

# **APPROVED MINUTES**

# BOARD OF REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS SPECIAL MEETING – DECEMBER 22, 2020

The Fulton County Board of Registration and Elections met in Special Session on Tuesday, December 22, 2020, 9:00 a.m.

# VIRTUAL MEETING

Please join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

FGTV YouTube Channel

https://www.youtube.com/user/FultonCountyInfo

**Presiding:** Ms. Mary Carole Cooney, Chairperson

#### **Other Board Members Present:**

Ms. Vernetta Keith Nuriddin, Vice Chairperson Mr. Mark Wingate Mr. Aaron V. Johnson Dr. Kathleen Ruth

**Staff Attending:** Mr. Richard Barron, Director; Mr. Ralph Jones, Registration Chief; Mr. Dwight Brower, Interim Elections Chief; Ms. Nadine Williams, Elections Chief; Ms. Sharon Benjamin, Deputy Elections Chief; Mrs. Pamela Coman, Registration Manager; Ms. Brenda McCloud, Administrative Manager; Ms. Mariana McGinnis, Administrative Secretary; Mrs. Cheryl Ringer, County Attorney; Mr. James Reese, Production Manager; Mr. Rico Dollar, Senior Graphics Designer, Regina Waller, Senior Public Affairs Officer; Jessica Corbitt, PIO & Director of External Affairs

Legal Counsel: Amanda Clark-Palmer & Don Samuel

**Guests Attending:** Roxie Thomas, Garland Favorito

Chairperson Cooney announced that this teleconferenced meeting is authorized pursuant to §50-14-1(g) of the Official Code of Georgia because of the Public Health State of Emergency declared by Governor Kemp on March 14, 2020, and renewed most recently on November 30, 2020, pursuant to which public meeting spaces in state and local Government have been closed due to COVID-19, and because means have been afforded for the public to have simultaneous access to this teleconference.

**Chairperson Cooney** proposed to rearrange items on the agenda for an early executive session.

#### #1- APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairperson Cooney entertained a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was made by Mr. Wingate, seconded by Vice Chair Nuriddin and carried by a unanimous vote of 4-0.

#2- COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RESPONSE

**Roxie Thomas** expressed her disappointment with the **DRE** and the injustice that has been done to the American people. **Ms. Thomas** mentioned that deceased voters and pets were voting during this General Election. **Ms. Thomas** alleged Dominion Voting was not a reputable voting system. **Ms. Thomas** implored the **BRE** for a full audit

**Garland Favorito** alleged fraud by the **DRE** staff and the voting system. **Mr. Favorito** mentioned the committee meeting where he and others were able to voice their opinions and perspectives.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairperson Cooney entertained a motion to close the regular session and convene into executive session to discuss item #3 with legal counsel pertaining to pending litigation. The motion was made by Mr. Wingate, seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried by a unanimous vote of 5-0.

After executive session, <u>Chairperson Cooney entertained a motion to resume into regular session.</u>
<u>The motion was made by Mr. Wingate, seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried by a unanimous vote of 5-0.</u>

A motion was made to send communications to challengers to electors (Caroline Jeffords, William Schmitz and Steven Sutton). The motion was made by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Dr. Ruth and carried by a unanimous vote of 5-0.

A motion was made to pursue the Challenge of the elector Gabriel Sterling. The motion was made by Mr. Wingate, seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried by a unanimous vote of 5-0.

A motion to authorize legal counsel to accept service of process for the New Georgia Project Litigation by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Vice Chair Nuriddin and carried by a unanimous vote of 5-0.

#### #4-REVIEW OF PROTECTIONS OF POLL WORKERS

Mr. Barron updated the BRE of the office:

- Inundated With Phone Calls/ Emails
  - □ Racial Slurs
- Threatening Emails/ Calls
- EV Locations People Are taking pictures of license plates

**Chairperson Cooney** proposed sending correspondence to both Political Parties seeking assistance with threats placed on poll workers.

**Mr. Wingate** mentioned a letter received from the Fulton GOP concerning Poll Watchers. **Mr. Wingate** informed the **BRE** and **DRE**, if someone is taking pictures of voters or employee license tags to stop doing it immediately.

Mr. Wingate informed his party to operate under a Spirit of Cooperation

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**Mr. Johnson** thanked **Mr. Wingate** for informing his party to resolve all matters and understanding each person's perspective. **Mr. Johnson** mentioned a long standing history of voter intimidation and whatever he can do to assist he's willing.

**Mr. Wingate** directed **Mr. Barron** to follow-up with regards to bus one possible infection.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

With no other items requiring the Board's action, <u>Chairperson Cooney entertained a motion to adjourn.</u>

<u>Mr. Wingate moved to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Ruth seconded the motion.</u> Collectively, the Board agreed to adjourn at 5:41 p.m.

| The meeting adjourned. |              |
|------------------------|--------------|
|                        | Prepared by, |

Mariska Bodison, Board Secretary