

**SUMNER COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2022 4:00 p.m.**

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

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chairman Ehmling with a motion by Commissioner Hulse, seconded by Commissioner Collins, and the motion passed 5 – 0.

II. APPROVE AGENDA

The agenda was approved with a motion by Commissioner Fussell, seconded by Commissioner Hulse, and the motion passed 5 – 0.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. APPROVE MINUTES

Commissioner Shepherd made a motion to approve the August 25, 2022 Special Call Meeting Minutes, seconded by Commissioner Collins and the motion passed 4 - 0 - 1 with Commissioner Hulse abstaining.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. JEFF YAWN, SUMNER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Rescheduled until October 11, 2022.

B. INSPECTION – APPEAL PROCESSED VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS

There were three appeals presented to the Election Commission. The applicants (HG, HH and RW) when attempting to register to vote checked “Yes” to the “Have you been convicted of a felony?” declaration question. An appeal form was sent to each

applicant who returned the form as having inadvertently checked “Yes” to “Have you been convicted of a felony?” All Commissioners present reviewed the documentation presented. Motion by Commissioner Fussell, seconded by Commissioner Hulseby to find the registration applications of HG sufficient to allow them to properly register to vote. The motion passed 5 – 0. Motion by Commissioner Fussell, seconded by Commissioner Collins to find the registration applications of HH sufficient to allow them to properly register to vote. The motion passed 5 – 0. Motion by Commissioner Fussell, seconded by Commissioner Hulseby to find the registration applications of RW sufficient to allow them to properly register to vote. The motion passed 5 – 0.

C. INSPECTION – NEWLY PROCESSED VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS

Commissioners inspected 100 voter registration applications out of 997 new registration applications submitted with no discrepancies noted, and all Commissioners present signed the report to be submitted to the State Election Office.

D. REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATOR

- OTHER

An Alderman in Portland, Thomas Dillard, had submitted a “CERTIFICATE OF WRITE-IN CANDIDACY” for the office of Mayor in Portland. The City Attorney, John Bradley, had contacted AOE who explained “Qualified Candidate” versus “Write-In Candidate.” Likewise, AOE received a call from Mr. Dillard for the same point of clarification. A charter change in Portland in 2020 required a seated Alderman to resign upon qualifying for the office of Mayor. Alderman Dillard contended that he was not in fact “Qualified,” but rather “Certified.” At the Portland Commission meeting on September 12, 2022, discussion occurred regarding the matter. Alderman Dillard refused to resign. The City Attorney, John Bradley, was to confer with the Mayor Mike Callis and determine if court action was warranted regarding the matter. AOE received a request on September 19, 2022 by the City Attorney John Bradley and Mayoral Assistant, Teresa Keen for a copy of the “Certificate of Write-In Candidacy” submitted by Mr. Dillard. Both indicated that the matter would probably be brought before the court for resolution. AOE to advise Commissioners if court action is taken that involves the SCEC.

AOE advised that Commissioners needed to be prepared to finalize that the approved list for write-in candidate names at the October 11, 2022

meeting, and that the only alternative spelling of names that could be considered to be counted on election day were if the Commissioners voted to hold a meeting with proper notice to be held on Election Day, and a majority of Commissioners agreed on the name to be added to the approved name list. Otherwise, the list as agreed upon at the October 11, 2022 meeting would be the final and only list for consideration by the counting board.

V. REPORT FROM ELECTION COMMISSIONERS

A. CHAIRMAN

No report.

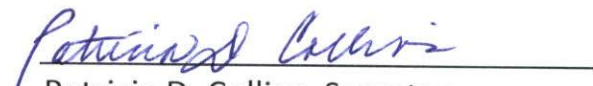
B. ELECTION COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Shepherd stated that she and Commissioner Collins had participated in the Anne Dallas Dudley conference call, and were going to pursue the program with the High Schools, as the program concluded March 31, 2023, as well as complete the high school registration requirements per TCA.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Commissioner Fussell, seconded by Commissioner Hulseley to adjourn the meeting, and the motion passed 5 - 0. The meeting adjourned at 4:56 p.m.


M. Allen Ehmling, Chairman


Patricia D. Collins, Secretary


Lori D. Atchley, Administrator of Elections