



# BOARD OF REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS APPROVED MINUTES

## REGULAR MEETING – JANUARY 8, 2026

The Fulton County Board of Registration and Elections met in Regular Session on Thursday, January 8, 2026, at 11:00 a.m.

**The meeting was recorded and is available for your review on  
FGTV YouTube Channel**

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYH7E0jH6HxE-3KTRluH8SQ>

**Board Members Present** Ms. Sherri Allen, Chairperson  
Mrs. Teresa Crawford  
Mr. Douglass Selby  
Ms. Julie Adams

**Staff Attending:** Mrs. Nadine E. Williams, Director; Mr. John Ross, Information Systems Manager; Mrs. Kathryn Glenn, Registration Chief; Mrs. Marcia Ridley, Election Chief; Ms. Amber Culver, Administrative Coordinator; Ms. Janice Dickenson, Administrative Manager; Mrs. Janell Barganier, Financial Systems Manager; Mrs. Sharon Benjamin, Elections Manager; Ms. LaShandra Little, VEO Manager; Mr. Jamain Whyce, Election Systems Supervisor

**External Affairs (EA) and Fulton Government TV (FGTV):** Ms. Regina Waller, Division Manager; Mr. James Reese (FGTV), Mr. Tyree Spencer (FGTV), Mrs. Nerieda Andrews (FGTV),

**Legal:** Mr. Chad Alexis, Supervising Counsel

### ACRONYMS:

**BRE-** Board of Registration and Elections  
**DRE-** Department of Registration and Elections  
**EHOC-** Elections Hub and Operations Center  
**BOC-** Board of Commissioners  
**ABM-** Absentee by Mail  
**L&A-** Logic and Accuracy Testing  
**VEO-** Voter Education and Outreach  
**REIF-** Reporting Elections Systems Issue Form

**BMDs-** Ballot Marking Devices  
**SOS-** Secretary of State's  
**SEB-** State Election Board  
**DDS-** Department of Driver Services  
**CERA-** Certified Elections Registration Administrator  
**GARVIS-** Georgia Registered Voter Information System  
**GAVREO-** Georgia Voter Registration and Elected Officials  
**AV-** Advance Voting

### **#1– APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Chair Allen** entertained a motion to amend the agenda to include a discussion on written legal opinion as # 5- a discussion on needing to vote for BRE members to receive a legal written opinion and #6- a discussion on voting for legal written opinion on the BRE abilities

to restrict members access regarding election material. The motion was made by **Ms. Adams**, seconded by **Mr. Selby**, and carried by a unanimous vote of 4-0.

**Chair Allen** entertained a motion to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was made by **Ms. Adams**, seconded by **Mr. Selby**, and carried by a unanimous vote of 4-0.

## #2– COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

Timestamp: 15:32-17:47

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nXSIkLYa4yI>

### OLD BUSINESS

## #3-APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

- Special Meeting- **December 02, 2025**
- Regular Meeting- **December 05, 2025**
- Special Meeting- **December 08, 2025 @8:30am**
- Special Meeting- **December 08, 2025 @3:00pm**
- Special Meeting- **December 16, 2025**
- Special Meeting- **December 19, 2025**

**Chair Allen** entertained a motion to approve the minutes as listed. The motion was made by **Mrs. Crawford**, seconded by **Mr. Selby**, and carried by a unanimous vote of 4-0.

## #4-MONTHLY OPERATIONS REPORT: DECEMBER

**Robust Discussion:**

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nXSIkLYa4yI>

Timestamp: 18:36-34:00

**Director Williams** greeted and updated the BRE on alternative messaging to voters (text or email):

History:

The Department was asked to explore options for emailing and texting voters regarding precinct changes, mergers, and other significant voter information.

- The Department (DRE) met with multiple vendors regarding alternative messaging
- The DRE identified an existing Fulton County account the Everbridge.
- This platform is currently utilized by various county departments to distribute email and text notifications to Fulton County residents.
- Fulton county Department of Emergency Services provided an overview of the platform's capabilities.

- The features demonstrated aligned well with the communication needs identified by the BRE.
- The platform will be provided at **no cost** to the Department.
- Department staff will work with Emergency Services to establish user accounts and complete the necessary training.
- We will coordinate with External Affairs to develop:
  - A website opt-in link for voters who have not provided contact information in their voter registration file
  - Opt-In Flyer for Voter Education & Outreach and Poll Manager distribution
  - An opt-in link within the Fulton Votes App

**Director Williams** explained that this mechanism is not a substitution to any other required notices per the Election Code. All Counties are mandated to send notices in the mail with strict timelines.

**Chair Allen** inquired on the implementation timeline.

**Director Williams** answered the anticipated completion date for this entire project by March 1, 2026.

**Mr. Adams** commended the upcoming alternative messaging mechanism to text/ email.

**Mr. Selby** asked did the DRE have an estimate on the number of voters contact in the current database.

**Chief Glenn** responded of 848+K registered voter's contact information:

- Emails 168+K
- Mobile 77+K
- Phone # 87+k

**Mr. Selby** asked was it possible that some of the emails and numbers are an overlap

**Chief Glenn** responded yes.

**Mr. Selby** inquired about literature at precincts to inform voters of the county's new mechanism for information.

**Director Williams** replied yes, the DRE will work closely with External Affairs to create graphics for flyers and posters for VEO, Election Day and Advance Voting.

**Mrs. Crawford** commended the DRE on the efforts and acknowledged that this would be a benefit to the electors.

**Director Williams** informed the BRE of all other activities:

- Diligently working on polling place changes (attempting to remove polling locations from all schools)
- Conducting Interviews for a few vacant leadership positions

- And other election duties

**Madam Director** asked the BRE if they had any questions from the Monthly operations report that they reviewed.

**Chair Allen** inquired about AV Roundtable feedback held after the final election.

**Director Williams** replied the feedback received was good and the DRE noted some key concerns:

- Security
- Support
- Communications
- Compliance Officer/ Training

**Director Williams** reminded the BRE that she sent them a memo regarding AV compliance officers and the cost savings that were recovered. She explained with the enhanced training the managers should not need compliance officers onsite.

**Mrs. Crawford** asked for the status of the Polling place changes.

**Director Williams** replied the DRE has 46 school locations and we have identified alternatives for 14 locations.

**Chair Allen** asked does the DRE plan to move out of Elementary Schools only.

**Director Williams** replied no, we are attempting to remove all but elementary school will be a priority.

**Mr. Selby** asked the reason for moving out of the school.

**Director Williams** explained:

- Heighten Safety Concerns
- Heighten Parental Complaints
- Some Damaged to certain school facilities

DRE Mitigation efforts:

- Mandatory Visible Officers onsite

**Chair Allen** mentioned additional concerns due to scheduling conflicts when schools are in session during Runoff elections or Special elections. Additional concerns were relocating polling locations within the same facility, parking, and other logistics.

**Director Williams** outlined process that the DRE utilizes yearly to secure polling locations for the year. This does not prevent scheduling conflicts, but we make an effort to reduce making any changes.

**Mr. Selby** asked **Director Williams** was there anything more she could share about the investigation pertaining to the Assistant Poll manager. He asked does the BRE needed to conduct their own investigation.

**Director Williams** replied the DRE provided all the information we had and expressed concerns on Poll Pad upgrades to SOS, but no additional information exists and there may be criminal charges pending. She said unless SOS investigators and Fulton County Police contact the DRE regarding this matter the DRE was not privy to any status update.

**Mr. Selby** asked does the BRE have a role in the investigation of any illegal activities.

**Attorney Alexis** replied that the BRE does not have a role in this investigation.

**Chair Allen** asked does the DRE need to update their SOPs regarding the incident.

**Director Williams** explained the internal review was conducted and at this time there were no changes. She said the DRE will re-emphasize the policy during training of “See Something Say Something”.

**Chair Allen** suggested adding the penalty for engaging in criminal activities, it may be a deterrence.

**Director Williams** answered yes, the penalties could be added to a policy document that poll workers already sign off on, she will discuss with legal counsel.

**Ms. Adams** inquired about ensuring background checks are conducted.

**Director Williams** replied yes, background checks are conducted on citizenship and convicted felony records.

## NEW BUSINESS

**#5- Member Request: Do we Need to Vote for BRE Members to receive a Legal Written Opinion**

**#6- Member Request: To Vote for Legal Written Opinion on the BRE Abilities to Restrict Members Access regarding Election Material**

**Robust Discussion:**

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nXSlkLYa4yI>

Timestamp: 34:56-51:35

The Board discussed clarification on the inquiry prior to discussion.

**Ms. Adams question #1:**

Does the Board have the right to vote to restrict election materials from board members

**Ms. Adams** mentioned speaking to several county board members that provide documents on demand electronically, there's not a list that board members are restricted to request.

**Chair Allen** stated that **Ms. Adams** has not identified which election materials she's referring to and which counties.

**Ms. Adams** said it's not a specific list, it's whatever they ask for. She said you can't take pictures, make hard copies or electronic copies.

**Chair Allen** reminded the board that the Canvassing Policy was guided by the Appellate Court decision (*Adams vs Fulton County*) of what was required for certification and any additional documents would be provided if there was a discrepancy.

**Ms. Adams** announced that the above-mentioned decision was sent back to the lower court and hearing is set February \_\_, 2026. (inaudible)

**Chair Allen** asked **Attorney Alexis** to provide an update on a case (*Adams vs Fulton County*) if it's remanded, as Ms. Adams suggested.

**Mr. Selby** requested background on the case.

**Attorney Alexis** provided a brief overview of the case and informed the board because this is new information he would need time to review and update the BRE later.

**Director Williams** outlined the electronic material the BRE received every election Unofficial and Official:

- Election Summary Report (**ESR**)
- Statements of Votes Cast (**SOVC**)

**Madam Director** explained some election material contain information that includes voters protected under the **Georgia Secretary of State VoteSafe Program**.

To ensure the privacy and security of these voters, these files cannot be emailed or distributed. They will continue to be made available exclusively for in-person review by Fulton County BRE Members.

**Ms. Adams** stated that they are unable to sort the information or see if a person double voted

**Director Williams** explained that the file the BRE is working from is an excel sortable document.

**Director Williams** outlined methods to complete the pre-certification and their other duties prior to certification to reduce the work being overly burdensome.

- Zero tapes
- Results tapes
- ESR
- SOVC

**Ms. Adams** expressed concerns of calculating polling locations with multiple precincts assigned to the location.

**Chair Allen** asked Director Williams if assisting **Ms. Adams** was still available to ensure she is able to come to a conclusion on the data she collected.

**Director Williams** responded yes, assistance will be available every election. Madam Director commended Chief Glenn on how the information was sorted and presented to the board for every election.

**Director Williams** will review the election material to see if she can draft something that makes the information easier to calculate.

**Mr. Selby** inquired about the VoteSafe Program.

**Director Williams** explained the program was designed to keep domestic violence victims and safer while allowing them to participate in their civic duty.

Link: <https://sos.ga.gov/page/votesafe>

**Chief Glenn** mentioned Judges were recently added to the VoteSafe Program.

**Mr. Selby** ensured clarity and agreed that not disseminating the list externally to ensure that participants of the program maintain their autonomy was reasonable.

**Robust Discussion**

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nXSlkLYa4yI>

Timestamp: 51:55- 1:04:28

**Ms. Adams questions:**

Does the Board have the right to vote to restrict election materials from board members?  
Do we have to take a vote to get a legal opinion in writing?

**Mr. Selby** expressed concerns regarding written legal opinion and some of that information falling under privileged communication.

**Chair Allen** agreed and added that this could become an undue burden to maintain written communications, with the understanding that he's assigned to multiple departments/ boards.

- Privileged communications
- Workload

**Mrs. Crawford** agreed with Chair Allen's comments.

**Chair Allen** entertained a motion on whether members need to vote to get a legal written opinion. The motion was made by **Ms. Adams**, Failed for lack of seconded.

**Chair Allen** entertained a motion to vote to get a legal written opinion on whether members can restrict access to election material. The motion was made by **Ms. Adams**, Failed for lack of seconded.

## #7- DISCUSSION ON VOTER PRIVACY:

- CANVASSING POLICY ENACTED ON AUGUST 29, 2025

**Chair Allen** informed the BRE that we spoke about voter privacy with the VoteSafe Program, the other component was Member Adams asked to discuss the Canvassing Policy, and it was confirmed for this meeting in January.

**Ms. Adams** requested the record reflect, she denied requesting to discuss the Canvassing policy.

**Chair Allen** suggested she may have misunderstood **Ms. Adams'** request and asked the board how they wish to dispose of item # 7.

**Chair Allen** entertained a motion to table the discussion on the Canvassing Policy. The motion was made by **Mrs. Crawford**, seconded by **Mr. Selby** and carried by a unanimous vote of 4-0.

## #8- BRIEF OVERVIEW OF 2026 SOS CALENDAR

Office of the Secretary of State  
Elections Division



### 2026 ELECTION CALENDAR AND HIGHLIGHTS

The purpose of this calendar is to provide information on deadlines for election activities. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 21-2-14, when the last day for the exercise of any privilege or discharge of any duty falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the next succeeding business day shall be the last day to exercise such duty.

Click the link to access [O.C.G.A. TITLE 21 – ELECTION CODE](#)

QUALIFYING PERIOD FOR ALL CANDIDATES FOR THE 2026 GENERAL ELECTION CYCLE		MARCH 2, 2026 – MARCH 6, 2026	
ELECTION	ELECTION DATE	ADVANCE VOTING DATES	REGISTRATION DEADLINE <small>*FEDERAL CONTEST REGISTRATION DEADLINE</small>
Special Election	03/17/2026	02/23/26 – 03/13/26	02/16/2026
Special Election Runoff	04/14/2026	As soon as possible, but no later than 04/06/26 – 04/10/26	02/16/2026
General Primary Election/Nonpartisan Election	05/19/2026	04/27/26 – 05/15/26	04/20/2026
General Primary Election/Nonpartisan Runoff	06/16/2026	As soon as possible, but no later than 06/08/26 – 06/12/26	04/20/2026 *05/18/2026
General Election/Special Election	11/03/2026	10/13/26 – 10/30/26	10/05/2026
General Election/Special Election Runoff	12/01/2026	As soon as possible, but no later than 11/23/26 – 11/25/26	10/05/2026 *11/02/2026

**Director Williams** highlighted 2026 scheduled dates and noted the possibility of changes, if the Governor or Secretary of State called a Special Election for an elected officials in Fulton County's jurisdiction:

- Retirement
- Death
- Resignation

### **2026**

- Key dates Flyer Pending
- Qualifying Dates: March 2-6<sup>th</sup>
- VR Deadline: April 20<sup>th</sup>
- AV Dates: April 27- May 15<sup>th</sup>
- 1<sup>st</sup> Election is **May 19<sup>th</sup>**

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Chair Allen** entertained a motion to close the regular session and convene into executive session to discuss litigation matters. The motion was made by **Mrs. Crawford**, seconded by **Mr. Selby** and carried by a unanimous vote of 4-0.

After the executive session, **Chair Allen** entertained a motion to reconvene from the executive session. The motion was made by **Ms. Adams**, seconded by **Mrs. Crawford**, and carried by a unanimous vote of 4-0.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, **Chair Allen** entertained a motion to adjourn. **Mrs. Crawford** moved to adjourn the meeting; **Mr. Selby** seconded the motion. There being no further business on the agenda, the Board adjourned the meeting at 12:32 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned.

Prepared by:

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**Mariska Bodison**, Board Secretary