Rico Dollar, Senior Graphics Designer, Regina Waller, Senior Public Affairs Officer; Jessica Corbitt, PIO & Director of External Affairs

Commissioner(s): Commissioner Hausmann (D1)

County Personnel: Bridgette Bailey (Director of Customer Service), Michael O'Connor (Hausmann)

Guests Attending: Kendra Mackey (CBS46), Michelle Sanders (Fox), Helen Butler, Steven Franklin, Ben Nadler (Associated Press), Kamal Khan, Aaron Reese, Poy Winichaku, LaShawn Hudson, Richard Heaslip, Quinn Scanlan, Rao Komar, Chistian Ayisi

Chairperson Cooney announced that this teleconferenced meeting is authorized pursuant to §50-14-1(g) of the Official Code of Georgia because of the Public Health State of Emergency declared by Governor Kemp on March 14, 2020, and renewed through March 7, 2021, pursuant to which public meeting spaces in state and local Government have been closed due to COVID-19, and because means have been afforded for the public to have simultaneous access to this teleconference.

#1– APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairperson Cooney entertained a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was made by Mr. Wingate, seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried by a unanimous vote of 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

#2- RE-CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION RESULTS: STATE AND FEDERAL RUNOFF JANUARY 5, 2021

- **US Senate (PERDUE)**
- **US Senate (LOEFFLER)**
- **Public Service Commission (PSC)**

Registered Voters: 489,503 of 818,555 (59.80%)
Ballots Cast: 489,503

Chairperson Cooney directed **Mr. Barron** to explained why this Body was called to recertify this Election

Mr. Barron explained that the Elections Management System (**EMS**) does not have a dashboard that indicates which memory cards have been uploaded; therefore the Election System Supervisor operates the system manually and create a spreadsheet to verify completion of every upload. **Mr. Barron** explained that all ballot images and results are sent to the Secretary of State's Office (**SOS**), upon receipt **SOS** contacted **DRE** personnel to review two precincts ML01A and ML01B. The precincts (ML01A and ML01B) had ballot images but the votes did not tabulate. **Mr. Barron** mentioned personnel will be discussing this occurrence with Dominion today and additional procedures are being implemented. **Mr. Barron** mentioned some of the differences with this system is it requires more manual verification.

Mr. Wingate asked **Mr. Barron** to clarify this discrepancy

Mr. Barron's procedural overview:

- Memory flash cards are retrieved
- Memory flash cards are uploaded
- Personnel verify images recorded
- Additional procedure:
- Run a SOVC results to verify

Mr. Wingate ask can this information be verify by Poll Pads (KnowInk)

Mr. Barron mentioned that the procedure mentioned is a Post-Election reconciliation tool. Know Ink provides a voters list to **SOS** usually after certification.

Mr. Wingate acknowledged that this is a fairly new platform and there is a learning curve; however, the procedures need to be cleaned up before personnel request the **BRE** certify any results

Mr. Barron agreed that there need to be some procedural changes

Vice Chair Nuriddin asked who discovered the error

Mr. Barron responded the **SOS** contacted the **DRE** and asked them to review the two precincts previously mentioned

Mr. Gilstrap explained to the **BRE** that a spreadsheet is created for all scanners assigned to a precinct and that is how they verify all flash cards were uploaded. The compact flash cards were uploaded and the ballot images were stored.

Vice Chair Nuriddin asked **Mr. Barron** did he direct his staff to check all precincts to ensure this error did not occur in any other precinct. **Vice Chair** expressed concerns for a lack of processes

Mr. Barron stated yes

Vice Chair Nuriddin mentioned on January 8th the Election Night Reporting shows (0) zero for the precincts being discussed.

Mr. Barron echoed **Vice Chair Nuriddin** concern/ frustration. **Mr. Barron** confirmed additions to procedures and contacting the vendor to understand why this occurred

Mr. Johnson asked for clarity on the amount of votes in question being 660 votes.

Mr. Barron said yes

Chairperson Cooney asked **Mr. Barron** was it his certification and testimony that the election results presented are a true and accurate count of all the votes cast in the Runoff Election held on January 5, 2021.

Mr. Barron answered yes

Chairperson Cooney entertained a motion to certify the election results. The motion was made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Wingate and carried by a vote of 5-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board did not convene into executive session.

Before Adjourning, **Dr. Ruth** directed **Mr. Barron** to provide a report on Dominion's findings

ADJOURNMENT

With no other items requiring the Board's action, **Chairperson Cooney entertained a motion to adjourn. Mr. Wingate moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion.** Collectively, the Board agreed to adjourn at 9:28 a.m.

The meeting adjourned.

Prepared by,

Mariska Bodison, Board Secretary