



APPROVED MINUTES

BOARD OF REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS SPECIAL MEETING – OCTOBER 15, 2019

The Fulton County Board of Registration and Elections met in Special Session on Tuesday, October 15, 2019 at 6:30PM in the Elections Preparation Center, 1365 English Street, Atlanta, Georgia.

Presiding: Ms. Mary Carole Cooney, Chairperson

Other Board Members Present:

Mr. Aaron Johnson

Dr. Kathleen Ruth

Board Member(s) Absent:

Mr. Mark Wingate, Vice Chairperson

Ms. Vernetta Keith Nuriddin

Staff Attending: Mr. Richard Barron, Director; Mr. Ralph Jones, Registration Chief; Mr. Blake Evans, Elections Chief; Mrs. Sharon Benjamin, Deputy Elections Chief; Mrs. Pamela Coman, Registration Manager; Mr. Darryl Carver, Public Affairs Manager

Guests Attending: Foris Webb, III (City of Atlanta), Milia Akkouris

#1– APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairperson Cooney entertained a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Dr. Ruth and carried by a unanimous vote of 3-0.

#2– COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RESPONSE

NONE

#3- DISCUSSION OF OCTOBER 15, 2019, SPECIAL RUNOFF ELECTION

- Fulton County Board of Commissioners, **District 6**
- Atlanta Board of Education, **District 2**

Mr. Barron recapped the Special Runoff Election cycle for the listed elections:

- Five Early Voting (EV) Locations; October 7-11, 2019:
 - **C.T Martin Natatorium & Recreation Center**
 - **East Point Library**
 - **Fairburn Library**
 - **Government Center**
 - **South Fulton Service Center**
- **0.8%** Voter Turnout for EV

- **78** Absentee By Mail and **5** Rejected Absentee By Mail
 - **39** Absentee Ballots; Fulton Commission, District 6 (**BOC**)
 - **39** Absentee Ballots; Atlanta Board of Education, District 2 (**ABOE**)
- **1968** Votes Cast for **BOC**, D6 at 5pm
- **535** Votes Cast for **ABOE**, D2 at 5pm
- **BOC**, District 6 polls close at 7pm and **ABOE**, District 2 polls close at 8pm

Mr. Barron mentioned today being very quiet on Election Day and for the first day of **EV**

Chairperson Cooney inquired about estimated voter turnout for this election cycle

Mr. Barron and **Mr. Evans** calculated the total to be approximately **2.2%**

Chairperson Cooney inquired about any other concerns of the day

Mr. Johnson mentioned two complaints he received regarding Election Day polling locations. **Mr. Johnson** believes those concerns were resolved.

Mr. Evans mentioned connectivity issues at an Early Voting Location (East Roswell Branch Library), this did not disrupt voting; however, voters were unhappy regarding completing the manual application.

Mr. Barron explained that Fulton County is one of the only counties in Georgia that uses a software for early voting that pre-fills the application for the voter and the voter is only required to sign and initial; however, when there is an issue with connectivity, the voter is required to complete a manual form to cast a ballot

Mr. Jones mentioned an error made by Secretary of State's Office. The City of Milton precincts were initially programmed as Districts instead of At-Large; this issue was resolved quickly and without incident. The ballot was correct.

#5- CONFIRM DATE OF CERTIFICATION OF ELECTION RESULTS

Chairperson Cooney discussed the available dates and times for the certification meeting. **Chairperson Cooney** will confer with absent members to confirm the time to certify on Monday, October 21, 2019 for the Special Runoff Election of October 15th

Chairperson Cooney asked **Mr. Jones** when **DRE** and **BRE** will get definitive dates for certifying elections with regards to **HB 316**

Mr. Jones expressed that more information will be forthcoming later in 2020 with regards to the length of time required for Risk Limit Auditing

Chairperson Cooney mentioned the By Laws and proposed delaying any changes until after the December conference (**GAVREO**)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board did not convene into executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other items requiring the Board's action, **Chairperson Cooney entertained a motion to adjourn. Mr. Johnson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Ruth seconded the motion.** Collectively, the Board agreed to adjourn at 7:10 p.m.

The meeting adjourned.

Prepared by,

Mariska Bodison, Board Secretary