

**SUMNER COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION  
SPECIAL CALL MEETING MINUTES  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 4, 2024, 10:00 a.m.**

**Members present:** Acting Chairman J. Michael Fussell; Secretary Denise D. Shepherd; Commissioner Patricia D. Collins; and Commissioner Jeffery B. Hulsey. Also present: Lori D. Atchley, Administrator of Elections (AOE) and Annette P. Haw, Assistant Administrator of Elections (AAOE).

**I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Acting Chairman Fussell.

**II. APPROVE AGENDA**

The agenda was approved with a motion by Commissioner Hulsey, seconded by Commissioner Collins, and the motion passed 4 – 0.

**III. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. DETERMINE ELECTION DAY FOR CITY OF HENDERSONVILLE SALES TAX REFERENDUM.**

AOE recommended that the SCEC schedule the City of Hendersonville Sales Tax Referendum in conjunction with the March 5, 2024, PPP. Motion by Commissioner Hulsey, seconded by Commissioner Collins to set the Hendersonville referendum on the March 5, 2024 ballot, and the motion passed 4-0. AOE stated that she reached out to Law Director Sitler for confirmation that the county did not intend to pursue the referendum county wide after the December 24, 2023, deadline and no response was received.

**B. APPROVE MARCH 5, 2024 CANDIDATE LIST**

All Commissioners were provided a candidate list in advance to review. Motion by Commissioner Hulsey, seconded by Commissioner Collins to approve the Candidate List and the motion passed 4 – 0.

### **C. FACILITY UPDATE**

As of the meeting time, no ruling has been made by Chancellor Oliver regarding the final disposition of the legal matter to resolve the SCEC combined (equipment and staff) location.

### **D. MARCH 5, 2024 FUNDING REQUIREMENTS AT TWO LOCATIONS**

Since the court has not yet ruled, SCEC Attorney Tom Lee contacted SCC Attorney Ross Pepper regarding funding the permanent telephone line, internet line and security system for 1019 Union School Road in the amount of \$34,247.75 in order to properly administer the March 5, 2024 PPP election. AOE stated that the SCEC was notified on January 2, 2024 that the item concerning the requested funds was placed on the budget committee agenda for January 8, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. as the last agenda item. AOE stated that due to the ongoing legal matter and discussions between the respective parties' attorneys, it was not known that an appropriation request was necessary until an email was received from the finance department that the funding matter was on the budget committee agenda for January 8, 2024. AAOE Haw submitted the appropriation to the finance department promptly the next day, January 3, 2024 upon receipt of the notification from the finance department that no appropriation request had been made. The finance department responded that the request was not timely; however, AOE and AAOE believe that since the item was included on the agenda, the appropriation request should be considered with the discussion. AOE stated that Attorney Tom Lee, Chairman Allen Ehmling and herself would be attending. AOE stated that if the funding request was denied, the funding matter, per Attorney Lee, would be submitted to the court for consideration.

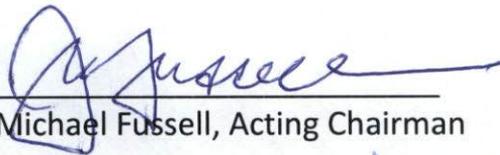
### **V. REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATOR OF ELECTIONS**

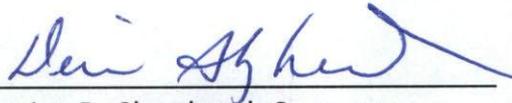
#### **A. OTHER**

No report.

### **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Commissioner Hulse, seconded by Commissioner Collins to adjourn the meeting, and the motion passed 4 - 0. The meeting was adjourned at 10:11 a.m.

  
J. Michael Fussell, Acting Chairman

  
Denise D. Shepherd, Secretary

  
Lori D. Atchley, Administrator of Elections

ABBREVIATION LEGEND:

- SCEC: Sumner County Election Commission
- AOE: Administrator of Elections
- AAOE: Assistant Administrator of Elections
- SCC: Sumner County Commission
- PPP: Presidential Preference Primary