

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS/REGISTRATION

Minutes of Combined Meeting

July 25, 2019

Present: Bill Barton, Chairman
Shirley Huckaby, Vice-Chairman
Anna Lawhorn, Secretary
Dr. Mary Sue Ward
Pat Witherspoon
Lamar Ellis

Call to Order:

Chairman Barton called the meeting to order.

Invocation:

The invocation was given by Dr. Ward.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes of the June meeting were reviewed. Dr. Ward made a motion to approve the minutes and Shirley Huckaby seconded. Motion carried.

Citizens to be Heard:

None.

Challenges to be Heard:

None, due to pending changes to the rules affecting felon response time.

Supervisor's Report:

- a. The NCOA process continues, but at a slow pace. Very few confirmation notices were completed and returned. Most were returned marked "Undeliverable." The new process for the "in county" NCOA notices should begin this week. The addresses obtained from the USPS will populate on the Dashboard in eNet this week. This is to update the "in county" notices which were returned as undeliverable, as well as those that were not returned.
- b. All county elected officials were required to submit their Ethics paperwork to the Elections Office for this year by July 1. All required documentation was received by the deadline.
- c. A check for \$45.80 was received from the Brennan Center for Justice at the New York University School of Law to cover the Open Records Request completed last month.
- d. The webpage for Elections on the county website has been updated to include the approved monthly Board of Elections meeting minutes.
- e. The verification process in eNet has been updated to prevent those that fail the verification process from being coded "pending" unless it is an issue with citizenship. If a registered voter's information does not verify, that person will now be made "active", but we are still required to research why the information did not verify. The process for the underage registered voters will remain the same, e.g., they will be placed in "pending" status until they become 18 years of age.

- f. An Open Records Request was received on July 16th from Devin Butler with the Georgia Coalition for the Peoples Agenda requesting a copy of the June Elections Board Meeting minutes. Dawn informed him that the minutes would not become available until they were approved at the July meeting and that they would then be available on the county website.
- g. The process of verifying all voter registration cards and signatures in eNet continues. To date, Lamar has completed all cards through the letter "S".
- h. The issue of paying board members when they serve as poll workers during early voting continued. If agreed upon, board members would be paid the same minimum wage rate that non-board members currently receive when they are hired during early voting. The law requires that a certain number of poll workers be present during early voting, but on occasions when family members of the elections office staff or board members are running for office, current staff and board members may not work. Board members already are required to work the three weeks during early voting, but without compensation. The logic in support of board members receiving compensation is that individuals who are already trained in the election process would be "hired" rather than members of the public. This will be even more beneficial to the county as we move into the new voting process with unknown equipment. Our Chairman will look further into this matter and report at the next meeting.

Announcements:

- a. Qualifying for the November Municipal Election will begin on Monday, August 19th. The City Clerks will place the notices in the Adel News to advertise this information.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Dr. Ward made a motion to adjourn. Pat Witherspoon seconded and the motion carried.

Next board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 22nd, at 10:00 a.m.



Bill Barton, Chairman

8-22-19

Date



Anna Lawhorn, Secretary

8/22/19

Date