COBB COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATION
MARCH 8, 2021
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Video Conference via WebEx
4:00 p.m.

Board Members Present
Phil Daniell (Remote)
Fred Aiken
Jessica Brooks
Darryl Wilson Jr.
Pat Gartland

Board Members Absent

Others Present: The following individuals were also present in person: Janine Eveler, Gregg Litchfield, and Crista Watson.

Chairman Daniell called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

TAB 1 - Public Comment:

• Karen Kuhel expressed her concerns regarding HB531 and the proposed changes in legislation.

• Lisa Campbell described her frustrations pertaining to the proposed legislation within HB531, the Senate Bills recently passed to the house, and the importance of expanding voter rights.

• Susan Adams spoke regarding her displeasure with the proposed legislation detailing privacy concerns regarding Absentee Ballots, the number of voting booths per facility, and the potential reductions.

• Roberta Apte detailed her thoughts on the proposed legislation citing voter suppression, the cost to tax payers, and apprehension regarding personal identification being placed in the mail.

• Xavier Black expressed the need to make voting easier, not more difficult and the potential for identity theft if personal identification were required to be submitted with Absentee Ballot Applications.

• Monica Delancy detailed the significant role renters play in Cobb County.

• Victoria Rixey described the changing demographic and the need for voting to be less restrictive for all voters.

• Regina Ali Nur spoke regarding the need to expand voter access and identity theft
potential based on the proposals of HB531.

- David Franklin detailed his support of the proposed legislation to ensure the integrity of voting.

- Jacquelyn Bettadapur spoke regarding the advertisement of Special Called Board Meetings and the need for improvements in order to provide sufficient notice to the public.

- Samantha Pratt detailed her concerns over the cost of the proposed legislation and the lack of evidence used to justify the proposed changes in election law.

- Shelby Swan expressed her opposition of HB531 and SB241.

- Julie Macartney expressed her opposition of HB531 and SB241.

- Mark Maloney spoke regarding political leaders stating their goals should be to expanding voting, not suppress the right to vote.

- Sherill Gammon cited lack of evidence of any election fraud and asked the Board to oppose HB531 and SB241.

**TAB 2 – Approval of Minutes:**

Mr. Gartland made a motion to approve the following meeting minutes:

- February 8, 2021
- February 25, 2021

Ms. Brooks SECONDED. APPROVED 5-0.

**Regular Business:**

**Director of Elections (Janine Eveler)**

- Director of Elections Janine Eveler explained that the Board of Elections lacks the authority to challenge the proposed changes to legislation and encouraged the public to reach out to their representatives to express their concerns.

- Director Eveler read letters received from the local 4-H club expressing their gratitude for a class hosted by the Elections department, teaching local students about election equipment, the voting process, and providing a tour of the Prep Center facility.
• Director Eveler detailed current staffing levels and turnover within the Elections Department following the last election.

• Director Eveler provided the Board with a status update of each division within the Elections Department detailing the projects and tasks currently underway within the Elections, Registration, and Prep Center divisions.

The Chairman set the next regular meeting for April 12, 2021 at 4:00pm.

Board Member Comments:

• Ms. Brooks asked Director Eveler if all vacant positions are advertised to the general public. Director Eveler explained the Full-Time and Part-Time positions are advertised on the Cobb County Government website and the application for seasonal positions can be found on the Board of Elections Website.

• Mr. Gartland asked if facilities used as voting locations during an election would supersede facility rentals made by a private entity. Director Eveler explained that this can sometimes be the case but not always. She will be discussing this topic with the Board of Commissioners at their next work session to ask them to set priorities for facility use.

• Ms. Brooks proposed a regular email distribution list as an additional means to notify the public of Special Called Board Meetings.

• Ms. Brooks recommended the creation of a formal program to help educate voters.

• Ms. Brooks asked if it were possible to begin recording Board Meetings. Director Eveler stated arrangements can be made to do so.

• Chairman Daniell thanked Director Eveler, elections staff, and poll workers for the services they provide.

• Chairman Daniell encouraged the public to reach out to their legislators and representatives to express their support or opposition to the proposed items discussed during the meeting.

Mr. Aiken moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:06 p.m.
Mr. Gartland SECONDED. APPROVED 5-0.