

**SUMNER COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES  
JULY 13, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.**

**Members present:** Chairman M. Allen Ehmling; Secretary Patricia D. Collins, Commissioner J. Mike Fussell and Commissioner Denise D. Shepherd. Also present: Lori D. Atchley Administrator of Elections and Senior Election Deputy Gay Sutley. The meeting convened at 4:00 p.m. and a quorum was present.

**I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chairman M. Allen Ehmling with a motion by Commissioner J. Michael Fussell and seconded by Commissioner Patricia D. Collins and the motion passed 4 - 0.

**II. APPROVE AGENDA**

The Agenda was approved with a motion by Commissioner J. Michael Fussell, seconded by Commissioner Patricia D. Collins, and the motion passed 4 - 0.

**III. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. APPROVE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING MINUTES**

Motion by Commissioner J. Michael Fussell seconded by Commissioner Patricia D. Collins to approve the minutes for the June 8, 2021 meeting and the motion passed 4 - 0.

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. INSPECTION – APPEAL PROCESSED VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS**

Eight appeals were presented to the Election Commission. The voters registering to vote checked “yes” to the “have you been convicted of a felony?” question. An appeal form was sent to each applicant. The applicants returned the appeal form and responded that the box was inadvertently marked and that they were not in fact a felon.

Commissioners present reviewed four appeals, and a motion was made by Commissioner J. Michael Fussell and seconded by Commissioner Patricia D. Collins individually to accept the four applications as valid and to process the voter registration applications and the four motions passed 4 – 0 for each applicant.

Commissioner Jeffery B. Hulsey arrived at 4:12 p.m.

The five commissioners present reviewed four additional appeals, and a motion was made by Commissioner J. Michael Fussell and seconded by Commissioner Jeffery B. Hulsey to accept two of the applications as valid and the motion passed 5 - 0; motion by Commissioner J. Michael Fussell and seconded by Commissioner Patricia D. Collins to accept one of the appeals and the motion passed 5 - 0; motion by Commissioner J. Michael Fussell and seconded by Commissioner Denise D. Shepherd to accept one application and the motion passed 5 - 0 and to process the voter registration applications for each applicant.

## **B. INSPECTION – NEWLY PROCESSED VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS**

Commissioners inspected 76 voter registration applications out of 751 new registration applications submitted with no discrepancies noted and all commissioners present signed the report to be submitted to the State Election Office.

## **C. REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATOR**

### **- Budget 2021 – 2022 Update**

AOE provided 2021 – 2022 Budget Update. The County Commission voted to finalize the budget on June 21, 2021. The Sumner County Election Commission continues to struggle with receiving funding for part time staff, a new employee and overtime compensation. Commissioner J. Michael Fussell and Chairman M. Allen Ehmling recommended submitting a letter to the Budget Committee detailing the SCEC situation and position and financial implications of lack of funding the SCEC budget.

### **- Convenient Voting Centers Update**

Convenient Vote Center application was submitted to the Coordinator of Elections on June 7, 2021. AOE is to have a telephone conference with the Coordinator on Thursday, June 15 at 10:00 a.m. AOE stated that AAOE had spoken to Rutherford County AOE and Wilson County AOE's and both recommended reducing the number of Convenient Voting Locations. Motion by Commissioner J. Michael Fussell seconded by Commissioner Jeffery B. Hulsey to reduce the number of Convenient Vote Centers from 26 locations to 20 locations. The motion passed 5 – 0.


- **37.1 M Sumner Grant & Voting Machines**  
Sumner County is receiving \$37.1 million dollars in grant money. AOE requested \$1.5 million for new voting machines with VVPAT. SCEC will continue to pursue. AOE has been working with the Comptroller's office to comply with grant specifications.

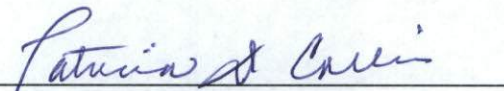
**V. REPORT FROM ELECTION COMMISSIONERS**

- A. Chairman M. Allen Ehmling had no report.
- B. Commissioner Patricia D. Collins inquired as to the 2021 TACEO meeting. AOE stated the date for a telephone call meeting had been set for September 22, 2021; however according to the State there may be limited participation. AOE to advise as soon as information is received.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Commissioner J. Michael Fussell and seconded by Commissioner Jeffery B. Hulseley to adjourn the meeting, and the motion passed 5 - 0. The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

  
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M. Allen Ehmling, Chairman

  
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Patricia D. Collins, Secretary

  
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Lori D. Atchley, Administrator of Elections