



# BOARD OF REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS APPROVED MINUTES

## REGULAR MEETING – APRIL 11, 2024

The Fulton County Board of Registration and Elections met in Regular Session on Thursday, April 11, 2024, at 11:00 a.m.

**The meeting was recorded and is available for your review on  
FGTV YouTube Channel**

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYH7E0jH6HxE-3KTRluH8SQ>

**Board Members Present** Mrs. Patrise Perkins-Hooker, Chairperson  
Mr. William Michael Heekin, Vice Chairperson  
Mr. Aaron Johnson  
Mrs. Teresa Crawford  
Ms. Julie Adams

**Staff Attending:** Mrs. Nadine E. Williams, Director; Mr. Patrick Eskridge, Deputy Director; Mr. John Ross, Elections Chief; Mrs. Sharon Benjamin, Deputy Election Chief; Mrs. Kathryn Glenn, Registration Manager; Mrs. Jodi Brittan, Absentee Manager; Mrs. Shoshauna Goins, Absentee Supervisor; Ms. Janice Dickenson, Administrative Manager; Mrs. Janell Barganier, Financial Systems Manager; Ms. LaShandra Little, VEO Manager; Mr. Thomas Johnson, Registration Supervisor; Mr. Corey Henson, Elections Equipment Manager; Ms. Amber Culver, Administrative Coordinator; Ms. Regina Waller, Division Manager; Mr. James Reese, FGTV Production Manager; Mr. Darryl Peek, Mr. Tyree Spencer, Mr. James Artis

**Legal:** Mr. Chad Alexis, Senior Assistant County Counsel; Ms. Ann Brumbaugh, Special Counsel

### **ACRONYMS:**

**BRE-** Board of Registration and Elections  
**DRE-** Department of Registration and Elections  
**EHOC-** Elections Hub and Operations Center  
**BOC-** Board of Commissioners  
**ABM-** Absentee by Mail  
**L&A-** Logic and Accuracy Testing  
**VEO-** Voter Education and Outreach  
**REIF-** Reporting Elections Systems Issue Form

**BMDs-** Ballot Marking Devices  
**SOS-** Secretary of State's  
**SEB-** State Election Board  
**DDS-** Department of Driver Services  
**CERA-** Certified Elections Registration Administrator  
**GARViS-** Georgia Registered Voter Information System

## #1– APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Chair Perkins-Hooker** entertained a motion to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was made by **Mr. Johnson**, seconded by **Mrs. Crawford**, and carried by a vote of 5-0.

## #2-COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RESPONSE

Communications from the public was recorded. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=795a9AAAnIYY>

## OLD BUSINESS

## #3– APPROVAL OF MINUTES

➤ **Special Meeting-** March 12, 2024

**Chair Perkins-Hooker** entertained a motion to approve the proposed minutes of March 12, 2024, as presented. The motion was made by **Mrs. Crawford** and was seconded by **Vice-Chair Heekin** and carried by a vote of 5-0.

**Ms. Adams** highlighted amendments that she thought were critical in the minutes.

➤ **Regular Meeting-** March 18, 2024

**Chair Perkins-Hooker** entertained a motion to approve the proposed minutes of March 18, 2024, as amended. The motion was made by **Mrs. Crawford** and was seconded by **Mr. Johnson** and carried by a vote of 5-0.

## #4- ELECTION PREPARATION UPDATES

**Director Williams** greeted the BRE members, and she noted the DRE is diligently working to prepare for the General Primary, Nonpartisan and Special Election on May 21, 2024.

**Vice-Chair Heekin** inquired about his request to attend the DRE After-Action Review meeting that the DRE conducted in March.

**Director Williams** answered that the meeting is a part of the DRE's managers meeting, an internal meeting to review processes and procedures.

**Chair Perkins-Hooker** outlined the BRE's roles and responsibilities to make policy and members of the BRE have never attended internal meetings conducted by the staff.

**Ms. Adams** recounted the last BRE meeting **Director Williams** said she would forward the meeting information for **Vice-Chair Heekin** to attend.

**Director Williams** stated:

Respectfully, we have invited board members to attend training, we met with board members individually by Divisions. We are very careful when we conduct our meetings because we do not want misinformation being spread. That's why there are some reservations to allow BRE members to attend certain meetings. Also, everything that we discussed is highlighted in the document each member received.

**Mr. Johnson** reiterated **Madam Chair's** sentiment that the board is a policy setting board and we are not responsible for the day-to-day operation. **Mr. Johnson** mentioned that the Board must be very careful and not want to be another Coffee County.

**Vice-Chair Heekin** responded that he would draft a proposed addendum for consideration by the next meeting.

## #5- MONTHLY OPERATIONS REPORT FOR MARCH 2024

**Deputy Eskridge** reported on the activities of the Deputy Director:

- Touchpoints with Purchasing department to implement work arounds due to cyber-attack, in order to procure supply needs for the PPP
- Worked with Director to draft updated notifications for Absentee by Mail information for the website for the upcoming May 2024 Primary
- Assisted with resolution to several former SEB cases
- Worked with HR on several internal personnel items

**Mrs. Brittian** reported on the activities in **Absentee Division**:

- Weekly Meetings with the Division's personnel
- Processed all applications and ballots received
- Vendors engaged during **March 2024**
  - Quadient, Tattnall, HBSolutions, and TriTek

**Attended**

- **Secretary of State Absentee by Mail UOCAVA training webinar**

**On-going:**

- Notifying electors who will receive Provisional ballots due to incomplete/insufficient applications

| <b>SOS DEADLINE DATES:</b>   |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| Earliest Day to apply for Absentee by Mail for the May 21st, 2024 General Primary election.  | <b>March 4, 2024</b>  |
| <b>DEADLINE FOR VOTER REGISTRATION/CHANGE OF ADDRESS FOR THE MAY 21<sup>ST</sup>, 2024 GENERAL PRIMARY ELECTION.</b> The last day for a person to register and be eligible to vote in the Presidential Preference Primary election shall be at the close of business on the fifth Monday prior to the date of the election. O.C.G.A. §§ 21-2-224; 21-2-501 | <b>APRIL 22, 2024</b> |

|  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| <b>FIRST DAY TO MAIL ABSENTEE BALLOTS FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY ELECTION.</b> The board of registrars shall mail or issue official absentee ballots no more than 29 days, but not less than 25 days prior to any general primary election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-384(a)(2) | <b>APRIL 22, 2024</b> |
| Last day to request an Absentee ballot O.C.G.A. § 21-2-381   | <b>MAY 10, 2024</b>   |
| <b>ADVANCED IN PERSON (EARLY) VOTING BEGINS FOR THE MARCH 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2024 PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY ELECTION</b> O.C.G.A. § 21-2-385(d)(1)   | <b>APRIL 29, 2024</b> |
| <b>Eligible Military and Overseas Voters (UOCAVA) Ballots must be received by 5pm.</b>   | <b>MAY 24, 2024</b>   |
| <b>ABSENTEE BY MAIL STATISTICS:</b>  |                       |
| <b>APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED</b>   | <b>2324</b>           |
| <b>APPLICATIONS REJECTED</b>   | <b>3</b>              |
| <b>PROVISIONALS BALLOTS TO BE MAILED (CURE REQUIRED)</b>   | <b>18</b>             |

**Ms. Dickenson** reported on activities in the Administration Division: Performed routine administrative functions:

- Requisitions limitations due to cyber incident
  - Process P-Card purchases and T-Card travel / training expenses.
- Performed various HR functions:
- Processed payroll
  - Processed requisitions for recruitment.

| <b>PERSONNEL VACANCIES:</b>  |                      |   |
|--|----------------------|---|
| <b>TITLE</b>   | <b>POSITION TYPE</b> | <b>STATUS OF RECRUITMENT</b>  |
| Information Systems Analyst I  | New                  | Requisition processed. Awaiting register from HR to prepare for interviews. |
| Elections Systems Specialist   | Existing Position    | Requisition processed. Awaiting register from HR to prepare for interviews. |
| Absentee Officer   | Existing Position    | Requisition processed. Awaiting register from HR to prepare for interviews. |
| Courier (Time limited position)  | Existing Position    | Requisition submitted for recruitment.                                      |
| Registration Officer   | Existing Position    | Recruitment to resume.  |
| Registration Chief   | Existing Position    | Recruitment to resume.  |
| <b>CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION DISCLOSURE REPORT</b>   |                      |   |
| Electronically filed Personal Financial Disclosures Statements received in the Month of March 2024 to meet qualifying deadlines. |                      |   |

**Mrs. Benjamin** reported on activities with Advance Voting/ Early Voting:

- EV successfully completed the Presidential Preference Primary Election
- Commenced recruiting for the General Primary Election for staff availability
- Concentration was set on developing a revised training curriculum, specific for this General Primary since it's a Party election
- Updated back-up systems and procedures and, build-out of relevant classroom materials, and manuals

- Engaged with our continual post-election activities which include reconciliation which is an audit of the EV location operations for compliance with state and county policies and procedures.

**Mrs. Crawford** commented on scheduling discrepancies from Zoom to in-person sessions for Advance Voting.

**Mrs. Benjamin** responded that the session was always in-person meeting and not via Zoom. **Mrs. Benjamin** mentioned each AV location was represented at that meeting.

**Chief Ross** reported on the activities in the Election Division and Election Day: Summary of his division’s key activities:

- Coordinated May 21, 2024 election, Ballot Proof Package 1
- Formulated the March 12<sup>th</sup> PPP Reconciliation Report
- Provided and communicated with municipalities regarding Redistricting Verification
- Completed Risk Limiting Audit

**Attended:**

**National Certification Course, Certified Election Registration Administrator (CERA):**

- Course 7 Facilitating Voter Participation

| <b>PREPARATION FOR ELECTION / WORK SUMMARY:</b> |          |                     |  |
|---|----------|---------------------|--|
| All recruiting has been completed.              |          |                     |  |
| Election Date:                                  |          | May 21, 2024        |  |
| POSITION NEEDED                                 | QUANTITY | # RECRUITED TO DATE |  |
| Poll Manager                                    | 178      | 178                 |  |
| Assistant Manager                               | 356      | 356                 |  |
| Clerks  | 794      | 794                 |  |
| Provisional Poll Workers                        | 178      | 178                 |  |

**Madam Chair** inquired on who will provide the information regarding the college analysis.

**Director Williams** answered **Mrs. Benjamin** and **Mrs. Barganier**.

**Mrs. Barganier** reported on the Department’s Finances:

- 2024 Elections and Operations budgets \$34 Million for 4 Elections
- Managed the two temporary staffing agencies to onboard temporary employees
- Coordinated with temporary staffing agencies regarding HB1207 which becomes effective July 1, 2024, that requires all Elections staff to be U.S. citizens
- Processing backlog of invoices due to the Cyber incident

| <b>2023 Municipal Budget balances rolled into the 2024 Municipal Budget:</b> |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| General Election Municipal Budget NOV 2023                                   | <b>\$1.5 Million</b>  |
| General Run-off Election Municipal Budget DEC 2023                           | <b>\$1.75 Million</b> |

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  |  |
|--|--|

Below are the 2024 Elections and Operations budgets:

| <b>2024 Budgets as of 01/04/2024:</b>                |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| Operations Budget                                    | <b>\$5.2 Million</b>  |
| Presidential Preference Primary (PPP) MARCH 12, 2024 | <b>\$9.3 Million</b>  |
| Presidential Primary MAY 21, 2024                    | <b>\$8.5 Million</b>  |
| Presidential Primary Run-off JUNE 18, 2024           | <b>\$4.2 Million</b>  |
| Presidential General Election NOV 5, 2024            | <b>\$12.2 Million</b> |
| Presidential General Run-off Election DEC 3, 2024    | <b>\$5.6 Million</b>  |

**Mr. Johnson** inquired about the comment made during public comment stating the budget of Cobb County to run elections is 5 Million total.

**Director Williams** responded that she believes Cobb Co. fiscal year is different, but she will reach out to ask the question.

**Mr. Gilstrap** reported on the activities in the Information Systems (Elections Division):  
**March 12<sup>th</sup> Presidential Preference Primary Election:**

- Conducted and completed Logic and accuracy on voting equipment for the March 12<sup>th</sup> Presidential Preference Primary Election, provided technical support during Advance Voting and Election Day, and successfully tabulated and reported the election results that were certified on March 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Voting Equipment Inspection:** Received all voting equipment that was used in the Presidential Preference Primary Election. Conducted and completed a physical inspection on all voting equipment received to make sure that any physical damage to the voting equipment was fixed or replaced.

**May 21<sup>st</sup> General Primary Election:**

- **Training** – The Information Systems staff completed voting equipment which will be used in Advance Voting Training from April 8<sup>th</sup> – April 26<sup>th</sup>. After completion, the equipment was staged for logistics to deliver to the training sites. The delivery date is set for April 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Chair Perkins-Hooker** asked did the DRE submit all required election records to the Secretary of State's office (SOS). **Madam Chair** asked did the state Certify those results.

**Mr. Ross** responded yes.

**Mrs. Glenn** reported on the activities of the Voter Registration Division:  
The primary activities the VR staff worked on in March:

- Audited street issues
- Conducted redistricting changes in GARViS, researching street issues,

- processed all applications held during the period received after cut-off of the voter registration deadline Presidential Preference Primary (PPP)
- Registration staff continue processing all items on the county’s GARVIS (Georgia Registered Voter Information System) dashboard and auditing and updating the voter roll

| <b>REGISTRATION STATISTICS:</b>  |  |                |                                |
|--|--|----------------|--------------------------------|
| March 1, 2024  |  | March 31, 2024 |                                |
| VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS RECEIVED   |  | 11,737         |                                |
| ACTIVE VOTERS  |  | 735,077        |                                |
| INACTIVE VOTERS  |  | 135,761        |                                |
| TOTAL OF REGISTERED VOTERS   |  | 870,838        |                                |
| APPLICATIONS TO BE PROCESSED   |  | 6,902          |                                |
| NEW REGISTRATIONS TO FULTON COUNTY   |  | 4,256          |                                |
| TRANSFERS TO FULTON COUNTY   |  | 7,247          |                                |
| TRANSFERS FROM FULTON COUNTY   |  | 733            |                                |
| REMOVALS FROM FULTON COUNTY  |  | 588            |                                |
| <b>FRONT DESK OPERATIONS</b>   |  |                |                                |
| March 1, 2024  |  | March 31, 2024 |                                |
| Reason for Visiting Voter Registration   |  |                | Total Number of Yellow Tickets |
| CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION  |  |                | 6                              |
| TEMPORARY VOTER ID CARD – APPLICATIONS   |  |                | 24                             |
| REGISTER TO VOTE – WALK-INS  |  |                | 245                            |
| PRECINCT CARD REQUESTS   |  |                | 46                             |
| VOTER STATUS ISSUES (CANCELLATION, INACTIVE, ETC.)   |  |                | 15                             |
| 3 <sup>RD</sup> PARTY/VOTER DRIVES (APPLICATIONS)  |  |                | 5                              |
| LETTER RESPONSE  |  |                | 0                              |
| OUT OF COUNTY / OUT OF STATE INQUIRIES   |  |                | 0                              |
| VOTER LIST/STATS   |  |                | 0                              |
| OTHER – RANGES FROM VOTERS WANTING TO CHALLENGE OTHER VOTERS, DROPPING OFF THEIR ABSENTEE BALLOT/APPLICATION, OR GENERAL QUESTIONS |  |                | 132                            |
| <b>TOTAL:</b>  |  |                | <b>473</b>                     |
| <b>List Maintenance Update</b>   |  |                |                                |
| 68 Felon Challenge Letters mailed.   |  |                |                                |
| REIF – Reporting Elections Systems Issue Form  |  |                |                                |

**Ms. Adams** asked did any of the removals listed come from ERIC.

**Mrs. Glenn** responded yes, but there are other sources that provide information for removal. Such as: Department of Driver Services (DDS), Vital Records, Department of Correction, ERIC, and more.

**Chair Perkins-Hooker** asked did the DRE received any data regarding Mr. Ferguson’s challenge last year.

**Mrs. Glenn** responded that she is not tracking Mr. Ferguson’s challenge because it was denied.

**Mrs. Glenn** highlighted a new program where the SOS has partnered with other states to help maintain all counties list maintenance.

**Mr. Henson** reported on the activities of the Supplies and Logistics Division:

- Completed pickup of all the Advance Voting equipment and supplies sent out for the March 12, 2024, Presidential Preference Primary.
- Delivered all Election Day Equipment for the March 12, 2024, Presidential Preference Primary.
- Completed pickup of all Election Day supplies and equipment used for the March 12, 2024, Presidential Preference Primary.
- The staff posted all required precinct change signage at the locations that had precinct changes for the March 12, 2024, PPP.
- All the signs that were posted at locations with a precinct change were picked up and returned to the warehouse.
- All reconciliation duties were completed for the March 12, 2024, Presidential Preference Primary. These duties included verifying that all the equipment and supplies had been returned to the Election Hub and preparing election items for retention.

In preparation for the upcoming May 21, 2024, General Primary the Supply and Logistics Division worked on the following.

- Emptied all supply boxes and bags used in the previous election and sorted them into the correct location.
- Completed an inventory of the on-hand supplies at the Elections Hub.
- Created a supply order for all the needed supplies for the upcoming May 21, 2024, election.
- The staff began preparing the supplies that will be used in the upcoming May 21, 2024, election.
- Contacted and visited potential Advance Voting and Election Day polling locations to confirm if the site could be used as a polling location.
- Completed a review of the preparation and procedures used during the March 12, 2024, Presidential Preference Primary and implemented changes were needed

| <b>SUPPLY &amp; INVENTORY STATISTICS</b> |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Election Day Polling Locations</b>    | 179 locations had Equipment Delivered |
| <b>Election Day Polling Locations</b>    | 179 locations had Equipment Retrieved |
| <b>Advance Voting Polling Locations</b>  | 40 locations had Equipment Retrieved  |



**Ms. Little** reported on the activities of Voter Education and Outreach (Administration Division):

- Focused on outreach to senior centers, high schools, libraries, and recreation centers
- Contacted contacting the county's colleges and universities to schedule outreach events on all the campuses and promote the early voting outreach schedule
- 
- Focused on collateral material for the 2024 election cycle for outreach events
- Conducted Deputy Registrar Training for all new staff members and offering training to the public
- conducted training for the Risk Limiting Audit and helped coordinate the audit activities
- Participated in legislative meetings as needed to discuss all bills introduced that impact the elections department and attends committee meetings to listen to the hearings on all election bills

| <b>VOTER EDUCATION ACTIVITIES</b> |                     |                    |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Activity                          | Total for the Month | Year Total         |
| Deputy Registrar Training         | 107                 | Total active = 595 |
| Voter Registration                | 204                 | 462                |
| Poll Worker Recruitment           | 7                   | 198                |
| Voter Identification Cards        | 5                   | 23                 |
| Outreach Events                   | 68                  | 179                |
| Absentee Application              | 120                 | 431                |
| Deputy Registrar Events           | 10                  | 28                 |
| Connections for VEO.              | 90                  | 515                |
| Event Interactions                | 3568                | 9010               |
| Media Inquiries                   | 7                   | 25                 |

## **#6- UPDATE ON ADVANCE VOTING LOCATIONS FOR THE MAY 21<sup>ST</sup>, GENERAL PRIMARY ELECTION**

**Director Williams** reported:

- Dates- April 29-May 17
- Hours- Mon- Friday 9am-7pm, Sat-9am-5pm and Sun-12pm-5pm
- No voting on May 12, 2024 (Mother's Day)
- **36** Advance Voting locations
- **4** Office Location
- **8** Drop boxes
- Dorothy Benson Senior Center removed, and Heritage Hall Sandy Springs replaced that location.
- No additional changes

## NEW BUSINESS

### #7- REVIEW PROVISIONS AND IMPACT OF NEW LEGISLATION

#### HB 1312

Sets a Special Primary to be held on the third Tuesday of June in 2025 for Public Service Commissioner (PSC) Districts 2 and 3. The winners of the Primary (or Primary Runoff if needed) will move on to a Special General Election in November 2025 concurrent with Municipal Elections. (EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024)

**Impact:**

- 2025 County-Wide Election budget to be drafted
- Municipal Elections held in conjunction with PSC will be free of charge for Municipalities

#### HB 974

As of July 1, 2024, a new watermark will be required on all security paper used to print ballots. The supplemental fiscal year 2024 budget includes funds to implement the watermark, but counties will continue to purchase ballot paper. There has been no mention of what counties will do with any unused security paper after July 1, 2024

Absentee ballots must be scanned at 600 DPI resolution, or the highest resolution possible by the certified voting system.

Ballots generated by the BMD's must be scanned at least 200 DPI, and all ballot images must be posted by the second Friday following the primary or election on a system provided by the Secretary of State.

Enhanced changes to audits – reduce the “risk limit” to 5% by 2028. The contests to be audited must include the race at the top of the ballot and one additional state-wide race. The choice of this race will be made by a five-member panel (Governor, Lt. Governor, Speaker of the House, Minority Leader of the House, Minority Leader of the Senate). This does not preclude an election superintendent from auditing additional races or ballots as they see fit.

Establishes a pilot program for auditing paper ballot images using optical character recognition technology (OCR) or other technology that shall verify the human readable text on the ballot rather than any machine-readable code.  
(EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024)

**Impact:**

- Waiting information from Dominion to advise if there will be a ballot paper cost increase
- SOS ballot image program  
[Ballot Image | Georgia Secretary of State \(ga.gov\)](https://sos.ga.gov/ballot-image)
- Waiting SOS directives regarding Risk Limiting Audit protocols

#### HB 1207

Any person employed or retained by a county election superintendent to undertake any election related duties arising from this chapter shall be a citizen of the United States.

Allows for the reopening of qualifying if no one qualifies during the week of qualifying for the General Primary and Non-Partisan Election.

The Election Superintendent shall allow for a candidate to inspect ballot proofs for accuracy before they approve the proofs. The proof may be emailed to the candidate or the candidate may inspect them in person at the election superintendent's office, but the superintendent has the sole discretion on how the proofs will be made available for review. The candidate shall have 24 hours for such inspection. The bill outlines what procedure will be followed if the candidate finds an error. THIS PART OF THE BILL GOES IN FORCE ON JANUARY 1, 2025.

Changes the "250 rule" for required number of voting booths during the General Election. The election superintendent may take the number of voters who have voted early into account to determine how many voting booths to send to the precinct. Code 21-2-263 on precincts where long lines develop still applies if there is a one hour wait time to vote.

Revises and clarifies what poll watchers are allowed to observe in polling places, tabulation centers, and ballot processing locations.

Clarifies who is protected by 21-2-566 concerning threats of violence against poll officers by adding election officials and poll watchers to the code. This would include all election workers and poll watchers in protection.  
(UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024)

**Impact:**

- Standard Operation Procedures for Qualifying to be revised
  - Standard Operation Procedures for Ballot Proofing to be revised
  - Poll Watcher Guidelines distributed to political parties and poll workers to be revised and reviewed by Legal
- 

**SB 189**

Removes the Secretary of State as an ex-officio member of the State Election Board.  
(EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024)

Contains code that bans certain relationships someone that works in elections may have with businesses that deal with tabulating, auditing, processing, or scanning of ballots. (EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024)

If a presidential candidate has gained access to the ballot in at least 20 states, that candidate may qualify for president and have ballot access to the General Election ballot in Georgia. (EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024)

Mailing address for those who have no address shall be the registrar's office of the county where they reside. Adds rules concerning change of residency and voter registration status when a voter registers to vote in another jurisdiction. (EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2025)

Adds criteria for probable cause to uphold a voter challenge. However, makes it clear that there must be additional evidence if presence on the NCOA database is the sole evidence supporting the challenge. Challenges within 45 days of a primary, election, or runoff shall be postponed until after certification of the primary, election or runoff. Challenges during a primary or General Election shall carry on through any ensuing runoff. (EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024)

Allows for hand-marked paper ballots in a county election with less than 5,000 registered voters. The county must petition the State Election Board for permission to conduct the election in this manner, and the election must be a special election. (EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2025)

"The official tabulation count of any ballot scanner shall be based upon the text portion or the machine mark, provided that such mark clearly denotes the elector's selection and does not use a QR code, bar code, or similar coding, of such ballots and not any machine coding that may be printed on such ballots." (There has been no official discussion on how this will be implemented) (EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026)

Requires that all Absentee by Mail ballots that were accepted as of the day prior to the election to be tabulated and the results reported to the Secretary of State no later than 8:00 PM on Election Day or one hour following the close of the polls. (EFFECTIVE JULY 8, 2024)

Adds chain of custody requirements for absentee ballots that were taken from HB 17. (EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2025)

Ballots cast by advance voting must be tabulated and the results reported to the Secretary of State before 8:00 PM or one hour following the closing of the polls. (EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024)

Allows for individuals to request 600 DPI scans of ballots under the Open Records code sections following the final certification of an election and delivery of the election materials to the Clerk of Superior Court. The requesting party will be allowed to witness any scanning of the ballots, but under no circumstances shall they be allowed to touch the ballots. This temporarily removes the court ordered seal of the election material sent to the Clerk of Court to allow election officials to handle the ballots. (EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2025)

Changes the dates by when special elections to fill vacancies may be called so that they may be held in conjunction with and on the same ballot as the PPP, General Primary or General Election. (EFFECTIVE AT SIGNATURE OF GOVERNOR)

**Impact:**

- Standard Operation Procedures for Absentee to be revised
  - Standard Operation Procedures for Registration - Voter Challenges to be revised
  - Awaiting SOS directives regarding voting equipment in reference to QR codes
  - Standard Operation Procedures for Election Night Reporting to be revised
  - Standard Operation Procedures for Elections to be revised
- 

**SB 212** Removes the Probate Judge from election responsibility. All counties currently with the probate judge as election superintendent must establish a board of elections. This must be done prior to December 15, 2024, unless a county is in the process of establishing a board by local legislation and the board takes office prior to January 1, 2025.

No Impact

---

**SB 368** Government Transparency and Campaign Finance; foreign nationals from contributing to candidates or campaign committees; prohibit.

No Impact

---

**Mrs. Crawford** asked did the Governor signed any of these bills.

**Ms. Little** responded no, the governor has until May 7, 2024, to sign these bills.

**Chairperson Perkins-Hooker** reiterated that there will be a substantial cost impact in November.

## **#8- REVIEW OF PROCESS FOR RESPONDING TO POLL WATCHER OBSERVER OBSERVATIONS AND COMMENTS**

**Chairperson Perkins-Hooker** provided an overview of this item, she received observation information from Commissioner Thorne from a poll watcher's observations. **Madam Chair** mentioned commenting on those observations are not allowed. **Madam Chair** asked the BRE if they would like to establish a different policy than what existed before.

**Ms. Adams** asked if a poll watcher has concerns about the process, who receives that information.

**Chairperson Perkins-Hooker** stated that the process is to submit observations to the SOS not to Commissioners. The Board of Commissioners (BOC) are not involved in elections. Legislative intent was to prevent the election process from being political. They created the BRE decades ago to delegate oversight to the BRE. When it comes from Commissioners, it is an intrusion into the process and it gives the comments more weight than they deserve.

**Mr. Johnson** reiterated the sentiments of the **Madam Chair** that formal complaints should be sent to the SOS.

**Director Williams** added that political parties have provided feedback to her directly, but if they wish to escalate the complaint that submission should be sent to the SOS.

**Add-Ons**

**#9- REVIEW OF EMERGENCY POLLING PLACE CHANGES**

**Director Williams** mentioned these emergency changes will be effective for the May 21, 2024, Elections.

PURSUANT TO OCGA § 21-2-265 THE FOLLOWING POLLING LOCATION CHANGE HAS BEEN RENDERED AN EMERGENCY MOVE BY THE FULTON COUNTY REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS SUPERINTENDENT. NOTIFICATION OF THE POLLING LOCATION CHANGE WILL FOR FORWARDED VIA POSTAL MAIL TO ALL AFFECTED VOTERS.

|                     |       |  |   |  |   |   |                    |      |      |     |   |         |     |
|---------------------|-------|--|---|--|---|---|--------------------|------|------|-----|---|---------|-----|
| SS01<br>SS01A       | 6.24  | Life Center<br>Ministries                | 2690 Mt.<br>Vernon Road                       | Facility<br>Declined<br>Usage                      | Johns Creek<br>Environmental<br>Campus  | 8100 Holcomb<br>Bridge Road             | RW21 &<br>RW21A    | 4453 | 7596 | 3.5 | 1 | 5.21.24 | EMG |
| SC11A               | 7.24  | McNair<br>Middle<br>School               | 2800 Burdett<br>Road                          | Promixity to<br>Voter<br>Residence                 | Creel Park  | 2775 Creel<br>Park                      | SC11B &<br>SC29A/C | 1511 | 5911 | 3.5 | 5 | 5.21.24 | EMG |
| 04J                 | 8.24  | Clark<br>Atlanta<br>University           | 620 Atlanta<br>Student<br>Movement<br>Blvd SW | Facility<br>Declined<br>Usage                      | Friendship<br>Baptist Church  | 80 Walnut<br>Street SW                  | 03T                | 1019 | 2401 | 0.3 | 4 | 5.21.24 | EMG |
| 04B<br>04W          | 9.24  | Clark<br>Atlanta<br>University           | 620 Atlanta<br>Student<br>Movement<br>Blvd SW | Facility<br>Declined<br>Usage                      | Flipper Temple<br>AME Church  | 850 Atlanta<br>Student<br>Movement Blvd | n/a                | 4265 | 4265 | 0.5 | 4 | 5.21.24 | EMG |
| 07A1<br>07D1<br>07M | 10.24 | Peachtree<br>Road<br>United<br>Methodist | 3180<br>Peachtree<br>Road NE                  | Change to<br>larger space<br>on facility<br>campus | Don & Mary<br>Ellen Harp<br>Student Center<br>@ Peachtree<br>Road United<br>Methodist | 3209<br>Mathieson<br>Place NE           | n/a                | 8155 | n/a  | 0.3 | 3 | 5.21.24 | EMG |

**Chairperson Perkins-Hooker** asked when the precinct card will be mailed.

**Mrs. Glenn** answered on April 15<sup>th</sup> precinct cards will be ordered.

**Director Williams** mentioned any changes of polling place changes must be advertised and a 4x4 sign must be present to display the change.

## #10- RATIFIED THE FACILITY USAGE INTERGOVERNMENT AGREEMENT (IGA) FOR THE MAY 21<sup>ST</sup>, GENERAL PRIMARY ELECTION

➤ Fulton County School Board

**Chair Perkins-Hooker** entertained a motion to approve the signing of the IGA for facility usage for elections. The motion was made by **Mrs. Crawford** and was seconded by **Vice-Chair Heekin** and carried by a vote of 5-0.

## #11- DISCUSSION ON ELECTION DOCUMENTS

**Ms. Adams** listed items she believed to be discrepancies:

1. No poll tapes were provided. Without poll tapes there is no way with which a reconciliation could have been performed as required by Georgia statute. The law requires reference to the Protective Counter number on the poll tapes and calculation of how many ballots were cast according to the Recap Sheets and the number of electors who checked in at each polling location.
2. The Recap sheets provided were computer generated and not handwritten. These had to have been created after the election and therefore signed by the poll manager after the election. The real time forms hand filled out daily and signed in the polling locations are correct forms that I was requesting and are legally the Recap sheets, these are manufactured after the fact.
3. The Recap sheets also show signs that they were automatically calculated- and not representative of a hand-written original document:

**Director Williams** responded to the electronic recap sheets, those records are recorded daily, and the DRE were permitted to record their daily counts electronically.

**Ms. Adams** asserted that recaps looks like they were completed post-election.

**Director Williams** responded that she does not know how **Ms. Adams** came to that conclusion that it was done post-election and if she would clarify how she surmised that.

**Ms. Adams** announced the documents that she did not receive. **Ms. Adams** outlined that despite what she was told off mic by the **Madam Chair** that the policy is a policy board and not directly responsible for conducting the elections as the Elections Superintendent, she believes the Board was not created to give the superintendent authority to the Director.

**Chairperson Perkins-Hooker** requested that **Ms. Brumbaugh** as attorney to the BRE to review this situation and provide an opinion on whether the BRE has the authority to designate the Election Director to serve as the superintendent of elections.

**Ms. Brumbaugh** highlighted the roles of the BRE and complying with the Open Meeting Acts.

## #12- COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIRPERSON PATRISE PERKINS-HOOKER

**Chairperson Patrise Perkins-Hooker's** statement to the BRE is provided as an attachment to the minutes. During her statement, **Madam Chair** announced her resignation effective upon the new board chair being appointed by the BOC and sworn-in.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

**Chair Perkins-Hooker** entertained a motion to close the regular session and convene into executive session to discuss litigation matters. The motion was made by **Ms. Adams**, seconded by **Mr. Johnson** and carried by a unanimous vote of 5-0.

After the Executive session, **Chair Perkins-Hooker** entertained a motion to reconvene from executive session. The motion was made by **Mrs. Crawford**, seconded by **Ms. Adams** and carried by a unanimous vote of 5-0.

#### [Resume Session:](#)

**Chair Perkins-Hooker** entertained a motion to conduct a challenge hearing for Ms. Patti Gill against Commissioner Khadijah Abdur-Rahman on April 18, 2024, at 11am. The motion was made by **Mrs. Crawford**, seconded by **Vice-Chair Heekin** and carried by a unanimous vote of 5-0.

### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, **Chair Perkins-Hooker** entertained a motion to adjourn. **Mr. Johnson** moved to adjourn the meeting. **Mrs. Crawford** seconded the motion. There being no further business on the agenda, the Board adjourned the meeting at 1:03 p.m.

The meeting adjourned.



Prepared by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Mariska Bodison**, Board Secretary