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## **GLYNN COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATION**

Special Called Meeting, Tuesday December 22, 2020

A Special Called meeting of the Board of Elections and Registration was called to order by Chairman Gibson at 1:00pm.

Present were Patricia Gibson, Chairman; Keith Rustin, Secretary; Sandy Dean, Member; Christopher Channell, Supervisor; Christina Redden, Assistant Supervisor; Jeff Jones, Challenger; Aaron Mumford, County Attorney; Jason Wilbanks, County Attorney; Brad Watkins, County Attorney; Taylor Cooper, The Brunswick News; Mario Pacella, Glynn Dems; Julie Jordan- Glynn Dems; Zack Lyde, Black Votes Matter; Faisal Khan, Carolina Peace Center; Tim McDermott; Cliff Albright; Theresa Murphy; Danielle Brown; Wanda Mosley; Elijah Henderson; Gustavo Lopez; Agape Lataillade; James Abely; Kelly Smith; Delores Polite; Jim Williams; and other members of the Press. Absent were Patricia Featherstone, Vice Chairman; Tommy Clark, Member.

### ***New Business***

#### ***Residency Challenge presented by Jeff Jones***

Mr. Jones previously submitted a list of 262 Glynn County registered voters who had submitted National Change of Address (NCOA) forms and voted in the November 5, 2020 Election. Mr. Jones stated he believes this demonstrates these voters are no longer residents of Glynn County making them ineligible to vote in Glynn County elections. Mr. Jones cited the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, which allows consideration of NCOA forms as part of the process to maintain voter rolls. Mr. Jones also cited *O.C.G.A. §21-2-233b*, which allows list maintenance based on NCOA evidence. Mr. Jones stated this was not a request to cancel these voters, but to challenge them in order to prevent nonresident voting while their true domicile is investigated.

### ***Executive Session***

Mr. Rustin made a motion to move into executive session to consult with the county attorney. Ms. Gibson explained no action would be taken in executive session. Ms. Gibson also explained public comment would be accepted before the Board's decision. Ms. Dean seconded the motion, the motion to move into an executive session passed 3-0.

### ***Public Comment***

The Board moved out of executive session and Ms. Gibson opened the floor to public comment. Ms. Jordan commented State and Federal code does allow for a difference in residential and mailing addresses. Mr. Albright commented on the State code process of mailing confirmation letters, compared the challenge to the challenges prevented in the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and stated the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 forbids list maintenance within 90 days of a Federal election. Mr. Albright also stated many citizens may have been forced to temporarily relocate due to COVID and may still have the intention to remain permanent residents of Glynn County. Mr. Abely stated his support for this challenge, commenting list maintenance is important to ensure every citizen of Glynn County has their vote count. Mr. Lyde commented Judges and other Boards throughout the State are already dismissing this challenge as unconstitutional and unlawful. Ms. Polite commented it is unlawful to bulk maintenance voters based on one piece of evidence and stated she believes voters should be processed one-on-one following proper procedure. Mr. Khan summarized a history of US voter suppression and emphasized a mailing address change does not necessarily imply a physical move. Ms. Smith asked questions about Dominion equipment and provisional ballot cures.



***Residency Challenge presented by Jeff Jones (continued)***

Ms. Gibson thanked the public for their involvement and comments on this important issue. Mr. Rustin stated the evidence presented did not provide probable cause to move forward. Mr. Rustin made a motion not to sustain the challenge. Ms. Gibson seconded the motion. Ms. Dean commented the Board strives to have a clean election and with investigation it may find probable cause for the challenges. However, Ms. Dean continued, State and Federal laws prevent this type of action at this time and the legislature should consider these issues in the future. Mr. Rustin commented a NCOA is only one of many items which must be considered when determining voter eligibility and the State has an established procedure to handle NCOA notifications.

Ms. Gibson called for a vote on the motion to not sustain the challenge. The motion passed 2-1.

***Adjournment***

A motion was made to adjourn and approved 3-0.

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Patricia Gibson, Chairman

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Keith Rustin, Secretary