

Cherokee County Elections & Voter Registration

Meeting of the Board.

04.04.2022

Members Present: Alan Shinall, Cindy Castello, and Rachel Kinsey, Don Sams, and Mike Byrd.

Others Present: Anne Brumbaugh, Anne Dover, Tina Yeargin, Mike Mastowski, Jennifer Snyder, Debra Garrard, Deborah Davis, Chelle Brown, David Oles, Joan Housley, Lisa Jaqua, Barbara Kidder, Ann Embrey, Joveta Thrasher, Joe Edge, Laura Edge, Linda Parker, Paul Flexner, Rosanna Thompson, Rita Rohrssen, Mary Spangler, Chuck Cape, Peggy Gastright, Maggie Zwettler, Sheree Giardino, Nancy Dlasingame, Renea Oarksm Donna Presley, Bill Phillips, Cliff Hobbs, Jim Heminger, Jennifer Staper, Meagan Reece, Margaret King, Bill King, Kendra Brazell, Marya Callahan, Jennifer Snyder, Jusy, Karl Brecker

Proceedings:

- Call to order
 - Alan Shinall called the meeting to order 9:37 am
- Chairman's Remarks-
 - Alan Shinall read a statement regarding the integrity and defending the election process (see attached)
- Approval of Monthly Board Meeting Agenda
 - Mike Byrd made a motion to pass monthly board meeting agenda, Don Sames seconded. Passed 5-0
- Approval of Board Minutes from February 3rd, 2022
 - Cindy Castello made a motion to pass the March 14th, 2022, board minutes- Mike Byrd seconded. Passed 5-0.
- Reading- General Conduct of Public Meetings
 - Rachel Kinsey, Secretary
- Public Comments
 - #1 Barbara Kidder- Comments to board and members thanking them for being so helpful and working so hard on honest and fair elections. Noting we have a statewide reputation for being efficient, fair and honest.
 - #2 Deborah Davis- Handed out case law information to board members, wants all votes counted, concerned about ballot box stuffing, making sure votes count for their choice, it must be protected, wants a voice in elections, can't go back to 2020 to change anything, but wants to ensure what we do in the future is correct, gave examples of the 2020 election issues and data, wants problems fixed.
 - #3 Jennifer Snyder- Thanked the board for our work and is grateful to take part in the process. 2020 was a terrible election, destroyed by bad

machines, biggest issue is the interface and internet. At 11:00pm election night in 5 battlegrounds states it stopped tallying, then a huge dump of information. Wants a local level hand count of all ballots. Understands the laws and codes of elections, need greater trust and work more towards public trust. Wokeness is an evil blight. Need to disable the interface and internet on machines.

- #4 Linda Parker- Wanted to let us know it is hard to hear in the back of the auditorium, need speakers to speak louder. Has been on the road for about 4 months doing election integrity checking in states. Thanked the board for all we do, not perfect, but never will be. Encouraged us to do the good work we are doing. Wanted to know who would tabulate the votes if we strayed from election law. Concerned by GA codes, but understands we need to follow them. Spoke of support to the board, workers and elected officials.
- #5 Debra Garrard- Would like to make an appointment to speak with us. Wants us to partner with citizens of Cherokee county, many reports that she would like to show us. First step is to hand count ballots. See attachment that was handed out earlier, wants to hand count the May 24th election for reconciliation.
- #6 Peggy Gastright- Moved here 45 years ago, feel like they are home. So impressed with the board of elections, staff and other officials. Has a great deal of confidence, knows we spend many hours of time doing open records requests, was both a poll watcher and poll worker for many years and see's the good work in person. Wants to remind people that Church and State need to be separated, and remind folks that Stacey Abrams was the fist to call for hand counting and paper ballots.
- #7- Chelle Brown-Found a lot of statistical anomalies and understands that laws have bound us in the past, but we need laws to protect the future. Need to perfect the process to secure the vote. Wants a hand count within 24 hours after election, has volunteers to help out. Yielded her time to the pledge of allegiance.
- #8 Sheree Giardino- passed
- #9 David Oles- Distributed items to the board, written copies of his speech. Wanted to bring attention the retaliation of the board against canvassers and remind us canvassing is allowed. Wants access to public records, voter roles. Private citizens were canvassing to check voter roles, we rushed and blasted them on page 1 of the paper. Then we retaliated and dismissed workers, who were e=denied due process of law.
- #10 Joan Housley- Wants to know what has been exposed, understands it is a complex voting system, why is it so complex? Wants it to be transparent and trustworthy, not hiding information, not manipulation and lying. Wants the voter roles cleaned up, wants to canvass area to be sure but is met with lies, intimidation, more lies. Why is the board so offended? Wanted to remind us that we need to be on the right side of history.

- #11 Lisa Jaqua- 11/22/2020 voter role did not show as voting, not vetted until 12/2020. Why credited after? Why is credit for voting processed differently? Why 2 different systems, enet and poll pads? Voting in person shows up immediately for some, then 30 days for others. Handed out attachment to board. Why are systems not all the same? Thanked Anne for taking the time to speak to her about this. State is not replying to her at all.
- Executive Session-
 - Alan Shinall made a motion for the Board to go into Executive Session. Rachel Kinsey seconded the motion. Passed 5-0.
 - Rachel Kinsey made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Mike Byrd seconded. Passed 5-0.
 - No votes were taken in Executive Session
- Unfinished Business- None
- New Business- None
- Directors Report-
 - See Attached
 - Bradley spoke about L and A testing and invited the public to come and see it take place.
 - April 18th, 2022, at 8:00am
 - L and A testing ensures that ballots and voting machines accurately record the vote and work.
 - Senate Bill 202 allows for public to come and view process and ask questions for an hour.
- Adjournment-
 - Rachel Kinsey made a motion for adjournment. Mike Byrd seconded it. Passed 5-0.
 - Meeting adjourned at 11:17 am
 - Next meeting will be May 2nd, 2022.



Rachel A. Kinsey, Secretary

Cherokee County Board of Elections

Cherokee County



Anne Dover
Director

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Board of Elections & Registration

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Monthly Board Meeting

Monday, April 4, 2022 - 9:30 a.m.

Cherokee County Elections & Registration

Poll Workers/Training - We are staffed with 376 poll workers (106 are new) and training will begin on April 5. There could be last minute additions to teams, if people decide not to work or miss their training class. There is a possibility that we will need 10-15 standby workers.

Website Reminder - Vote by mail information, sample ballots, polling location information for early/advance voting and Election Day voting can all be found on our website - cherokeegavotes.com

Logic & Accuracy Testing - Testing will begin on Monday, April 18 at 8:00 A.M., end at 5:00 P.M. and continue daily during regular business hours until completion. Said testing and preparation will be conducted at the Albert L. Stone Elections Building located at 400 East Main Street, Canton, Georgia.

Budget - The preliminary budget has been submitted and we will be contacted soon to schedule a review with the county manager and the finance department.

New Building - Bids for the renovations have been presented and are currently being reviewed. We are hoping the renovations will be completed November 2022.

Open Records Requests - The number of open records requests for the month of March 2022, was 18.

I believe that it is the duty and responsibility of each of us as citizens and patriots to protect and defend the electoral process which is the bedrock of this republic.

Concerns that are beyond the boundaries of this office, should be addressed at the state level, not through your local election board. We are bound to conduct elections consistent

With the law and procedures handed down to us and we cannot and will not break those laws and put at risk the lawful votes of the citizens of this county.

These comments should in no way be interpreted as suggesting that I either disagree with the concerns raised, nor the solution that are being suggested. It simply

Cannot be done in the manner that has been suggested.

The Cherokee county board of elections does not 'partner' with any group or organization and we must respectfully decline any request to do so.

The election board and staff conduct the business of elections and maintenance of records at the highest level of efficiency and integrity - I am 100-percent certain of that.

I encourages anyone who feels the law should be changed regarding the election process and/or election equipment , fight for that change by starting with you Local Representative.

As always we will conduct the elections lawfully and with transparency and responsive to you the voter of Cherokee County.



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Director

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Cherokee Board of Elections and Registration
Response to Allegations Raised During
Public Comment Portion of March 14, 2022 Meeting

I. Allegations of Speaker 1:

a. Numbers of registered voters greater than census data:

- i. Allegation relies upon estimates;
- ii. Data supporting estimates are not provided;
- iii. This is not proof that anyone registered to vote fraudulently.

b. List maintenance not done frequently enough:

- i. List maintenance is regulated by state and federal law. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-231, -232, -233, -234, -235; National Voter Registration Act. For example:
- ii. Deceased people are removed on a weekly basis;
- iii. Possible felons and mentally incompetent are processed once a month;
- iv. Moved out of county and moved out of state are processed as received.
- v. Furthermore, the Office of the Secretary of State sends confirmation notices to those voters that have not made contact with the county election officials in two general election cycles, voters completing national change of addresses, and those voters that have moved across the state line.

c. Request for certified voter rolls to be free:

- i. This is an open records request and it is lawful to charge for such request.
- ii. Per the Open Records Act, an agency may impose a reasonable charge for the search, redaction, and production or copying cost of records responsive to an Open Records Request.
- iii. The time and cost will be calculated by using the hourly salary of the lowest paid employee qualified to conduct the research of an Open Records Request, with no charge for the first fifteen minutes of employee time expended.
- iv. In addition to charges for the search, redaction, and production of responsive records, the office will impose a fee for the copying of records or data at \$.10 cents per page or, in the case of other documents, the actual cost of producing the copy.

- v. For electronic records, the office will charge the actual cost of the media on which the records or data are produced. O.C.G.A. § 50-18-71 (c). If the estimated cost for production of the records exceeds \$500.00, the office will insist on pre-payment before the Open Records Officer begins search, retrieval, review, or production of the records.
- vi. The office may require pre-payment for a new request if the requestor has not paid for a prior Open Records Request. O.C.G.A. § 50-18-71 (d).

Allegation of Speaker 2:

- a. Statement of Votes Cast at Hickory Flat and Air Acres does not match the number of voters who voted. These issues are under investigation by the Secretary of State's Office and the Cherokee Board of Elections will have no further public comment.
 - b. Carmel precinct voters not credited with voting until December 9, 2020: Per O.C.G.A. 21-2-215(i), voters do not have to be given credit for voting until 60 days after the election.
 - c. Request for hand count at the precinct:
 - i. Prohibited by O.C.G.A. § 21-2-300, which states that all ballot counting be done uniformly across the state as determined by the Secretary of State;
 - ii. Prohibited by O.C.G.A. § 21-2-493, which states that the ballots must be counted by the superintendent at one location;
 - iii. Prohibited by State Election Board Rule 183-1-12-.12, which provides specific instructions for poll managers after polls close. Does not provide for hand count of ballots.
- II. Allegation of Speaker 3: 3 affidavits of voters who do not believe their votes counted. Emails provided by Speaker 3 resolve these allegations, but to summarize:
- a. Ms. Acuff's situation is being investigated by the Secretary of State. Cherokee Board of Elections will have no further public comment.
 - b. Gary and Lisa Jaqua's voter history shows credit for voting.

III. Allegation of Speaker 4:

- a. 162 voters went inactive in November, 2021, who had voted in November 2020 or January, 2021:
 - i. These voters went inactive because they submitted notice that they had moved out of the county or out of the state.

- ii. Going inactive one year after voting is not evidence that there was anything improper about the previous votes.
 - b. 30 people have two registration numbers and both numbers have votes attached:
 - i. There are several reasons for duplicates – voters change their names, voters write their DOB down wrong, voters transpose SSN or DL, etc. The system automatically assumes it is a new voter. Duplicates are mostly caught when the duplicate report is processed on a monthly basis.
 - ii. We process duplicates from our dashboard on a regular basis. The majority of the duplicates have already been merged. There are 4 that we will be reviewing. The voter history has been reviewed and votes are attached to only one record.
 - c. Active voters who have haven't voted since 2012: these voters have made some type of contact with us to continue to be active. For example, each time someone renews a driver's license, they are automatically registered to vote; this is a contact with us and they remain active. This has nothing to do with poorly kept voter rolls.
 - d. Voters registering before age 17: Cherokee BOER has reviewed all of the data provided in response to this allegation. No voters on this list were registered to vote prior to being 17.5 years of age. There were three people on the list that we were notified about from the state where a typo had been made. The year of birth and year of registration was the same. These were corrected in January.
 - e. Voters who were born in 1900: Voters whose handwritten applications contained illegible dates of birth were entered into the system as 1900. As the allegation admits, all of these dates of birth were corrected when the voter appeared to vote in November, 2020.
 - f. "Date Added" anomaly: This is a column in a spreadsheet provided by the individual raising this allegation. Since it is not data generated by the Cherokee BOER, the Cherokee BOER cannot speak to its meaning or accuracy.
- IV. Allegation of Speaker 5: Speaker 5 did not make specific allegations.