

THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS OF CHATHAM COUNTY
MINUTES

July 10, 2023

*Meeting in-person at 1117 Eisenhower Drive, Suite F
Multipurpose room*

BOARD MEMBERS: Thomas J. Mahoney - Chairman
Malinda Hodge – Vice Chair
Marianne Heimes
James Hall
Trish Brown

STAFF: Billy Wooten
Shanta Scarboro

CALL TO ORDER: **Tom Mahoney** called the meeting to order at 3:34 P.M. He gave an Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CHAIR ADDRESS: **Mr. Mahoney** welcomed everyone to the meeting and remarked on the good participation from the public. He recognized Vice Chair Malinda Hodge’s service to Chatham County and said that this would be her last meeting as she is resigning. He and the Board wished her well in her future endeavors.
Mr. Mahoney spoke briefly about the background work that staff is completing and about the qualification week for the Special Election. He then spoke directly to the public, briefly touching on the security of the Dominion Voting System. At this time there was an outburst from the public. **Mr. Mahoney** addressed them again, saying that the room may be cleared if there was another outburst. He emphasized that this is the one time each month where the Board is able to meet to make decisions and it is very important that the public respect their time. He stated that he would take Public Comment before beginning the meeting agenda, asking that the public understand the nature of the comment session. The public is not engaged in discourse or vote-taking with the Board, and Public Comment is not meant to be a question and answer session. He then opened the floor for Public Comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT: During the Public Comment session the Board was forced to recess twice due to crowd disorder.
Recess #1: 3:47-3:50
Recess#2: 4:18-4:19
Public Comment lasted until 4:23, at which point Mr. Mahoney began the meeting agenda.

MINUTES: **July, 2023**
Motion by Ms. Hodge, seconded by Ms. Heimes, that the Minutes of the June meeting be approved. There was no discussion and the Minutes were unanimously approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT: **July, 2023**
Mr. Wooten presented the June Financial Report for information. He stated that the new budget has been approved and the new budget year has officially begun. We ended the fiscal year in the black and some standing invoices are still being processed through the old fiscal year.

SUPERVISOR’S REPORT: **Mr. Wooten** announced that staff had participated in a children’s summer camp the previous Saturday where kids were able to come and learn about the voting process from the Elections and Voter Registration perspectives. They also engaged with a representative from the Sheriff’s Office.
Qualifying for the September 19 Special Election will begin on July 17. The prospective candidates will come to the Elections office, fill out their paperwork, and pay the qualification fee. Tybee will soon announce a Special Election to be added to their November ballot.
Various members of staff will be attending training this summer and early fall and training for poll workers will be September 5-8. Only 17 polls will be needed for the Special Election,

with around 100 workers. The list of polls will be published on our website, in the paper, and on our Facebook. Certification for the election is planned for September 25, but that date will remain flexible. If there is a runoff, the call for that runoff will come around that time as well. **Mr. Hall** asked which version of the District 2 boundaries would be used, and **Mr. Wooten** answered that the new boundaries have been voted in by the Commission and will be used in the election.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

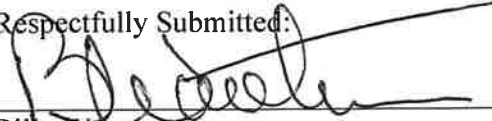
Precinct 7-11 Polling Location

Mr. Mahoney introduced the topic of precinct 7-11's polling location. **Mr. Wooten** reported that the area in question has many businesses and facilities, but for various reasons, they do not want to serve as a poll. Some cited potential violence or damage to their facilities, others were worried about a conflict of events or interference with their daily operations. Staff has been in discussions with Savannah Tech's Crosswinds campus for several months and recently they have agreed to act as a poll for 7-11 on a temporary basis. There is plenty of space and parking, it is ADA accessible, close to the housing complexes it will serve, and very convenient to access. Staff recommends accepting them as a polling location on a temporary basis with the hope that they will agree to become permanent in the future. **Motion by Mr. Hall** to move 7-11's polling place to Savannah Tech Crosswinds, seconded by **Ms. Hodge**. **ALL APPROVED.**

ADJOURNMENT:

Ms. Heimes addressed the public, and thanked them for their attendance. **Motion by Ms. Hodge**, seconded by **Mr. Hall** to adjourn the meeting. **ALL APPROVED.** The meeting was adjourned at 4:38 PM.


Respectfully Submitted:



Billy Wooten
Supervisor, Secretary to the Board

8/14/2023

Date Approved



Thomas J. Mahoney, III
Chair



Notary Signature

8/14/2023

Date Notarized

