

**SUMNER COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2023, 4:00 p.m.**

**Members present:** Chairman M. Allen Ehmling; Secretary Patricia D. Collins; Commissioner J. Michael Fussell; and Commissioner Denise D. Shepherd. Also present: Lori D. Atchley, Administrator of Elections and Annette P. Haw, Assistant Administrator of Elections. **Members absent:** Commissioner Jeffery B. Hulsey.

**I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chairman Ehmling with a motion by Commissioner Fussell, seconded by Commissioner Collins, and the motion passed 4 – 0.

**II. APPROVE AGENDA**

Commissioner Fussell made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Shepherd and the motion passed 4 – 0.

**III. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. APPROVE MINUTES**

- A motion to approve the April 11, 2023, Regular Meeting minutes was made by Commissioner Fussell, seconded by Commissioner Collins and the motion passed 3-0-1 (Chairman Ehmling abstained.)
- A motion to approve the April 11, 2023, Executive Session Meeting Minutes was made by Commissioner Fussell, seconded by Commissioner Shepherd, and the motion passed 3-0-1 (Chairman Ehmling abstained.)

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

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

There were no appeals.

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

- Commissioners inspected 52 voter registration applications out of 513 new applications with no discrepancies noted. Commissioners present signed the report to be submitted to the State Election Office.

## **C. REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATOR**

### **- FORMER TRC UPDATE**

- AOE advised the matter is still unresolved as a lawsuit has been filed.

### **- BUDGET UPDATE**

- AOE stated the Election Commission hearing before the Budget Committee was May 4, 2023. The Election Commission 2023 – 2024 budget timely submitted by the March 1, 2023 deadline imposed by Finance Director David Lawing was expected to be considered. The previous Election Commission year 2021 - 2022 budget was presented by the Finance Director according to his statement, upon the recommendation of Law Director Eric Sitler. The matter appears to be unresolved. AOE to confirm the next Election Commission Budget Committee meeting that was initially scheduled for May 16, 2023, at 5:30 p.m., but believed to be rescheduled for May 23, 2023, at the same time of 5:30 p.m. AOE to confirm the meeting date and report to the Election Commission.

### **- NEW VOTING MACHINE UPDATE**

- AOE reported machine deliveries had been delayed due to Vendor supplying new voting machines to counties with 2023 municipal elections and unanticipated Special Elections.

### **- ELECTION COMMISSION CHAIRMAN AND SECRETARY**

- Motion by Commissioner Fussell seconded by Commissioner Shepherd to reappoint M. Allen Ehmling as Chairman. The motion passed 3-0-1. Chairman Ehmling abstained. Motion by Commissioner Collins, seconded by Commissioner Fussell to appoint Commissioner Denise D. Shepherd as Secretary. The motion passed 3-0-1. Secretary Shepherd abstained.

### **- OTHER**

- No report.

**V. REPORT FROM ELECTION COMMISSIONERS**

**A. CHAIRMAN**

- No Report

**B. ELECTION COMMISSIONERS**

- Secretary Shepherd and Commissioner Collins had been in contact with Director of Schools Scott Langford and Jeff Yawn in regard to establishing a time for the Election Commission to fulfill the statutory high school registration requirements.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

- Motion by Commissioner Fussell, seconded by Commissioner Collins to adjourn the meeting and the motion passed 4 – 0. The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

  
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M. Allen Ehmling, Chairman

  
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Denise D. Shepherd, Secretary

  
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Lon D. Atchley, Administrator of Elections AOE