

Meeting Minutes  
Chatham County Board of Registrars  
April 28, 2021

The WebEx meeting began at 12:02 p.m. with a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance. Board of Registrars members that were in attendance were Mr. McRae, Mr. Norse, Ms. Andrews, and Mr. Slay. Mr. Pannell was absent. Staff members in attendance were Ms. German, Mrs. Bostick and Mr. Pflager.

Mr. McRae called for a motion to approve the minutes of the March 2021 meeting. Mr. Norse moved to approve the minutes as circulated to the Board members. Ms. Andrews seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

**Old Business**

***Board of Election/Board of Registrars Combination:***

Ms. German advised that the legislation to combine the Chatham County Board of Election and the Chatham County Board of Registrars was not passed by the end of the legislative session. Therefore, no combination of the two entities will be occurring at this time. The General Assembly may or may not choose to review this matter with new legislation in the 2022 legislative session.

***Board of Registrars Member Appointments:***

Ms. German advised that terms of office for three (3) of the Board members will be ending on June 30, 2021. These members are Mr. Pannell, Mr. Norse, and Mr. Slay. Board members are vetted by the Grand Jury of Chatham County and appointed by the Chief Judge of Chatham County Superior Court.

Mr. McRae requested that Mr. Pannell, Mr. Norse, and Mr. Slay express interest to Chatham County District Attorney, Shalena Cook Jones, if they desire to be re-appointed.

Mr. McRae also requested that a press release communication be sent to several civic and political party groups (the exact list is still being developed) to advertise that nominations could be submitted to the District Attorney. The deadline for submission of nominations to the District Attorney is close of business on Friday, May 21, 2021.

**New Business**

***165<sup>th</sup> Georgia House District – Special Election:***

Ms. German stated that, at this time, a formal retirement letter from Rep. Mickey Stephens has not been received and that, therefore, a special election for this office has not been called. If a retirement letter is received, the Governor must call for a special election within ten (10) days of receiving the formal letter. The election itself would be held within thirty (30) to sixty (60) days of the date of the call for the special election.

In response to a question from the Board, Ms. German indicated that additional funds for temporary staff salaries would be needed if a special election is called and early voting and/or election-day takes place before the new budget year starts on July 1, 2021. At this time, only the Main Office would likely be used as an early voting location.

**Registration Totals**

Ms. German reported 209,888 active, 19,632 inactive and 170 pending voters.

**Challenges – Felon, Deceased, Voter Requested**

Voter challenges presented were 52 deceased, 35 felons and 18 voters requested. These individuals were sent letters notifying them of today's hearing. No responses were received. At 12:28 p.m., Mr. Norse moved to challenge these voters based on deceased or felon status or their request to be removed. Ms. Andrews seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

**Public Discussion**

Members of the public addressed the Board.

The meeting adjourned at 12:32 p.m.