

**THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS OF CHATHAM COUNTY
MINUTES**

May 22, 2019

BOARD MEMBERS: Thomas J. Mahoney - Chair
Malinda Hodge – Vice Chair
Marianne Heimes
Antwan Lang
Debbie Rauers

STAFF: Russell Bridges
Lynn Trabue
Robert Carney

GUESTS Rick Ellison, President R.U.F.F.
Margaret Ellison, Pooler, GA
Mr. Cohen, Pooler, GA

CALL TO ORDER The meeting of the Board of Elections, only, was reconvened by **Thomas J. Mahoney, Chair**, at 2:05 PM, after a joint meeting with the Board of Registrars was adjourned about 1:45 PM.

CHAIR ADDRESS **Mr. Mahoney** asked that the Agenda be limited to a discussion of the Budget, the Easy Vote follow-up, and approving the Minutes of the April 8, 2019 meeting.

MINUTES

May 2019

Mr. Lang inserted his expectation that the Minutes be distributed at least two days in advance of Board Meetings.

Mr. Mahoney accepted responsibility and apologized for late issue of the meeting material.

Ms. Rauers shared her desire that everyone should have an opportunity to include items on the Agenda with an established process, emphasizing dates-certain by which additions and/or changes must be finalized. She further asked questions regarding the sequence of events used to prepare the Minutes. She expressed interest in preventing the Minutes from being redacted, changed or manipulated in any way prior to being presented to the Board for review and consideration.

Mr. Mahoney reiterated the need for this meeting to be brief, and that this item can be added as an Agenda item for the next meeting. He requested moving forward toward approval of the Minutes.

Ms. Heimes shared her opinion that it is inappropriate to receive the Minutes on the day of the meeting.

Mr. Mahoney stated that **Russell** had the Minutes prepared and delivered to him prior to **Russell** going leaving for vacation. He, again, accepted responsibility for the delay in delivery of the Minutes, and assured that there were no changes made in them.

Ms. Hodge asked that this information be dealt with later with respect to the request for brevity of the current meeting so that we can move forward and post the Minutes to the public on a timely basis.

Bob interjected that the Minutes received today are varied from what he typed, particularly regarding a motion made by **Ms. Rauers**. **Bob** expressed his understanding that a Motion (seconded or not seconded) should be recorded in the Minutes, word for word, and he attempted to provide that format. The original verbiage was somewhat lengthy and had been reduced to two lines in the Minutes that were distributed.

Mr. Mahoney asked if there had been a second to **Ms. Rauers'** motion.

Bob stated that the motion was not seconded.

Motion by Marianne Heimes, seconded by Debbie Rauers to table the minutes until the next meeting. **ALL APPROVED.**

Russell asked if the un-approved Minutes should be posted.

Mr. Mahoney suggested that posting un-approved Minutes is inappropriate.

BUDGET

May, 2019

Russell indicated that this report somewhat mirrors the preceding month's report. It includes requested amounts, recommendations by the Budget Committee, and new items.

There was extensive discussion encompassing individual budget items. All of the questions asked and related answers provided seem to have been adequate.

Ms. Heimes asked if the County has presented a SPLOST list.

Russell stated that he was not aware of a list, but had heard that there might be a June 2019 deadline to provide one. A finalized list will have to be coordinated and finalized with respect to the various community requests, balanced with the projected funds.

Ms. Heimes additionally inquired about our new building being included in the SPLOST.

Russell indicated that, as far as he knows, the new building is not yet under consideration for the SPLOST.

Mr. Lang asked if a breakdown has been provided showing individual expenses and to whom they are disbursed.

Russell indicated that the information covering significant items is provided via the Treasurer's Report on a monthly basis.

Mr. Lang further requested a link to our budgetary items on the web site so that citizens can see where the money goes. Also helpful would be a link for people who would like to participate as a Poll Worker with instructions for applying.

Mr. Mahoney suggested these items for future discussion.

EASY VOTE

Russell shared that the Easy Vote module implementation will be more time consuming than originally thought. He requested an invoice and a contract, which have come in. He is going to sign the agreement and arrange for Easy Vote to work with us in the conversion of our data into their system. Staff has been asked to continue building the November election in our current system since it is already being put together. Hopefully we will be able to use the system soon. He will be obtaining a Purchase Order, and the cost of the Easy Vote module is already in the budget. There are no terms in their contract. He has already spoken with Ron Davis, the Owner of the company, Greg Whiten, the Lead Technical Support, and Patrick, who will be the primary Trainer on site.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Lang asked how many Board Members have to be present to have a meeting. He was informed that it takes three members of the Board to have a Board Meeting. He asked if anyone has to leave, and there are three Board Members present, could questions still be asked/answered.

Ms. Hodge shared that meetings are not adjourned because someone has to leave.

Mr. Mahoney stated that his charge is to manage the meeting expeditiously.

Ms. Rauers offered a concern about the \$75,000 spent on Maintenance and Repairs, paid to ES&S, and expressed interest in making certain that the money was spent as it was intended. She further asked if there was a reason that it was spent in lieu of a recent discussion about the disbursement of the money with regard to the expectation of new voting equipment.

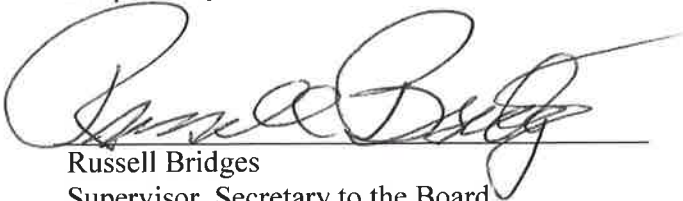
Russell said that the bill came in last October and was submitted to Finance and signed for. It is contractual, and our obligation is to pay the bill for maintenance on the equipment from January 1st through December 31st. Finance just remitted the check, now that a decision has been made to move forward for acquiring new voting equipment. He related that this is the final year of the contract. In the event that the new voting system does not come to fruition, the money is still in the Budget. The new equipment will be covered by at least a one-year warranty.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Antwan Lang to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 PM

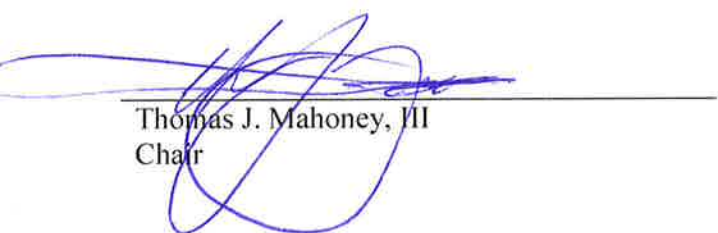
Respectfully Submitted:



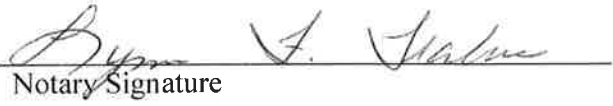
Russell Bridges
Supervisor, Secretary to the Board

6/12/19

Date Approved



Thomas J. Mahoney, III
Chair



Notary Signature

6-12-19

Date Notarized

