

**SUMNER COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION
SPECIAL CALL MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2025, 8:00 A.M.**

Members present: Acting Chairman J. Michael Fussell, Secretary Denise D. Shepherd, Commissioner Patricia D. Collins, Commissioner and Commissioner Jeffery B. Hulsey. **Member Absent:** M. Allen Ehmling. Also present: Lori D. Atchley, Administrator of Elections; Annette Haw, Assistant Administrator of Elections and SCEC Attorney Tom Lee.

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Acting Chairman Fussell. A quorum was present.

II. APPROVE AGENDA

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

A motion to suspend the Special Call Meeting to enter Executive Session was made by Commissioner Hulsey, seconded by Commissioner Collins and the motion passed 4 - 0. The Special Call Meeting was suspended at 8:00 a.m.

III. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The SCEC met with Attorney Tom Lee in Executive Session. Commissioner Hulsey made a motion to exit the Executive Session, seconded by Commissioner Collins and the motion passed 4 – 0. A motion was made by Commissioner Hulsey, seconded by Commissioner Fussell to reconvene the Special Call Meeting.

IV. The Special Call Meeting was reconvened at 8:49 a.m.

Commissioner Hulsey stated the following (verbatim):

I have two things to say before I make the motion.

First, we are doing important work. Tennessee Code Annotated Title 2, Chapter 12, gives the Election Commission the responsibility to promote the electoral process.

It's our job to enhance voting, to make it as free and fair as we're able.

It is the judgement of this Election Commission, and our staff, that the best way to do that is by implementing convenient vote centers in our rapidly growing county.

But there are those with political power in this county who are trying to stop us. They have a different agenda. They've tried to evict us from our facilities, they've held secret meetings, and now, they're denying us the funds we need to do our work.

That is why we are fighting in court on all of these fronts right now. We are fighting for the voters of our county. These fights take time and they take commitment. They will not be over quickly.

So, I move the following:

I move we press forward with our litigation. It is necessary for the voters of Sumner County, to whom we owe our only obligation.

I further move, that we empower our Administrator of Elections, and her staff, to take all necessary actions to ensure our elections of 2026 are safe and sound.

I finally move we take all other necessary steps to promote the electoral process in Sumner County, against all enemies of that process, and that we authorize our staff to take all necessary measures in the short- and long-term to accomplish this goal. That is my motion. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Collins, and the motion passed 4 – 0.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Commissioner Hulsey, seconded by Commissioner Collins to adjourn the meeting and the motion passed 4 – 0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 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
TCA: Tennessee Code Annotated

SCC: Sumner County Commission
SCM: Sumner County Mayor
CVC: Convenient Vote Center