



GLYNN COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATION

Meeting, Tuesday June 16, 2020

The June meeting of the Board of Elections and Registration was called to order by Chairman Gibson at 6:30pm.

Present were Patricia Gibson, Chairman; Patricia Featherstone, Vice Chairman; Keith Rustin, Secretary; Sandy Dean, Member; Tommy Clark, Member; Christopher Channell, Supervisor; Christina Redden, Assistant Supervisor; Taylor Cooper, The Brunswick News; Kendra Rolle; Dwana Walker; Kim Robinson; Penny Hennessy

Public Comment

No public comment.

Approval of Minutes of May 12, 2020 Regular Board Meeting

The minutes were approved unanimously.

New Business

Election Recap

The election will be certified the next week. There was a 29.5% voter turnout, with 9,054 Absentee by Mail, 3,672 Absentee in Person, and 6,058 Election Day voters. All provisional voters have been notified. A runoff for each party is expected for August 11, ballot mailing begins June 29.

There were precincts with startup issues election morning. All precincts were running smoothly by 10am. Precincts with equipment issues switched to emergency ballots to continue voting. A majority of the issues involved turning on equipment out of sequence. These issues were not county-wide and will be addressed in future training before the August runoff. There were two instances of faulty equipment. All equipment issues were resolved with basic troubleshooting.

Early Voting

Voter turnout was high despite COVID-19 concerns. Mr. Channell is compiling metrics to analyze turnout. Saturday turnout was low. Early data suggests extended Monday hours were not overly utilized, but only two Mondays were open due to Memorial Day.

Poll Manager Debriefing

There were four core lessons from the follow up meetings held with the Poll Managers:

- Teams require more hands-on training, preferably by team.
- Teams want more staff
- A separate trouble-shooting checklist would be useful in addition to the manual
- Teams require more paperwork training

Ideally, the polls would have been fully staffed, but 28 poll workers called out due to virus concerns or conflicts. Some workers were promoted to new positions. Due to the virus, in-person training was not an option. Poll managers did not feel the State's training videos provided adequate follow-up to February training. Noted issues included different terminology used in training, manual, and forms and how PollPad training software was substantially different than the live



software. Hands on equipment and paperwork training will be held before the runoff. Office staff is currently developing an easy-to-use troubleshooting checklist.

Absentee & Tabulation

The State Elections Board granted counties the option to tabulate early. Glynn County opened ballots the day before the election but did not start tabulation until Tuesday. Tuesday tabulation was delayed due to the morning startup issues at the polls. Mr. Channell recommended early tabulation if it is available for future elections. Mr. Rustin commented he would prefer early tabulation any time there are more than 2,000 ballots to be counted.

Tabulation went smoothly. Dominion Voting Systems loaned Glynn County the Adjudication module of their *Results Tallying and Reporting* software. This module allowed the vote review panel to quickly resolve ballot issues without a need to stop scanning or duplicate ballots.

The State plans to mail absentee ballots to “rollover” voters. Ms. Dean asked about the timeliness for the State’s ballot vendor. Mr. Channell answered there was a delay between the office issuing ballots and ballot mailing. The local office mailed ballots the last week of voting with no delay.

Office Report

The new Budget will begin July 1. The current budget includes more revenue than anticipated from the municipal election and county qualifying. The County Commissioners are expected to accept approximately \$8,000 in funds received from the State’s grant reimbursing equipment related purchases. A reimbursement request has been submitted for the drop box.

Board Member Comments

Ms. Featherstone summarized the lessons learned from the poll managers. Ms. Featherstone noted other ways to improve including the need for Monday set-up, documenting successful layouts for training, giving Board members an election supply box to assist troubleshooting, and improving machine delivery. Ms. Featherstone further commented on the provisional voters at St. William and ways to ensure voters understand precinct change signs at the SSI Early Voting site.

Ms. Gibson extended a public thank you to the poll workers and the polling locations. Ms. Featherstone inquired about Board protocol for sending official thanks. Ms. Gibson asked for the community’s help recruiting new poll workers, especially individuals who can help poll managers adapt to the increased physical and technological demands. Ms. Dean requested a date for a Board work session and the date was scheduled for July 9, 2020.

Executive Session

Ms. Gibson publicly explained a need for an executive session to discuss personnel. Mr. Clark made the motion and Ms. Featherstone seconded.

Adjournment

The Board moved out of Executive Session. A motion was made to adjourn and approved 5-0.

Patricia Gibson, Chairman

Keith Rustin, Secretary