



BOARD OF REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS APPROVED MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING – May 28, 2024

The Fulton County Board of Registration and Elections met in Regular Session on Tuesday, May 28, 2024, at 8:00am.

**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. Cathy Woolard, Chairperson
Mr. William Michael Heekin, Vice Chairperson
Mr. Aaron Johnson
Mrs. Teresa Crawford
Ms. Julie Adams

Staff Attending: Mrs. Nadine E. Williams, Director; Mr. Patrick Eskridge, Deputy Director; Mr. John Ross, Election Chief; Mrs. Sharon Benjamin, Election Manager; Mrs Jodi Brittian, Absentee Manager; Mrs. Shoshauna Goins, Absentee Supervisor; Ms. Regina Waller, Division Manager; Mr. James Reese, FGTV Production Manager; Mr. Tyree Spencer, Mr. James Artis

Legal: Mrs. Ann Brumbaugh, Special Counsel

#1– APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Woolard entertained a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was made by **Mrs. Crawford**, seconded by **Ms. Adams**, and carried by a vote of 4-0.

#2– APPROVAL OF THE ADVANCE VOTING LOCATIONS FOR GENERAL PRIMARY RUNOFF ELECTION, JUNE 18, 2024

Director Williams greeted the Board and reported on the AV locations proposed for the Runoff Election.

Races involved in the Runoff Election:

- **Commission District 4**
- **State Senate District 38**
- **260K Registered Voters Assigned**

Saturday June 8 to Friday June 14

Saturday June 8, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Sunday June 9, 12 p.m. – 5 p.m

Monday to Friday, June 10 - 14, 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Adams Park Library
Buckhead Library*
Chastain Park Recreation Center
C.T. Martin Recreation Center*
East Point First Mallalieu United Methodist Church

Fairburn Annex
Gladys S. Dennard Library at South Fulton
Grant Park Recreation Center
Joan P. Garner Library at Ponce De Leon
Metropolitan Library

ASTERISK INDICATES ABSENTEE BALLOT DROP BOX LOCATION*

Chair Woolard entertained a motion to approve the proposed Advance Voting locations for the General Primary Runoff Election. The motion was made by **Mrs. Crawford**, seconded by **Vice Chair Heekin**, and carried by a vote of 4-0.

#3- REVIEW OF REQUESTED PRE-CERTIFICATION DOCUMENTS

Director Williams provided an overview of the documentation labeled and listed on tables.

Ms. Adams mentioned that she was under the impression that all the documents were in paper form.

Director Williams replied unfortunately some of these documents are too large to provide in any format other than what was provided.

Chair Woolard reiterated that working as a group to resolve Certification questions, if any.

BRE reviewed documentation from **8:15am-2:30pm.**

The Board collectively agreed to recess to for 30 minutes lunch.

The Board collectively agreed to resume review.

Chair Woolard asked the Board if there were any questions prior to the 2:30pm, proposed time to hear the recap from **Director Williams**.

Ms. Adams suggested the Board continue to review the document.

Mr. Johnson mentioned that it appears that the BRE members are doing an audit more so than reconciling and that is typically conducted after the Certification. This request is not required to certify an election.

Ms. Adams requested to review rejected Absentee ballots returned by voters.

Chair Woolard requested a legal opinion on **Ms. Adams'** request to review rejected ballots.

Attorney Brumbaugh outlined a brief opinion on **Ms. Adams'** request to handle rejected ballots:

- The superintendent should vote to review the documents
- No member can copy, photographed, record, or document any personal information, nor open the envelop

Chair Woolard entertained a motion to allow BRE member(s) to review rejected ballots returned in the mail. The motion was made by **Vice Chair Heekin**, seconded by **Ms. Adams**, and carried by a vote of 4-0; 1 Abstention **Mr. Johnson**.

Ms. Brittian delivered the rejected ballots to the BRE Suite.

Director Williams reported on the activities for the General Primary Election. **Madam Director** stated the election was successful highlighted activities:

- 177 Election Day polling locations opened on-time
- 53,000+ electors voted on Election Day
- 36 AV locations open 19 days
- 53,000+ electors voted during Advance Voting
- All election results can be found on the County's website

Ms. Adams asked would the reason the ballot was rejected be listed on the envelope.

Secretary Bodison replied no outside of the date and time stamp being the reason, it's listed on a report.

Mrs. Crawford asked about the Encoders issues

Director Williams responded that the DRE has contacted the vendor regarding that issue. Encoders are used to program the voter's access card.

Ms. Adams asked what is the legal definition of reconciling?

Director Williams gave a broad overview of the process:

- All votes are captured on the memory cards.
- All memory cards are verified

- Verify scanners are empty
- All memory cards are uploaded to the EMS server
- All recorded votes are transmitted into 2 reports
 - Election Summary Report (ESR) and Statements of Votes Cast (SOVC)
- All paper documents- paperwork are additional checks (receipts)

Vice Chair Heekin requested to read his written remarks. (requested no submission)

Ms. Adams requested to read her written remarks. (requested no submission)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rp5uVVslzhg>

Timestamp- 6:42-6:47

Mr. Johnson spoke briefly:

- The Department does an exceptional job.
- The problem we have in Fulton County is a misrepresentation of what is going on in this county.
- State of Georgia Review panel yielded that the DRE can do some things better but they're running efficient election.
- Fulton is the most watched county in the State of Georgia.
- 95 of the 159 counties have certified their elections they did not have those boxes or laptops to complete their duties.
- We need to trust our professional as they work.

Mrs. Crawford commented on the efforts of the department. **Mrs. Crawford** addressed the negativity steered at Fulton and we're not the only county in the state.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rp5uVVslzhg>

Timestamp- 6:48-6:55

Chair Woolard gave an overview of her former tenure and the layout of election operations currently.... **Madam Chair** highlighted the responsibility of the Board to speak with one voice. **Madam Chair** complimented the County Manager on his leadership.

- Several locations for Election operations
- Former Director resigning
- 2 Nationwide searches for a Director

Chair Woolard explained that we don't have anything hide but we do have people to protect (voters) and laws to protect.

#4- CERTIFICATION OF THE ELECTION RESULTS FOR THE GENERAL PRIMARY, NONPARTISAN, AND SPECIAL ELECTION, MAY 21, 2024

Chair Woolard entertained a motion to certify the May 21, 2024, General Primary, Nonpartisan, and Special Election. The motion was made by **Mr. Johnson**, seconded by **Mrs. Crawford** and carried by a vote of 4-0; 1 Abstention **Ms. Adams**.

Madam Chair asked the Director does the Election Summary Results provide a true and accurate count of the votes cast in the **Democratic General Primary on May 21, 2024**.

Director Williams replied yes.

Chair Woolard entertained a motion to certify the May 21, 2024, General Primary, Nonpartisan, and Special Election. The motion was made by **Mrs. Crawford** seconded by **Mr. Johnson** and carried by a vote of 4-0; 1 Abstention **Ms. Adams**.

Madam Chair asked the Director does the Election Summary Results provide a true and accurate count of the votes cast in the **Republican General Primary on May 21, 2024**.

Director Williams replied yes

Chair Woolard entertained a motion to certify the May 21, 2024, General Primary, Nonpartisan, and Special Election. The motion was made by **Mrs. Crawford** seconded by **Mr. Johnson** and carried by a vote of 4-0; 1 Abstention **Ms. Adams**.

Madam Chair asked the Director does the Election Summary Results provide a true and accurate count of the votes cast in the **Nonpartisan General Primary on May 21, 2024**.

Director Williams replied yes.

Chair Woolard entertained a motion to certify the May 21, 2024, General Primary, Nonpartisan, and Special Election. The motion was made by **Mrs. Crawford** seconded by **Mr. Johnson** and carried by a vote of 4-0; 1 Abstention **Ms. Adams**.

Madam Chair asked the Director does the Election Summary Results provide a true and accurate count of the votes cast in the **Special Election for the City of Atlanta's Municipal Option Sales Tax (MOST) Referendum on May 21, 2024**.

Director Williams replied yes

Chair Woolard entertained a motion to certify the May 21, 2024, General Primary, Nonpartisan, and Special Election. The motion was made by **Mrs. Crawford** seconded by **Mr. Johnson** and carried by a vote of 4-0; 1 Abstention **Ms. Adams**.

Madam Chair asked the Director does the Election Summary Results provide a true and accurate t count of the votes cast in the **Special Election for the City of College Park's Municipal Option Sales Tax (MOST) Referendum on May 21, 2024**.

Director Williams replied yes

Chair Woolard entertained a motion to certify the May 21, 2024, General Primary, Nonpartisan, and Special Election. The motion was made by **Mrs. Crawford** seconded by **Mr. Johnson** and carried by a vote of 4-0; 1 Abstention **Ms. Adams**.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board did not convene into Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, **Chair Woolard** entertained a motion to adjourn. **Mrs. Crawford** moved to adjourn the meeting. **Mr. Johnson** seconded the motion. There being no further business on the agenda, the Board adjourned the meeting at 3:32 p.m.

The meeting adjourned.

Prepared by:

Mariska Bodison, Board Secretary