

**TIFT COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS & REGISTRATION
BOARD MEETING
Monday – April 26, 2021**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Robinson, Kimbrough, McKee, Paulk.

OFFICE STAFF PRESENT: Dollison, Holley

ATTENDEES PRESENT:

SUPERINTENDENT- McKee called the meeting to order.

MINUTES:

Each Board Member read and signed the minutes; Kimbrough made a motion to approve the minutes; Robinson seconded; all of the members agreed and the minutes were approved and accepted.

BUDGET:

The Board was briefed by Dollison on the current budget; Dollison stated that the budget was good standing even though there were line items that we went over in. Paulk made the motion to accept the budget; seconded by Kimbrough; all approved, budget accepted.

GENERAL AGENDA ITEMS:

Budget Review; The Poll worker increase was approved. I pleaded the Board's case for an increase however, after reviewing surrounding counties, our Board pay is in line and on some case above, so at this time it will remain the same.

Felon List; Holley reported that we have 94 possible felons and no challenges.

Amos Kimbrough Swearing in Documents; Dollison presented Kimbrough with his documents from SOS. Kimbrough was sworn in April 15th by Probate Judge Suzanne Carter Johnson.

SB 202 SOS First Round of FAQ's; See attachment. A discussion was had about the main take away from the new bill.

SEB Case No. 2016-16; Dollison stated that McKee spoke with Frances Watson, Lead Investigator about this. She stated it would be dismissed and she will attend the webinar to represent Tift County. This case involved Justin Lucas when he was running for County Commissioner. He had a voter registration drive with food and drinks

Regional Meeting; Dollison stated we have a regional meeting in Valdosta on May 11th to discuss the SB 202 new voting law and redistricting.

Possible Double Voter; SOS ran a report for all counties for the June Primary and August Runoff. We had one voter that after investigation was determined to be an administrative error. The documents for both Elections have been filed with the Clerk of Court and we were advised by our County Attorney that we have to have a court order to access the records.

SOS Request for Information- Investigation; We have the absentee ballot application for this voter for November and January. We were advised by our County Attorney that we can produce what we have in the office. The same condition applies for this request as well. SOS will have to request a court order to access the other documents.

Charging Schedule; Dollison informed the Board that the Poll Pads, the ICP's and the UPS's have been charged according the schedule from Dominion. We have started on the ICX's and over 70% completed. In addition, we are charging the ICX's that have not been used.

Fort Orange Press; Dollison stated that Kristi Royston, former Election Official for Gwinnett County will be here for our May 24th Board meeting to discuss absentee mail ballots. This company does the same thing as Runbeck.

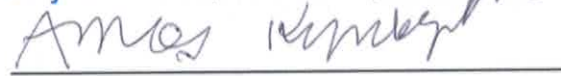
With no further business Paulk made a motion to adjourn; and Kimbrough seconded.

Meeting Adjourned

Minutes prepared by:



Leila E. Dollison, Election Supervisor




Amos Kimbrough, 2020 Superintendent



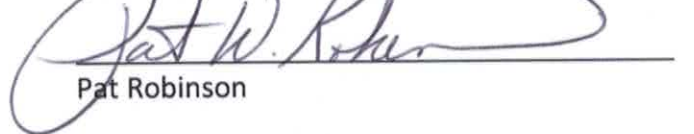
Thad Paulk



Stephanie C. McKee



Perry Taylor



Pat Robinson

First Round of FAQs on SB 202

These answers below in red are based on initial evaluation of SB 202. These are not final legal opinions. In addition, the SEB may enact rules to clarify parts of the law. These answers represent our best evaluations at this time. We will continue to evaluate the law, work with the SEB on Rules, inform you of changes, and provide training on specifics as needed.

Chris Harvey

1. Is the absentee application portal still allowed since the application must be signed?
-No, not in its current form. We might be able to modify it to allow an upload of an application, but as the new law takes effect, the existing portal will not be sufficient to request an absentee ballot.
2. Does the drop box at the Main office have to be inside the building? I only see that those at advance voting locations must be inside.
-Yes, it appears that the intent of the law is that all ballot drop boxes be indoors.
3. Will the ballots order from a vendor i.e. Tattnall be printed on a security paper any differently in the past? We are wondering this because of budgeting.
-They will need to be printed on security paper which the vendors can get/be certified by Dominion to produce.
4. The Attorney General will establish a hotline for election complaints and have the authority to review each complaint. How will this new law impact what the State Elections Board currently does? Will these complaints be handled by GBI agents instead of SOS investigators? Is it possible the SOS and the AG office will investigate the same complaint?
-I believe that the AG Office will forward those complaints to the SOS Investigations, however, the AG would always have authority to ask the GBI to investigate if he chose to do that.

5. What are the hours for advanced voting? Is 9 to 5 the minimum? If we normally vote 8 to 6, do we have to cut back to 9 to 5 Monday through Friday? It's a little confusing.
-Advance voting hours are a minimum of 9-5 on weekdays and the two mandatory Saturdays. Counties may extend the hours as far as 7 AM-7 PM on those days. If a county chooses to have advance voting on one of the optional Sundays, the county can choose the hours it is open but it cannot be greater than 7 AM-7 PM.
6. We can have self-service water coolers for those waiting in line, just not other beverages?
-"This Code section shall not be construed to prohibit...making available self-service **water** from an unattended receptor to an elector waiting in line to vote." (emphasis added)
7. Section 25 (a)(1)(A) mentions a deadline for absentee applications of 11 days prior to an election. Does this mean that if we receive an absentee application AFTER the 11-days-before-deadline we are to reject it and not send a ballot?
-Yes
8. I am trying to figure out how the new Absentee Ballot Envelopes will work. The DL#, SS# and DOB shall be hidden from view when the envelope is sealed. How will we be able to verify this info without opening it or if there is an extra flap to cover it up-would it not tear part of the required information?
-We are having to redesign the outer envelope. I am getting samples from other jurisdictions that have similar requirements. We will keep you updated.
9. Does the certified absentee voters list have to be written out by hand on a duplicate form as each voter votes or can it be printed from a report from eNet? Also, would it have to be by precinct?
-It does NOT have to be handwritten (can come from an ENET report) but it does have to list them for each precinct. The current absentee voter file that is automatically created each day should suffice for this requirement.

10. I'm assuming required information on the ballot envelope is the signature, DOB, and DL#/ID#/SSN. If it is missing ANY of those 3 things, we are to reject and send an affidavit...?

-Signature is required (though not required to be compared) and date of birth are required of everyone. A DL#/ID# is required if a voter has either. If the voter doesn't have either a DL#/ID#, the last four of SSN are required. If the voter has no SSN, they must provide HAVA ID with the ballot (and we're working on the process to check for that without accessing the ballot.)