

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MADISON
COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION
JANUARY 9, 2018**

A public meeting of the Madison County Election Commission was noticed and duly held and conducted at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 9, 2018, 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
District Five Commissioner Azzie Jackson-Adams
District Five Commissioner Leroy Lacy

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

Commissioner Truesdale called the meeting to order and Commissioner Lacy began the meeting with a prayer. Commissioner Truesdale led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Commission reviewed the proposed minutes of its December 13th meeting. Commissioner Jenkins made a motion that the minutes be accepted as presented which was seconded by Commissioner Hodges.

The Commission approved its minutes of its December 13th meeting, 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"

Circuit Clerk Anita Wray gave her remarks, announcing that the qualifying period for candidates for elections in 2018 had begun and the two County Court Judges, Staci O'Neal and Ed Hannon, had qualified. She is working with the Department of Archives to determine which old records need to be retained and which destroyed, as the County is needlessly storing decades old documents which is an unnecessary expense. She invited the Commission to the Gluckstadt storage facility if they wish to participate in the process. The Clerk provided the current Voter Movement Report to the Commission.

The Commission met its statutory obligation to consider the list of citizens who had been convicted of felonies since the last statutory purge date and determine whether they had committed a disenfranchising crime. The Commission Attorney had reviewed the list

provided by the Circuit Clerk and highlighted recommended names to be purged from the voter rolls, should they be found to be registered voters. The Commission reviewed the list and asked counsel questions then voted to purge seventeen (17) names from the voter rolls, should they be registered voters. The action was taken upon a motion by Commissioner Jenkins, a second by Commissioner Lacy and a unanimous vote of the Commission. Commissioner Hodges volunteered to purge the citizens' names from the voter rolls.

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 Jenkins submitted a list of twelve (12) names, Commissioner Hodges submitted a list of twenty-six (26) names, and Commissioner Truesdale submitted a list of twenty-four (24) names and Commissioner Jackson-Adams submitted a list of twenty-seven (27) 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 Lacy 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 Jenkins submitted a list of four (4) names, Commissioner Hodges submitted a list of thirty-six (36) names, and Commissioner Truesdale submitted a list of seven (7) 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 Jenkins and a unanimous vote of the Commission.

Under Old Business, the Commission continued their discussion of improving the execution of the logistics of elections going forward. The Commission appreciated Clerk Wray's providing lighting in the parking lot at the Courthouse election night. Commissioner Lacy commented that our first use of the equipment was going well and suggested mastering the new equipment before adding new changes to election day. He also suggested reminding poll workers to close out their machines at the end of election day.

Commissioner Jenkins offered to explore ordering cardboard boxes to store ballots following their counting as a less expensive alternative to ordering new plastic blue containers. This approach would also allow the blue containers to be used in a runoff election. He made a motion to explore the costs and to move forward with purchasing. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hodges to allow for further discussion. The Commissioners discussed the boxes and offered questions regarding their sealing and sturdiness, and tabled the motion by unanimous consent to allow Commissioner Jenkins to explore box options for the Commissioners to review before their next meeting.

The Commission next discussed purchasing small items to protect the voters' privacy while filling out their paper ballot. The Commission will renew its request that the

County purchase privacy sleeves for ballots and cardboard dividers. Commissioner Truesdale requested updated number which should be requested.

Commissioner Hodges updated the Commission on the effort to create a new precinct at Vertical Church to accommodate the growth in Gluckstadt. She will present the map and details to the Board of Supervisors for their consideration.

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

The Commission resolved to meet at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, January 27th, at the Commission office to organize it and clean up for the upcoming year, including poll worker training.

The Commission discussed pulling poll worker names for the parties' upcoming primary elections. Commissioner Lacy reminded the Commission that it is the Commission's past practice and policy to release the names to both parties at the same time. The Commission Attorney offered to contact both party chairs to invite them to the Commission's February meeting to discuss the upcoming primary elections.

Commissioner Truesdale submitted four (4) names of deceased citizens to be removed from the permanent absentee voter list, Joan T. Deal, Louis Raymond Rolfes, Yvonne B. Rose and Mrs. Archie Rogers. The action was approved upon a motion by Commissioner Truesdale, a second by Commissioner Jenkins and a unanimous vote of the Commission.

Commissioner Jenkins alerted the Commission that Grace Crossing had notified him that they did not intend to serve as a polling location for the June primary election during Vacation Bible School. The Commission Attorney suggested first discussing with the church whether there is a spot on its campus to hold the election and explaining the burden of moving 3,775 voters to another polling location. Commissioner Lacy offered to discuss the matter with the church's pastor.

The Commission Attorney gave his report and submitted a letter the Commission requested that he draft to notify each polling location of the dates that their facilities would be needed for this year's elections. The Commission requested that it be sent *via* certified mail with the request for each polling location's current contact person and phone number. He then submitted his legal bill for the Commission's review. Commissioner Lacy made a motion to approve the Commission Attorney's bill which was seconded by Commissioner Jackson-Adams and approved by a unanimous vote of the Commission.

During Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Jenkins notified the Commission that he had resigned from the ECAM Board of Directors.

Commissioner Jackson-Adams notified the Commission that she planned to attend ECAM's training seminar in January.

Commissioner Lacy expressed his interest in retaining and maximizing the expertise of the IT Department during elections. He also emphasized the need for current contact information for polling locations to ensure that voters are able to vote when the polls open on election day.

Commissioner Truesdale noted several items for the Commission to consider for their next meeting, including requesting updated items of small election items, whether to have voters sign the electronic tablets instead of poll books and party chairs' responsibilities with poll workers registration for training and payroll. She also said the Commission would be posting affidavit voters from the recent Canton Public School District election into the database and invited help with that process.

Clerk Wray added a request for Commissioners to consider the number of poll book tablets which may be required for their precinct to advise her at the next meeting.

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 Wednesday, February 14th, 2018. The motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Lacy, provided a second by Commissioner Jackson-Adams and was adopted by a unanimous vote.

WITNESS OUR HANDS, this the 14 day of February, 2018.



PAT TRUESDALE
CHAIRMAN

Attest:



JULIA HODGES
SECRETARY