

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MADISON  
COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION  
APRIL 10, 2019

A public meeting of the Madison County Election Commission was noticed and duly held and conducted at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, April 10, 2019, 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's website. The following Commissioners were present at the beginning of the meeting:

District One Commissioner Helen Carney  
District Two Commissioner Julia Hodges  
District Four Commissioner Azzie Jackson-Adams  
District Five Commissioner Leroy Lacy

District Three Commissioner Pat Truesdale was out of town but participated by telephone. Circuit Clerk Wray and Commission Attorney Spence Flatgard were also present.

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

The Commission reviewed the proposed minutes of its March 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. Commissioner Lacy made a motion that the minutes be accepted as presented which was seconded by Commissioner Jackson-Adams.

The Commission approved its minutes of its March 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, voting as follows:

District One Commissioner Helen Carney-"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 Wray gave her remarks, including:

- Calling the Commission's attention to a recent Attorney General's Opinion regarding compensation for work performed.
- Requesting the Commission to review her updated list of polling locations addresses and contact information and providing her with information and updates to finalize it for the primary elections. Commissioner Lacy offered updated contact information for two of his precincts.
- Highlighting the deadline for ADA compliance at the end of May.
- Noting that she needs the number of ballots the parties are requesting for their primary elections.
- Providing the VR-001 Voter Movement Report which was acknowledged by

the Commission and is available for public inspection in the Circuit Clerk's Office.

The Commissioners submitted their individual lists of names to be purged from the voter rolls for voters who were deceased or who had moved. Commissioner Carney submitted a list of nineteen (19) names for District 1, Commissioner Hodges submitted a list of thirty-three (33) names for District 2, Commissioner Truesdale submitted a list of twenty-six (26) names, and Commissioner Jackson-Adams submitted a list of twenty-three (23) names for District 4 and Commissioner Lacy submitted a list of twenty-five (25) names for District 5. 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 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 Carney submitted a list of twenty-five (25) names for District 1, Commissioner Hodges submitted a list of fifty-three (53) names for District 2, Commissioner Truesdale submitted a list of thirty-three (33) names for District 3 and Commissioner Jackson-Adams submitted a list of thirteen (13) names for District Four. 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.

At the beginning of Old Business, the Commission acknowledged that the last day to inactivate voters before the next election was May 8, 2019. Chairman Hodges noted that given the timing of the general election in the fall and the early Presidential Primary in the spring, that Commission would not be able to inactivate voters again until the spring of 2020.

The Commission next discussed the handling of the primary elections. Chairman of the Madison County Executive Committee Howard Brown joined the meeting and addressed the Commission. Chairman Brown expressed the Democrats intend to run their primary election and requesting the Commission to train their poll workers. He "committed to managing the size of training sessions better." He invited a contract to that effect and Commissioner Lacy commented his offer amounted to substantially the same agreement the previous agreement. Commissioner Truesdale inquired as to who the Democratic party could process the affidavit ballots without someone with access to SEMS. Clerk Wray offered to ask the SoS for temporary passwords for their appointees. The Commission took Mr. Brown's offer under advisement and will discuss the primary election further with the Republican Chairman and with each other and vote on the matter at its May meeting.

The Commission addressed the need for access to SEMS to allow it to process affidavit ballots. Commissioner Truesdale made a motion for the Commission to obtain quotes

and to approve the purchase of equipment once the best quote is determined for three (3) computers, six (6) monitors, two (2) scanners and accompanying equipment (*eg.*, carts). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lacy and approved by a unanimous vote of the Commission.

The Commission announced that it had posted all of the information from the affidavit ballots in the November of 2018 elections into SEMS.

In New Business, the Commission:

- Approved the removal of Betty Joyce Neely from the permanent absentee ballot list upon a motion by Commissioner Carney, a second by Commissioner Lacy and a unanimous vote of the Commission.
- Approved the addition of Vera Rowley Cowden to the permanent absentee ballot list upon a motion by Commissioner Hodges, a second by Commissioner Jackson-Adams and a unanimous vote of the Commission.
- Advised that ES&S technical advisor Gavin Birdsong would be in Madison County to address any voting equipment needs starting April 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Discussed scheduling poll worker training dates in June and July and will set dates at its next meeting. Commissioner Truesdale offered a motion to limit each training session to 40-50 attendees for each session. That number will allow for each trainee to have access to train on the voting equipment and a larger number makes the training session less effective for everyone. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lacy and approved by a unanimous vote of the Commission.
- Informed Chairman Brown that the statute allows for a minimum of six (6) poll workers per polling location, not six (6) poll workers for each party per polling location.

The Commission Attorney gave his report and offered to draft the agreement(s) the Commission decides upon for the primary elections. 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. He also answered Commissioner Hodges' question as to assisting her constituent in requesting Congressman Guest's staff assistance with the Census Bureau.

During Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Hodges advised the Commission that they would have their election bags back soon following their use in the last election.

Commissioner Truesdale reported that she had met with the County's GIS Department and circulated an updated list of precinct names. She also circulated a draft of the partial list of responsibilities for the parties to execute in running the elections and a handout from the Secretary of State's office listing

disenfranchising crimes.

Commissioners Jackson-Adams reviewed the benefit of the recent ECAM Conference in Biloxi and the need for the Commission to finalize emergency contingency plans for all polling locations.

Commissioner Lacy reported that the Board of Supervisors approved the new Fairview Church polling location for Precinct 528. He also expressed the benefits of coming to an agreement with the parties on the Commission's assistance in the upcoming primary elections.


During public comments, the Commission heard from James Powers and Lisa Williams regarding their comments and questions involving the primary elections.

The Commission concluded its consideration of its agenda items and adjourned the meeting upon a motion from Commissioner Lacy, a second by Commissioner Jackson-Adams and a unanimous vote of the Commission. The Commission's next regularly scheduled meeting is to be held on Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

WITNESS OUR HANDS, this the 10 day of April, 2019.

  
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JULIA HODGES  
CHAIRMAN

Attest:

  
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PAT TRUESDALE  
SECRETARY