

**SUMNER COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JULY 9, 2024, 4:00 P.M.**

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

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

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

II. APPROVE AGENDA

Commissioner Fussell made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Hulsey and the motion passed 5 – 0.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

IV. APPROVE MINUTES

A motion by Commissioner Hulsey, seconded by Commissioner Collins to approve the June 12, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes and the motion passed 5 – 0.

A motion by Commissioner Collins, seconded by Commissioner Hulsey to approve the June 27, 2024, Special Call Meeting Minutes and the motion passed 5 – 0.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. INSPECTION – APPEAL PROCESSED VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATION.

There were two appeals.

JFC inadvertently marked “Yes” to “Have you been convicted of a felony” question. An appeal form was mailed to the voter who completed the form that they had not been convicted of a felony. After the Commissioners present reviewed the documentation, a motion was made by Commissioner Fussell,

seconded by Commissioner Hulseley to accept the voter registration application and appropriately register the voter to vote. The motion passed 5 – 0.

JPM inadvertently marked “Yes” to “Have you been convicted of a felony” question. An appeal form was mailed to the voter who completed the form that they had not been convicted of a felony. After the Commissioners present reviewed the documentation, a motion was made by Commissioner Fussell, seconded by Commissioner Collins to accept the voter registration application and appropriately register the voter to vote. The motion passed 5 – 0.

B. INSPECTION – NEWLY PROCESSED VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS

Commissioners inspected 103 voter registration applications out of 1,027 new registration applications with no discrepancies noted. Commissioners present signed the report to be submitted to the State Division of Elections.

C. REPORT FROM ADMINISTRATOR

- FACILITY UPDATE

AOE advised the SCEC continues to operate in two separate locations (1019 Union School Road and 355 N. Belvedere Dr). Attorney Tom Lee, as requested by Judge Oliver, has delivered a formal document submitted to Buerger Law, Jeffrey Moseley and Lee Ann Thompson – attorneys for SCM Isbell; Eric Sitler (Law Director) and Ross Pepper (SCC attorney) regarding SCECC space requirements. AOE understands that the SCC has appointed an ad hoc committee regarding the matter. AOE also stated that the 1019 building needs pest extermination and will coordinate with SCM.

- BUDGET UPDATE

AOE reported that the SCC budget committee arbitrarily reduced the SCEC 2024 – 2025 approved and submitted budget. AOE and AAOE attended one properly noticed meeting regarding the SCEC budget, and no additional meetings were scheduled. The Finance Department sent an email that budget appeals would be heard on July 15, 2024. AOE has submitted an appeal request to the Finance Department and AOE and AAOE will attend the appeal hearing, and request that the original SCEC budget approved and submitted be reinstated. Commissioners requested that Chairman Ehmling and AOE reach out to attorney Tom Lee to also attend the budget appeal hearing.

- **OTHER**

AOE advised SCEC that several candidates and campaigns made inquiries regarding Licensed Facility voting. AOE advised that licensed facility voting locations and times are not posted because, while the licensed facilities must be voted per TCA, they are privately owned and access to the facility and residents is based on each individual facility's policy.

VI. REPORT FROM ELECTION COMMISSIONERS

A. CHAIRMAN

Chairman Ehmling stated that he had spoken with SCEC attorney Tom Lee, and verified that the engagement letter between his firm, Nelson Mullins, and the SCEC was comprehensive in the scope of work regarding election interference, including the budget reduction.

B. ELECTION COMMISSIONERS

No Reports.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

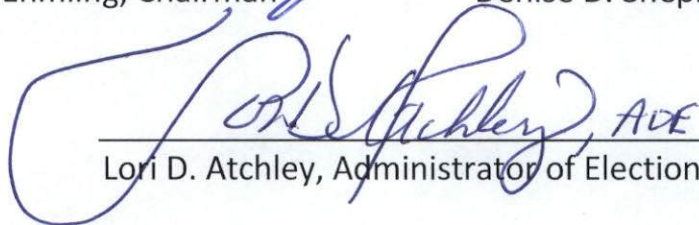
Motion by Commissioner Hulse, seconded by Commissioner Collins to adjourn the meeting and the motion passed 5 – 0. The meeting was adjourned at 4:57 p.m.



M. Allen Ehmling, 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
SCM: Sumner County Mayor