



## APPROVED MINUTES

### **BOARD OF REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS SPECIAL MEETING – SEPTEMBER 23, 2019**

The Fulton County Board of Registration and Elections met in Special Session on Monday, September 23, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. in the Public Safety Building, 130 Peachtree Street, SW, Atlanta, Georgia.

**Presiding:** Mr. Mark Wingate, Vice Chairperson

**Other Board Members Present:** Mr. Aaron Johnson  
Dr. Kathleen Ruth  
Ms. Vernetta K. Nuriddin

**Board Member(s) Absent:** Ms. Mary Carole Cooney, Chairperson

**Staff Attending:** Mr. Richard Barron, Director; Mr. Ralph Jones, Registration Chief; Mr. Blake Evans, Elections Chief; Ms. Brenda McCloud, Administrative Manager; Ms. Sharon Benjamin, Deputy Elections Chief; Mrs. Pamela Coman, Registration Manager; Mr. Johnny Harris, Elections Officer; Ms. Breana Jenkins, Administrative Coordinator I; Mr. David Lowman, County Attorney; Ms. Felicia Church, Public Affairs Manager on behalf of Jessica Corbitt

**Guests Attending:** Foris Webb III (City of Atlanta), Nathaniel B. Dyer (ABOE, D2 Candidate) Ron Shakir (P.A.I.N.) , Ben Howard (P.A.I.N.) Reginald McClendon (City of Atlanta) Adrian Coleman Tyler, Councilman Khalid Kamau (City of South Fulton), Linda Pritchett (South Fulton), Keith Glass (ABOE), Pierre Gaither (ABOE)

#### **#1– APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Vice Chairperson Wingate 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 4-0.**

#### **#2– COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RESPONSE**

**Ron Shakir** expressed concerns regarding the overall Special Election Results, especially at precinct 04W, Morehouse College. Mr. Shakur also expressed frustration with voter turnout

Ben Howard analyzed data and expressed concerns regarding voter turnout

**Nathaniel B. Dyer (Candidate for ABOE, D2)** mentioned the theft of the express polls, and the lack of marketing done by Fulton county Department of Registration and Elections

**Adrian Coleman Tyler** expressed concern regarding over 58K registered voters in a predominantly African American area and voter turnout totaling 1.9%. Ms. Coleman Tyler reviewed the results, provided statistics and implored the department to act

**Vice Chairperson Wingate entertained a motion to waive the normal rules to allow additional public comments after the meeting started. The motion was made by Ms. Nuriddin, seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried by a unanimous vote of 4-0.**

Linda Pritchett commended DRE and BRE for the opening of additional early voting locations to accommodate more Commission District 6 voters and implored DRE to do the same for the Special Runoff Election on October 15<sup>th</sup>

Councilman Khalid Kamau expressed concerns for City of South Fulton constituents and the amount of early voting locations available for the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest city in Fulton County during the General/ Special Election. Councilman Kamau expressed concern regarding the overlapping election on October 15, 2019, that may potentially confuse South Fulton Citizens. Councilman Kamau requested an additional early voting location to accommodate South Fulton voters

## OLD BUSINESS

### #3- APPROVAL OF AMENDED INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT (IGA) TO CONDUCT GENERAL/ SPECIAL ELECTION ON NOVEMBER 5, 2019 AND GENERAL/ SPECIAL RUNOFF ELECTION ON DECEMBER 3, 2019

- Alpharetta
- College Park
- East Point
- Fairburn
- Hapeville
- Johns Creek
- Milton
- Roswell
- South Fulton
- Union City

Vice Chairperson Wingate asked Mr. Barron if all municipalities agreed to Amendment I

Mr. Barron stated yes and explained that this Amendment I was due to Board Of Commissioners' (BOC) resolution to amend all contracts, and charge a flat fee per voter.

**Vice Chairperson Wingate entertained a motion to approve the Amendment I of the contract agreement from the listed municipalities. The motion was made by Ms. Nuriddin, seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried by a unanimous vote of 4-0.**

## NEW BUSINESS

### #4- CERTIFICATION OF RESULTS: SPECIAL ELECTION ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2019

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

Vice Chairperson Wingate asked Mr. Barron to attest and affirm that the election results presented were a true and accurate count of all the eligible votes cast in the Special Election for Fulton County Board of Commission, District 6 held on September 17, 2019.

Mr. Barron answered yes.

**Vice Chairperson Wingate entertained a motion to certify the election results. The motion was made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Ms. Nuriddin and carried by a unanimous vote of 4-0.**

**Mr. Johnson** inquired about the action plan for the **DRE** regarding South Fulton Voters and the overlap at Wolf Creek Library for the Runoff Election and the beginning of Early Voting for the General and Special Municipal Elections

**Mr. Barron** explained which tools **DRE** will utilize to ensure voters are informed: press releases, website posting, extra personnel on staff (line monitors), and signs

**Mr. Johnson** asked if External Affairs has drafted a press release to disseminate to community leaders and neighborhoods

**Ms. Church** mentioned she will follow up with **Jessica Corbitt** to provide the Board with further information

**Mr. Johnson** mentioned that voters in Commission District 6 (South Fulton) are being given incorrect information regarding receiving provisional ballots on October 15. If you wish to vote in Fulton County Commission, District 6 you must go to your **ASSIGNED PRECINCT** on Election Day. October 15<sup>th</sup> is also the first day of Early Voting for the November 5<sup>th</sup> Election, in which there will be ten locations available for voters to cast their ballots.

**Mr. Barron** mentioned **DRE** wanted to send a Head of Household mailer; however, there are no funds available under this amended contract to cover the cost of mailers

**Vice Chairperson Wingate** asked is there an opportunity to educate the public regarding the overlapping elections

**Mr. Barron** mentioned this could occur every year if there is a Special Election in September Election and a runoff

**Ms. Nuriddin** clarified the dismissal of her request for head of household mailers to be mailed; however, due to recent resolution passing by BOC, it has negatively impacted **DRE** processes

**Mr. Jones** explained that the cost to mail Head of Household letters could be around \$50,000.

**Vice Chairperson Wingate** asked **Mr. Barron** to attest and affirm that the election results presented were a true and accurate count of all the eligible votes cast in the Special Election for **Atlanta Board of Education, District 2** held on September 17, 2019.

**Mr. Barron** answered yes.

**Vice Chairperson Wingate entertained a motion to certify the election results. The motion was made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Dr. Ruth and carried by a unanimous vote of 4-0.**

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Vice Chairperson Wingate entertained a motion to close the regular session and convene into executive session to discuss pending administrative proceedings. The motion was made by Ms. Nuriddin, seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried by a unanimous vote of 4-0.**

After executive session, **Vice Chairperson Wingate entertained a motion to resume into regular session. The motion was made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Dr. Ruth and carried by a unanimous vote of 4-0.**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

With no other items requiring the Board's action, **Vice Chairperson Wingate entertained a motion to adjourn. Ms. Nuriddin moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion.** Collectively, the Board agreed to adjourn at 1:51 p.m.

The meeting adjourned.

Prepared by,

Mariska Bodison, Board Secretary