## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MADISON COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION AUGUST 9, 2017

A public meeting of the Madison County Election Commission was noticed and duly held and conducted at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, August 9, 2017, in the Board Room of the Madison County Chancery and Administrative Building in the City of Canton, Mississippi. The meeting was webcast live to the public through the County website. The following Commissioners were present at the beginning of the meeting:

District One Commissioner Timothy Jenkins District Two Commissioner Julia Hodges District Three Commissioner Pat Truesdale (*via* telephone following knee injury)

Also present was Madison County Circuit Clerk Anita Wray, IT Director Duane Thompson, Commission Attorney Spence Flatgard and Lisa Williams.

Commissioner Jenkins called the meeting to order and began the meeting with a prayer and Commissioner Hodges led the pledge of Allegiance.

Clerk Wray gave her report expressing her enthusiasm over the new election equipment which had been calibrated. She recently attended a SEMS training class offered by the Secretary of State's office and one suggestion was to have the Election Commission sign the report each month as it continues to incorporate it into its minutes.

Commissioners Jackson-Adams and Lacy joined the meeting. The Clerk and Commission continued the discussion over the new election equipment noting that it would be used in the upcoming Canton Separate School District ("CSSD") election, so the Commission will plan training dates.

A further discussion of the CCSD election began and the Commission Attorney reported that the statute had changed the election to be now run by the Commission. The candidates should file their qualifying papers with the Election Commission by September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017. In addition to the general election, there will also need to be a special election on the same ballot for a post where no election was held last year.

Several members of the public interested in the CCSD election joined the meeting, including Mayor William Truly, Van Buren Davis and Yvonne Jones. Chairman Jenkins recognized Mayor Truly to ask questions of the Commission and its attorney. He first asked if the separate/added territory for CCSD had two (2) districts. The Commission Attorney responded that the CCSD counsel said there are not two separate (2) districts in the added territory, it is one district. The Mayor asked where the district lines were drawn and the Commission explained the location of the district lines. The Mayor then asked how the special election would occur, and counsel explained it would be listed under the general election on the ballot. The Mayor next asked if a Board of Trustee member could lawfully be appointed to "hold over" until the special election. The

Commission Attorney responded that was a question outside the Election Commission's purview, and suggested he confer with the City of Canton's and the CCSD's counsel. Mayor Truly thanked the Commission for its time and he and Ms. Davis and Ms. Jones left the meeting.

The Commission next discussed publicizing details for qualifying as a candidate for the CCSD general and special election. Commissioner Truesdale made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Hodges, to direct the Commission Attorney to draft an announcement to be posted and also announced on local radio and newspaper. Commissioner Lacy noted the Canton newspaper would not run again before the qualifying deadline, so amended the motion to substitute the Madison County Journal. The amendment was accepted by unanimous consent. The Commission voted and the approved the amended motion, voting as follows:

District One Commissioner Timothy Jenkins-"Aye"
District Two Commissioner Julia Hodges-"Aye"
District Three Commissioner Pat Truesdale-"Aye"
District Four Commissioner Azzie Jackson-Adams-"Aye"
District Five Commissioner Leroy Lacy-"Aye"

The Commission reviewed the proposed minutes of its July meeting. Commissioner Jackson-Adams made a motion that the minutes from the July meeting be accepted as presented which was seconded by Commissioner Hodges.

The Commission approved the minutes, voting as follows:

District One Commissioner Timothy Jenkins-"Aye" District Two Commissioner Julia Hodges-"Aye" District Three Commissioner Pat Truesdale-"Aye" District Four Commissioner Jackson-Adams-"Aye" District Five Commissioner Leroy Lacy-"Aye"

The Commissioners next submitted their individual lists of names to be purged from the voter rolls for voters who were deceased or who had moved. Commissioner Hodges submitted a list of twenty-four (24) names, Commissioner Truesdale submitted a list of eleven (11) names, and Commissioner Jackson-Adams submitted a list of twenty-four (24) names. Each of these Commissioners also offered the required supporting documentation for their respective lists for the Commission's review. The Commission approved the purges upon a motion by Commissioner Hodges, a second by Commissioner Jackson-Adams and a unanimous vote of the Commission.

The Commission next considered Commissioner requests to acknowledge the appropriate change of status from active status to inactive status for names on the voter rolls. Commissioner Hodges submitted a list of five (5) names, Commissioner Truesdale submitted a list of seven (7) names, Commissioner Jackson-Adams submitted a list of one hundred seventeen (117) names, and Commissioner Lacy submitted a list of twenty-five

(25) names. Each of these Commissioners also offered the required supporting documentation for their respective lists for the Commission's review. The Commission approved the purges upon a motion by Commissioner Lacy, a second by Commissioner Jackson-Adams and a unanimous vote of the Commission.

Under Old Business, Commissioner Jenkins inquired as to the status of ECAM's steps to address its tax situation. Commissioner Lacy reported that ECAM is working with a new accounting firm to correct its tax filings with the IRS.

Under New Business, the Commission acknowledged the Voter Movement Report which is available for public inspection is in the Circuit Clerk's Office.

The Commission noted the next Commission meeting would be a mandatory purge date on Monday, September 11, 2017.

The Commission voted unanimously upon a motion by Commissioner Lacy, seconded by Commissioner Jackson-Adams, to remove Mrs. E. Burnett Martin from the permanent absentee ballot list, as she is deceased.

The Commission Attorney gave his report on the items he will address for the upcoming CCSD qualification of candidates and election. He also reported that a motion hearing in the election contest would be held on September 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:30 a.m. The Commission reviewed its attorney's bill and Commissioner Lacy made a motion to approve it which was seconded by Commissioner Hodges, and approved by the unanimous vote of the Commission.

The Commission concluded its consideration of its agenda items and adjourned the meeting to reconvene at its next regularly scheduled meeting to be held on Monday, September 11, 2017. Chairman Jenkins entertained a motion to adjourn which was unanimously accepted.

WITNESS OUR HANDS, this the 11 day of September, 2017.

TIMOTHY JENKINS

CHAIRMAN

JULIA HODGES

\$ECRETARY