

Meeting Minutes
Chatham County Board of Registrars
February 27, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 12:01 p.m and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Board members in attendance were: Chairman McRae, Ms. Andrews, Mr. Norse, Mr. Pannell and Mr. Slay. Staff present included Sabrina German, Inger Bostick and Keith Pflager. Ms. Andrews made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the January 2019 meeting. Mr. Slay seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Old Business:

Department Budget: A meeting will be held with the Finance Department regarding the departmental budget on March 14, 2019 at 3:20 p.m. Chairman McRae plans to attend with Ms. German.

Monthly Meeting Change: Due to the Voter Registrars Association of Georgia conference (VRAG), the Board agreed to move its March 2019 meeting up from March 27th to March 20th. Notice of this change will be placed in the legal organ, on social media and a press release will be issued.

New Business:

Election Day Schedule: The members of the Board agreed to develop a schedule by e-mail for signing absentee ballots in the March 19, 2019 Special Election.

Early Voting Totals: As of February 26, 381 individuals had voted in person in the March 19 Special Election. Additionally, 91 absentee by mail ballots have been sent with 4 ballots already returned.

Early Voting Locations/Hours: Early Voting for the March 19, 2019 Special Election is taking place now at the main office until March 15 (Monday – Friday) only. The hours for the first two weeks will be 8:00 – 5:00 p.m. During the final week from March 11th – March 15th, the main office will be open 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. and the Chatham County Police Department site on Whitefield Avenue will be open from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Additional Early Voting Location – West Chatham: A request was received from Pooler, GA to open an additional Early Voting location in their community. Information is being gathered and discussion was continued until a future meeting.

Absentee Ballot Collection Procedures: Chairman McRae asked that staff check with the Secretary of State's office to confirm absentee ballot collection procedures to ensure compliance in reference to recent news stories about absentee ballot problems in North Carolina. Ms. German mentioned differences between Georgia's system and that of North Carolina. Staff will check with the Secretary of State's office and maintain compliance with Georgia election laws.

House Bill 316: Ms. German advised of the passage of Georgia House Bill 316 which will bring changes to Chatham County's voting system. Once information on the impact of the Bill has been fully discovered, a joint meeting with the Board of Elections will be scheduled to discuss potential new voting machines and procedures.

Registration Totals:

Ms. German provided updated totals of 194,176 active voters, 12,802 inactive and 2,653 pending voters.

Challenges/Deletions:

Ms. German provided a total of 366 individuals for deletion of registration due to deceased, felony or moved out of jurisdiction status. Mr. Norse made a motion to approve deletion. Mr. Pannell seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Public Discussion:

None.

The meeting adjourned at 12:43 p.m.