

**MONTHLY MEETING OF THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF
ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATIONS**

July 18, 2022 @ 9:30 A.M.

**Board of Elections & Registration Office
284 GA Highway 119 South, Springfield, GA 31329**

The Board of Elections and Registration held its monthly meeting on July 18, 2022

PERSONS ATTENDING THE MEETING AND ROLL CALL:

Those present were: Chairman Tommy Allen, Vice Chairman Glenda King, Board Member Ruth Brown, and Board Member Rose Harvey. Director Olivia Chapman, Assistant Director Laura Bassett. Also present was Democratic Party Chairman Tony Chiariello and George Meck of Fair Count. Absent was Secretary Carla Freels, and Deputy Registrar Dezita Thompson.

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Allen called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M. Chairman Allen led the Invocation and the Pledge was recited. The meeting was properly advertised.

AGENDA APPROVAL:

The Agenda was presented, and it was approved as presented to the Board.

MINUTES:

The minutes from the June 27, 2022 Board Meeting were presented. Board Member Ruth Brown made a motion to approve the Agenda. Vice Chairman Glenda King second the motion. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

➤ **None**

NEW BUSINESS:

➤ **Office Activities**

- Gladys and Kay are still working on staffing. Director Chapman sent out emails to the Effingham Herald, Yancy Ford and the Chamber of Commerce. But have received little response. The Herald did a nice article in the paper in an effort to help us recruit workers.
- Assistant Director Bassett is actively working on preparation for training that will begin mid-September.
- Director Chapman was contacted by the City Manager of Guyton, Meketa Brown, in regards to holding Guyton's 2023 Elections. Director Chapman reviewed the prior Elections our Board has overseen in the past couple of years; 2019 City Clerk Resigned, Election Staff was minimally compensated. 2021-County decision, no compensation for Election Staff. Board discusses options on how to proceed, directing Chapman to create a sample contract and meet with Mrs. Brown to discuss options further.

BOARD OR STAFF CONCERNS:

- None


EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- No executive session was necessary.

ADJOURNMENT:

No further business was required. There were no objections to adjournment. Meeting was adjourned at 10:02 AM. The next board meeting will be scheduled for August 8th, 2022 at 09:30 AM. It was motion by Board Member Ruth Brown and Second by Board member Rose Harvey.

Respectfully Submitted:


Carla Freels, Secretary

**MONTHLY MEETING OF THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF
ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATIONS**

June 27, 2022 @ 11:00 A.M.

**Board of Elections & Registration Office
284 GA Highway 119 South, Springfield, GA 31329**

The Board of Elections and Registration held its monthly meeting on June 27, 2022

PERSONS ATTENDING THE MEETING AND ROLL CALL:

Those present were: Chairman Tommy Allen, Vice Chairman Glenda King, Board Member Ruth Brown, and Board Member Rose Harvey. Director Olivia Chapman, Assistant Director Laura Bassett, and Deputy Registrar Dezita Thompson. Also present was Democratic Party Chairman Tony Chiariello and George Meck of Fair Count. Absent was Secretary Carla Freels.

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Allen called the meeting to order at 11:00 A.M. Vice Chairman King led the Invocation and the Pledge was recited. The meeting was properly advertised.

AGENDA APPROVAL:

The Agenda was presented, and it was approved as presented to the Board.

MINUTES:

The minutes from the May 31, 2022 Board Meeting were presented. Board Member Rose Harvey made a motion to approve the Agenda. Vice Chairman Glenda King second the motion. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

➤ **June 21, 2022 General Primary Runoff**

- Certified the Election results as of June 27, 2022 and delivered returns to the State Patrol. 1.47 % turn-out of voters for this run-off election. The least amount of voter at a precinct was 2 voters and the most a precinct had was 36 voters.
- Being this was a slow election, the Board of Elections had an opportunity to review other options to recruit new poll workers and managers to the upcoming election.
- A different method for check-in was handled differently this election, making the process run more smoothly for managers.

NEW BUSINESS:

➤ **2022/ 2023 Budget**

- A forty- foot shipping container was requested for additional storage during the last budget meeting, but was disapproved. The prior year funding was requested to add additional space to build and was turned down as well. However, \$1.5 million of SPLOST funds were allocated toward the Board of Elections for the 2022/ 2023 Budget, stating renovations for space for Board of Elections and storage.

- Prior year budget the County Manager, Tim Callanan, showed a presentation that suggested relocation of the Board of Elections to the old Central Elementary School Per the County Manager no decision has been made toward the funds it is just a drafted proposal.

BOARD OR STAFF CONCERNS:

- None

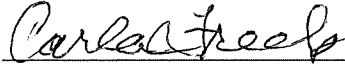
EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- No executive session was necessary.

ADJOURNMENT:

No further business was required. There were no objections to adjournment. Meeting was adjourned at 11:28 AM. The next board meeting will be scheduled for July 18, 2022 at 09:30 AM. It was motion by Board Member Ruth Brown and Second by Board member Rose Harvey.

Respectfully Submitted:



Carla Freels, Secretary

**MONTHLY MEETING OF THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF
ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATIONS**

May 31, 2022 @ 9:30 A.M.

**Board of Elections & Registration Office
284 GA Highway 119 South, Springfield, GA 31329**

The Board of Elections and Registration held its monthly meeting on May 31, 2022

PERSONS ATTENDING THE MEETING AND ROLL CALL:

Those present were: Chairman Tommy Allen, Secretary Carla Freels, Board Member Ruth Brown, and Board Member Rose Harvey. Director Olivia Chapman, Assistant Director Laura Bassett, Also present was Democratic Party Treasurer Jack Garvin, John Freels. Absent was Vice Chairman Glenda King, and Deputy Registrar Dezita Thompson.

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Allen called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M. Chairman Allen led the Invocation and the Pledge was recited. The meeting was properly advertised.

AGENDA APPROVAL:

The Agenda was presented, and it was approved as presented to the Board.

MINUTES:

The minutes from the April 11, 2022 Board Meeting were presented. Board Member Rose Harvey made a motion to approve the Agenda Board Member Ruth Brown second the motion. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **May 24, 2022 General Primary**
 - The turnout for in-person advance voting was 26% show of voters.
 - There will not be any local office runoffs.
 - Democratic Runoff: U. S. Representative 1st, Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Commissioner of Insurance, and the Commissioner of Labor.
 - Staffing all of our polling locations was an issue, and had to add six new managers.
 - Poll worker recruitment needed for the November's Election.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **June 21, 2022 General Primary Runoff**
 - There will be a Runoff on June 21st, 2022 for Democratic Party Only
 - Waiting on the SOS for ballot proofs
 - June 10 is the last day to request Absentee Ballots by Mail (ABM) for the runoff
 - Early Voting starts June 13th through June 17th from 9-5 Monday thru Friday. There is no Saturday voting.
 - L& A is schedule for June 9th and June 10th.

BOARD OR STAFF CONCERNS:

- Board Member Brown brought up duties on Election Night, Director Chapman suggested having more positions available to assist with check in of the Election Managers.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- No executive session was necessary.

ADJOURNMENT:

No further business was required. There were no objections to adjournment. Meeting was adjourned at 9:52 AM. The next board meeting will be scheduled for June 27, 2022 at 11:00 AM.

Respectfully Submitted:



Carla Freels, Secretary

**MONTHLY MEETING OF THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF
ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATIONS**

April 11 2022 @ 9:30 A.M.

**Board of Elections & Registration Office
284 GA Highway 119 South, Springfield, GA 31329**

The Board of Elections and Registration held its monthly meeting on April 11, 2022

PERSONS ATTENDING THE MEETING AND ROLL CALL:

Those present were: Chairman Tommy Allen, Vice Chairman Glenda King, Secretary Carla Freels, Director Olivia Chapman, Assistant Director Laura Bassett, and Deputy Registrar Dezita Thompson. Also present was Democratic Party Tony Chiariello and Democratic Party Treasurer Jack Garvin, John Freels. Absent was Board Member Ruth Brown, and Board Member Rose Harvey.

CALL TO ORDER:

Vice Chairman King called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M. Vice Chairman King led the Invocation and the Pledge was recited. The meeting was properly advertised.

AGENDA APPROVAL:

The Agenda was presented, and it was approved as presented to the Board.

MINUTES:

The minutes from the February 14th, 2022 Board Meeting were presented. Vice Chairman King made a motion to approve the Agenda. Secretary Carla Freels second the motion. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

- None

NEW BUSINESS:

- Ballots for 2022 came in Friday April 8th 2022
- L&A schedule for Monday and Tuesday April 18th and April 19th.
- There are two more Poll Worker Training classes left. Utilizing the Clarence Morgan Recreational Center for large group training has been a major plus for election. All manager positions are filled, but one location. We are in need of approximately ten more poll workers.
- Early Voting starts May 2nd thru May 20th from 9-5 Monday thru Friday. There are two Saturday available for in person voting, May 7th and May 14th from 9-5. The deadline to registration to vote is April 25th 2022.
- Precinct cards came in on April 1st
- LG Signs for Pineora and Sand Hill
- Sample Ballots are ready and available in the office.

BOARD OR STAFF CONCERNS:

- None

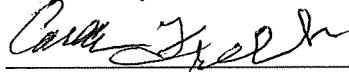
EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- No executive session was necessary.

ADJOURNMENT:

No further business was required. There were no objections to adjournment. Meeting was adjourned at 9:52 AM. The next board meeting will be scheduled for May 31, 2022 at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully Submitted:



Carla Freels, Secretary

**MONTHLY MEETING OF THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF
ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATIONS**

April 06, 2022 @ 9:30 A.M.

**Board of Elections & Registration Office
284 GA Highway 119 South, Springfield, GA 31329**

The Board of Elections and Registration held a Special Board Meeting on April 6, 2022

PERSONS ATTENDING THE MEETING AND ROLL CALL:

Those present were: Chairman Tommy Allen, Vice Chairman Glenda King, Board Member Ruth Brown, Board Member Rose Harvey, Director Olivia Chapman, and Deputy Registrar Dezita Thompson. Also present was Democratic Party Tony Chiariello and Democratic Party Treasurer Jack Garvin. Special Visitors: Attorney Ben Perkins of Oliver Maner, Candidate Stephen Sims, Mark Lee, and Lisa Crawford. Absent was Secretary Carla Freels.

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Allen called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M. Chairman Allen led the Invocation and the Pledge was recited. The meeting was properly advertised.

AGENDA APPROVAL:

The Agenda was presented, and it was approved as presented to the Board. This Special Meeting was properly advertised, special meeting required 48-hour notice. No correction or additional needed to the Agenda. Agenda was approved as presented.

MINUTES:

N/A

OLD BUSINESS:

N/A

NEW BUSINESS:

- Chairman Allen explained that the meeting was being held to determine the residency qualifications of Stephen Sims, Candidate for State Court Judge, and whether or not to proceed with a formal hearing after some concerns were brought to Director Chapman's attention after the qualifying period had ended.
- Information was provided by Mr. Sims in response to a letter send by Director Chapman requesting documentation. Questions base on homestead exemption filed in Chatham County by Mr. Sims.
- Director Chapman also contacted the County Attorney, Lee Newberry, who in turn contacted Ben Perkins from Oliver Maner LLP for guidance on handling this issue in reference to residence of a candidate and regarding Mr. Sims' Homestead Exemption on file with Chatham County. Additional information was provided to each board member of the attorneys' response.

- Attorney Perkins discussed the elections code and case law to help explain how to determine ones' residency for a candidate. Per the Georgia Supreme Court Ruling Handle vs Powell, Perkins stated that the Homestead Exemption is not of more importance than any of the other 14 guidelines for determining residency.
- Mr. Sims, stated he has lived in Effingham County for 17 years and was vouched for by Mark Lee (former Solicitor General of Effingham County). Mr. Sims, stated his residence changed in January 2022 that included the change of auto tags, credit card states, taxes, utility bills after his intent was to run for the State Court office.
- Also discussed was the fact that Mr. Sims' property in Springfield is zoned as business only property (B1 General Commercial Usage). However, Perkins stated that he had contacted the City of Springfield and it could not be determined when the change occurred because of prior zoning matters.
- A motion was made by Vice Chairman Glenda King that the Board Members vote to determine if a Hearing is necessary or not, second by Board Member Harvey. By a show of hands 4 to 0 it was unanimous that a hearing was not necessary. The qualification for Stephen Sims was accepted for him to continue running for the State Court Judge.

➤ **BOARD OR STAFF CONCERNS:**

- N/A


EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- No executive session was necessary.

ADJOURNMENT:

No further business was required. There were no objections to adjournment. Meeting was adjourned at 9:54 AM. The next board meeting will be scheduled for April 11, 2022 at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully Submitted:


Carla Freels, Secretary

**MONTHLY MEETING OF THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF
ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATIONS**

March 14, 2022 @ 9:30 A.M.

**Board of Elections & Registration Office
284 GA Highway 119 South, Springfield, GA 31329**

The Board of Elections and Registration held its monthly meeting on March 14, 2022

PERSONS ATTENDING THE MEETING AND ROLL CALL:

Those present were: Chairman Tommy Allen, Vice Chairman Glenda King, Secretary Carla Freels, Board Member Ruth Brown, Director Olivia Chapman, Assistant Director Laura Bassett, and Deputy Registrar Dezita Thompson. Also present was Democratic Party Tony Chiariello and Democratic Party Treasurer Jack Garvin, John Freels. Absent was Board Member Rose Harvey.

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Allen called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M. Vice Chairman King led the Invocation and the Pledge was recited. The meeting was properly advertised.

AGENDA APPROVAL:

The Agenda was presented, and it was approved as presented to the Board.

MINUTES:

The minutes from the February 14th, 2022 Board Meeting were presented. Vice Chairman King made a motion to approve the Agenda. Board Member Brown second the motion. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

A.

➤ **Redistricting**

- Redistricting is completed for Effingham County with three new precincts added.
- Precinct cards has been ordered for all electors of Effingham County. Due the change of the Congressional District Lines and the State House Lines; many electors will have new polling locations.
- There will be a notices listed in the paper informing the electors of the change of polling places, inquiring about adding information to Facebook; additional special stamp with Red Notice will be stamp on new precinct cards.

B.

➤ **Qualifying**

- Qualifying end on March 11th 2022 at noon and was posted inside the Board of Election for public record. 2 candidates for Non Partisan Party State Court Judge; Board of Education District 1 and District 4; Republican Party Solicitor General, County Commissioner District 2, District 3, District 5; Democratic Party for County Commissioner for District 3 and District 5.

There will be a Run-off after the May 24th Election Day.

C.

- **2022/2023 Budget**

The budget meeting is scheduled for March 16, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. **Poll Workers Scheduling** is being managed by Catherine Kaye Jackson who is the Poll manager of 3C Bethel Lutheran Church. Two poll managers are still in need; several managers are being recalled to assist. Training classes are being filled up for this upcoming election.
- B. **Increase of voters**, the current range of voters is from 1100 to 5000; this is over that maximum ratio. The plan was to balance each precinct with the same amount of voters.
- C. **Equipment**, projecting to need at least three 26ft trucks to transport equipment to the various precincts.
- D. **HB 1464**, has made several changes to the law for this 2022 Election.

BOARD OR STAFF CONCERNS:

- None

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- No executive session was necessary.

ADJOURNMENT:

No further business was required. There were no objections to adjournment. Meeting was adjourned at 9:54 AM. The next board meeting will be scheduled for April 11, 2022 at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully Submitted:


Carla Freels, Secretary

**MONTHLY MEETING OF THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF
ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATIONS**

February 14, 2022 @ 9:30 A.M.

**Board of Elections & Registration Office
284 GA Highway 119 South, Springfield, GA 31329**

The Board of Elections and Registration held its monthly meeting on January 10, 2022

PERSONS ATTENDING THE MEETING AND ROLL CALL:

Those present were: Chairman Tommy Allen, Vice Chairman Glenda King, Secretary Carla Freels Board Member Ruth Brown, Board Member Rose Harvey, Director Olivia Chapman, Assistant Director Laura Bassett, and Deputy Registrar Dezita Thompson. Also present was Democratic Party Tony Chiariello and Democratic Party Treasurer Jack Garvin, John Freels, Barbara Smart, and Lucy Powell.

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Allen called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M. Chairman Allen led the Invocation and the Pledge was recited. The meeting was properly advertised.

AGENDA APPROVAL:

The Agenda was presented, and it was approved as presented to the Board.

MINUTES:

The minutes from the January 10th, 2022 Board Meeting was presented. Board Member Harvey motion to approve the Agenda. Vice Chairman King second the motion. Motion passed.

HEARING:

- No names to be presented for any Hearing.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Re-Districting for 2022
 - GIS delivered the new maps for 2022 that included three new precinct added. Those precinct are 2D, 3E, and 5D. A few of the polling location has changed base on the Congressional District Line and State House District Line. Looking at the population growth each precinct was balance off with the same amount of voters.
 - Precinct 5A was the only precinct split, because of the Congressional District Line and State House District Line.
 - The data entry process and demographic changes are completed for redistricting of Effingham County, there are several areas that needed correcting, while waiting on the approvals and signing off for the changes.
 - Once the approval is completed the final draft of the map will be sent to the re-proportion department for the final approval.
 - With the added of new precinct fifteen new voting machines are needed for the General Election November 2022.
 - We are still in need of a church in Precinct 4C area and waiting on response.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Qualifying
 - The fees of Effingham County have been posted for qualifications, candidates have from March 7th 2022 at 9:00 A.M. until March 11, 2022 at 12:00 Noon; to meet the deadline.
 - Several candidates have submitted their DOI and exemption papers for qualifying Non Partisan.
 - The positions open for 2022 Elections are the Board of Education, District 2, 3, 4, and 5.
 - Non Partisan will qualify with the Board of Elections.
 - Partisan qualify with their party.
 - The Ethics Website has the best source of information to use.
- B. Budget

2022-2023 Budget was presented by Director Chapman.

BOARD OR STAFF CONCERNS:

- No concerns listed at this meeting.


EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- No executive session was necessary.

ADJOURNMENT:

No further business was required. There were no objections to adjournment. Meeting was adjourned at 10:23 AM. The next board meeting will be scheduled for March 14, 2022 at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully Submitted:


Carla Freels, Secretary

**MONTHLY MEETING OF THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY BOARD OF
ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATIONS**

January 10, 2022 2021 @ 9:30 A.M.

**Board of Elections & Registration Office
284 GA Highway 119 South, Springfield, GA 31329**

The Board of Elections and Registration held its monthly meeting on December 13, 2021

PERSONS ATTENDING THE MEETING AND ROLL CALL:

Those present were: Vice Chairman Glenda King, Secretary Carla Freels Board Member Ruth Brown, Board Member Rose Harvey, Director Olivia Chapman, Assistant Director Laura Bassett, and Deputy Registrar Dezita Thompson. Also present was Democratic Party Tony Chiariello and Democratic Party Treasurer Jack Garvin, and John Freels. Chairman Tommy Allen was absent.

CALL TO ORDER:

Vice Chairman King called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M. Vice Chairman King led the Invocation and the Pledge was recited. The meeting was properly advertised.

AGENDA APPROVAL:

The Agenda was presented, and it was approved as presented to the Board. Vice Chairman King voted to remove from the Item of Business, the Public Voter Registration Hearing on the Agenda. Board Member Brown motion to approve the removal from the Agenda. Board Member Harvey second the motion.

MINUTES:

The minutes from the December 13, 2021 Board Meeting was presented. Board Member Harvey made a motion to approve the minutes. Vice Chairman King seconded the motion. Motion passed.

HEARING:

- No names to be presented for any Hearing.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Re-Districting for 2022
 - Director Chapman presented another drafted presentation of the 2022 Re-Districting Map showing the Congressional Line and the House Lines showing the best solution to eliminate various split of many districts. Two additional districts were added on the draft map creating a District 3E and District 5D.
 - Per an email received from the State, the Deadline for changes in the voter registration is February 18, 2022.
 - Several letters were mailed out to various churches requesting the usage for the upcoming election.

NEW BUSINESS:

- The position for a new administrative assistant has posted on the county website.

- Assistant Director Bassett has obtained a new training facility. The Recreation Department approved the use of the gym, which will accommodate the equipment for training and storage of such equipment under lock and key for security.
- Board of Election Team will travel to Athens in March for a three day conference.

BOARD OR STAFF CONCERNS:

- No concerns listed at this meeting.

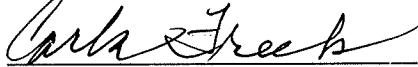
EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- No executive session was necessary.

ADJOURNMENT:

No further business was required. There were no objections to adjournment. Meeting was adjourned at 9:58 AM. The next board meeting will be scheduled for February 14, 2022 at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully Submitted:



Carla Freels, Secretary

