

COBB COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATION
JULY 11, 2022
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

100 Cherokee Street.
3:00 p.m.

Board Members Present

Tori Silas
Jessica Brooks
Jennifer Mosbacher
Pat Gartland
Steve Bruning

Board Members Absent

Others Present: Janine Eveler, Daniel White, Erica Hamilton, Kara Pringle

Chairwoman Silas called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Shelley Northrup (online) from Smyrna commended the board and staff for the Primary and Runoff. She entreated the Board to reject baseless voter challenge efforts and pointed out that NCOA evidence is not sufficient. She also asked for increases in early voting to 18 locations and that voting be conducted on both available Sundays.
- Lindsey F. (in-person) thanked the Board for their hard work over last few months. She urged the Board to exercise caution with voter challenges and to require reliable and sufficient evidence. She commented that the burden of proof is on the challenger and the NCOA evidence is not sufficient. She also asked the Board to expand early voting options and drop boxes and to allow voting on Sundays.
- Boyd Parks (in-person) from Acworth read an email that he sent the Board the previous day. He said the document was also mailed to the Elections office and received on June 6. The document accused the Board of maladministration of the May 24 Primary. He also asked why we are spending tax dollars to challenge voters when the state should be doing this.
- Susan Strevens (in-person) from Acworth read from a document regarding constitutional principles. The document accused the Board of maladministration of the May 24 Primary.
- Ahmad Salih (in-person) is a retired emergency room physician living in Vinings and commented that the theories presented in the movie 2000 Mules have been debunked, describing the film as garbage in, garbage out. He said that there were many baseless fraud allegations but conceded that people can believe whatever they want to believe as long as they do not take actions that could get them in trouble. Mr. Salih accused Board member Patrick Gartland of being involved with the fake electors'

scheme and of working to overturn the will of the people. He asked Mr. Gartland to explain or resign.

- Leroy Emkin (in-person) asserted that the movie 2000 Mules does provide evidence of fraud. He also offered that Garland Favorito has evidence of fraud. He questioned why someone living in another state is still eligible to vote in Georgia and asked the Board to clean the list.
- Sam Henderson (online) from Marietta commended the Board on their diligent service to the citizens of Cobb. He dismissed the many debunked conspiracy theories gaining fluency in many counties. He asked the board to keep early voting hours generous for those without job flexibility and transportation and asked the Board to keep ballot drop boxes available. He asked that the Board not allow conspiracy theories to overturn the will of the voters.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Bruning made a motion to APPROVE the minutes from June 21, 2022 and June 27, 2022. Mr. Gartland SECONDED. APPROVED 5-0

PUBLIC HEARING

- a) Mr. Gary Allen from Kennesaw presented his challenge of 30 voters submitted on 6/16/22 via email. He said the National Change of Address list showed that these voters had moved from Georgia to New Jersey. He presented both the NCOA information and the New Jersey registration information. Upon further questions from Ms. Mosbacher, he said Ms. Karyl Asta gave him the data and he did not prepare or obtain the data himself. He's challenging these voters because he grew up in New Jersey and doesn't personally know any of these voters. Ms. Mosbacher commented that for 18 of the 30 names, the New Jersey registration information came from a third-party organization called Voterref.com. Mr. Allen asserted that Voterref.com gets its information from the State of New Jersey.. Director Eveler went through names for matching purposes stated that there were a few where birth dates were not exact matches but had a voter with the name. Chairwoman pointed out that a voter could have same name and birth year. Ms. Brooks expressed concern that a New Jersey address was not provided for several (13) of the voters who supposedly moved. Per Director Eveler all challenged voters received notice at a Georgia address.

Chairwoman Silas confirmed with Director Eveler that 4 voters in this challenge have already been removed by returning the Cancellation Request form that was sent with the hearing notices. Those voters are Edward B. Burke, James Ward Burke, Michael J. Chen, and Khalihah Licorish Iraheta.

Chairwoman Silas recognized two individuals online who had been challenged.

- Ms. Zaria Brown stated that she was first a student in South Carolina in 2019 and temporarily moved to New Jersey but has now moved back to Georgia. She indicated she currently lives in Fulton County as of June of 2022 and has taken the necessary steps to reestablish residency in Georgia. She was advised that she must do a change of address either online at MVP.sos.ga.gov or by completing a paper application form.

- Ms. Roschel Davis also spoke, identifying herself as Ms. Brown's mother. She lived in Georgia for 17 years and said she has permanently moved to New Jersey and has voted in that state. She thought she would have been automatically removed from the Cobb voter list. She stated she has voted several times in the state of New Jersey. Director Eveler confirmed that we would need a signed removal the Board votes to remove the voter. Chairwoman Silas confirms that the state mandated process does not remove voters from the voter rolls but makes them inactive. The State of Georgia participates in the ERIC data base regarding change of address and this covers 26 states. A signed document is required for removal unless the board votes to remove this voter.
- b) Ms. Karyl Asta presented her challenge of 38 voters. She stated that she used the NCOA list to identify voters that moved from Georgia to various other states. Mr. Bruning asked if there is information showing that these people had voted in these other states. Ms. Asta said she did not print that out because she felt that should not be the standard, only that they had registered. Mr. Bruning said that some states have automatic registration, like Georgia, so some people could have been registered elsewhere without realizing it but proof that they have voted in another state is the key piece of evidence that they don't intend to vote here. Ms. Mosbacher asked about the procedure and methodology that Ms. Asta used, noting that others seemed to be getting their data from Ms. Asta. She responded that she used the National Change of Address information and then accessed the other state's voter registration website, if she has the full birth date, to confirm they are registered elsewhere. Ms. Mosbacher stated to the other Board members that 92% of the screen prints presented by Ms. Asta were from the third-party organization Voterref.com and not the other state's government entity in charge of voter registration. Ms. Mosbacher asked Ms. Asta what group she represented, because the challenge is supposed to be from an individual. Ms. Asta said it was just some concerned citizens. She added that they need to know what is required to sustain a challenge if this information is not enough.
- Director Eveler gave a summary of the notices that were sent and her findings in the Georgia registration system. There were 13 names where the date of birth didn't match. Six Georgia and one out of state notices were returned. The notices were mailed on the 24th of June. Two voters on the list returned a form asking to be removed from the list and were cancelled. Those voters are Pamela Ann Bradbury and Govinpreet Singh Khalsa.
 - There were no respondents from this challenge that were present or online to speak at the meeting.
- c) Mr. Henri Asta challenged 21 voters on June 22nd via email. He stated these voters have moved and registered in another state. Mr. Gartland asked about the 11 names where the dates of birth did not exactly match. Mr. Asta indicated that the year and names matched. Mr. Bruning asked if the date they registered in the other state was in the materials. Mr. Asta said that information was on the Voterref.com printouts for all his challenges. Ms. Mosbacher asked about how often Voterref.com was updated. Mr. Asta said the data is valid as of the printout date. Ms. Mosbacher said that the printouts don't have a date on them indicating when they were printed. Ms. Mosbacher confirmed with Mr. Asta that three voters are shown on the printouts to be inactive in the other state.

- Director Eveler confirmed that there were 11 names where the dates of birth did not exactly match. All voters were sent notices to both addresses. Two Georgia notices were returned and two out of state notices were returned. Two voters returned the form asking to cancel their registration and were removed. Those voters are Hannah Fawn Gibbs and Linda Grove Haddon.
 - There were no respondents from this challenge that were present or online to speak at the meeting.
- d) Mr. Eugene Williams challenged 63 voters who were found on the NCOA list and then took the overt step to register to vote in their new state via email on 6/22/22. Mr. Williams read from the O.C.G.A. 21-2-217 which states that a person who registers to vote in another state forfeits their right to vote in Georgia. Mr. Williams said the postal change of address form makes the person declare if the move is temporary or permanent. He suggested that the Board should obtain the postal forms signed by the voters and remove them from the voter rolls. Ms. Mosbacher asked Mr. Williams if he prepared the data himself. Mr. Williams said he did and that these challenges are being initiated from individuals concerned about the integrity of elections in Cobb County. He confirmed that he prepared the data from information on Vote.org and Voterref.com. Ms. Mosbacher countered that the printouts seem to have come from the State of Florida and not third-party websites. Mr. Williams said that the data on those websites comes straight from the state of Florida. He does not know any of the voters personally. He just used a list of names and put them in to the websites to see if they were registered. Mr. Williams states that he presented data from Vote.org or Voterref.com however the pdfs submitted were from the State of Florida. He would like us to commit to keeping clean and accurate voter rolls for Cobb County.
- Director Eveler confirmed that these voters were only sent a notice to the Georgia address. All voters had matching dates of birth. Some notices were returned with a change of address sticker indicating a Florida new address.
 - There were no respondents from this challenge that were present or online to speak at the meeting.

At 4:45PM Mr. Gartland moved to enter into Executive session for the purpose of discussing pending litigation. Mr. Bruning SECONDED. APPROVED 5-0.

At 5:51PM Mr. Gartland moved to come out of Executive session and resume the regular meeting. Mr. Bruning SECONDED. APPROVED 5-0.

Chairwoman Silas states that we are declining to make a decision this evening with regard to the challenges. We hear that the challengers are requesting a standard.

Chairwoman Silas listed the five minimum/mandatory data items that need to be provided in order for the board to assess a challenge:

1. The full name of the Elector being challenged
2. The full date of birth the Elector being Challenged which includes birth date, month and year.
3. The Georgia address associated with the Elector being challenged
4. The address of the Elector being challenged in the new state
5. Registration evidence showing the Elector is an active registered voter in another

state from the official registration entity in that state or county that is dated and includes the website source information.

In addition, the Board would also like to see sourced information showing when the voter last voted in Georgia and in the other state, although this is not mandatory. Mr. White clarifies the purpose is not to add new elements or to infer that this is required under the code but rather the public should know that if these items are submitted to the board the public can be fairly certain the board will have what is needed to make a determination. Mr. Williams was recognized to speak briefly and indicated this information is somewhat onerous to provide and the Board should obtain the postal affidavit as he suggested earlier. Chairwoman Silas clarified that she did not believe providing this information is onerous, although removing someone's right to vote is indeed onerous.

Mr. Bruning moved to table the four challenges until the next meeting on August 8, 2022. Ms. Brooks SECONDED. APPROVED 4-1 with Ms. Mosbacher against.

DIRECTOR OF ELECTIONS

- Mr. Bruning moved to approve the Board conducting a special election for the City of Kennesaw in conjunction with the November 8, 2022 general election and for the Chairwoman to sign the contract. Mr. Gartland SECONDED. APPROVED 5-0

Chairwoman Silas adjourned the meeting at 6:07PM.