



BOARD OF REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS

REGULAR MEETING - MAY 13, 2021 @ 10:00AM

VIRTUAL MEETING

Please join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

FGTV YouTube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYH7E0jH6HxE-3KTRluH8SQ>

Board Members:

Alex Wan

Chairman

Vernetta Keith Nuriddin

Vice Chairperson

Mark Wingate

Dr. Kathleen Ruth

Aaron V. Johnson

Director:

Richard L. Barron

MOTTO:

Because we care, we serve!

MISSION STATEMENT:

To ensure that the registration and elections process is efficient and effectively provided to all eligible citizens of Fulton County.

Call to Order - Presiding: Alex Wan, Chairman

RULES:

Cell Phones are to be turned off prior to the meeting.

Citizens are allowed to voice requests, concerns, opinions, etc. during the Communication and Public Response portion of the meeting of the Board of Registration and Elections. **Before speaking, you must register prior to the start of the meeting and attend the Zoom meeting with the link provided in your email.** Speakers shall refrain from abusive, profane or derogatory language, and shall not be allowed to speak for more than **TWO MINUTES**.

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Communications and Public Response

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_h8MdvjnNRHqMU_znfi0bNA

OLD BUSINESS

3. Approval of Minutes:
 - Regular Meeting- April 15, 2021
 - Executive Session Meeting- April 15, 2021
4. Monthly Operations Report for April 2021 – Richard Barron
5. Bylaws Amendment

NEW BUSINESS

6. Approval to Remove Registered Voters with Non-Residential Addresses
7. List Maintenance Audit

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Personnel Matters and/or Discussion of Litigation if necessary

ADJOURN

Main Office:

130 Peachtree St., SW
Suite 2186
Atlanta, GA 30303
404-612-7020



UNAPPROVED MINUTES

BOARD OF REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS REGULAR MEETING – APRIL 15, 2021

The Fulton County Board of Registration and Elections met in Regular Session on Thursday, April 15, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

VIRTUAL MEETING

**Please join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.
FGTV YouTube Channel**

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYH7E0jH6HxE-3KTRluH8SQ>

Presiding: Mr. Alex Wan, Chairman

Other Board Members Present:

Ms. Vernetta Keith Nuriddin, Vice Chairperson
Mr. Mark Wingate
Mr. Aaron V. Johnson
Dr. Kathleen Ruth

Staff Attending: Mr. Richard Barron, Director; Mr. Ralph Jones, Registration Chief; Ms. Nadine E. Williams, Elections Chief; Ms. Sharon Benjamin, Deputy Elections Chief; Mrs. Pamela Coman, Registration Manager; Ms. Brenda McCloud, Administrative Manager; Ms. Breana Jenkins, Administrative Coordinator I; Mrs. Cheryl Ringer, County Attorney; Mr. David Lowman, County Attorney; Mr. James Reese, Production Manager; Mr. Rico Dollar, Senior Graphics Designer, Jessica Corbitt, PIO; Regina Waller, Senior Public Affairs Officer

Commissioner(s):

County Personnel:

Guest Attending:

Chairperson Wan announced that this teleconferenced meeting is authorized pursuant to §50-14-1(g) of the Official Code of Georgia because of the Public Health State of Emergency declared by Governor Kemp on March 14, 2020, and renewed through April 30, 2021, pursuant to which public meeting spaces in state and local Government have been closed due to COVID-19, and because means have been afforded for the public to have simultaneous access to this teleconference.

#1– APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Wan entertained a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was made by Vice Chair Nuriddin, seconded by Dr. Ruth and carried by a unanimous vote of 5-0.

#2– COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RESPONSE

Bridget Thorne expressed supporting Senate Bill (SB) 202. **Ms. Thorne** continued to convey strong opinions about leadership and the 2020 elections.

Ben Howard commented:

"My comments we leave my comments relate to your agenda, your bylaws and your motto. Please consult with your parliamentarian about the difference between old business and unfinished business. For the sake of full transparency, item seven on your agenda, your agenda should be expanded rather than compressed or disputed for each amendment or to be published. So the public will know what the intent is for each of those proposed amendments. A link to the bylaws of the board of registration and elections ought to be housed on the br a website, as does the Fulton County Commission on elder affairs. Regarding the motto, a motto has been defined as the general motivation or intention of an individual family, social group, organization, you say, because we can we so I've come to ask that you become motivated enough and caring enough to go out into the community virtually these days, and share with the community as much information as you can about what goes on with the elections and voting on related matters in Fulton County, as does board member, Aaron Johnson. Have a blessed day."

Marilyn Marks commented:

"I'm director of Coalition for good governance. Well, a rundown of SB 202 would require hours to cover and we've got a two minute limit. I've picked what I think is the most important topic for assuring fair and transparent elections in Georgia. And that is for this board to be well prepared to defend against any attempted takeover of its elections by Secretary Raffensperger and the State Election Board. He has made no secret of the fact that his desire is to control the Fulton board of elections. We at the Coalition for Good Governance are very concerned about these takeover provisions. And the loss of transparent and fair lunch would occur if there were such a state takeover, which we believe can happen extremely fast. As I wrote you this morning in my email, and I urge you all to read it. This is a takeover could happen very rapidly. But the first step is to protect these public meetings and the transparency of elections. That happens because this bipartisan board is in place. I think it's urgent for this board to take action to obtain personal insurance policies paid for by the county so that they will have access to legal advice, not having to take money out of their own pockets to do it. In the event that the Secretary in the state election board attempts to take over the election board, SB 202 does not permit the county to cover the legal expenses of this board. So on that note, I would just urge that the board take this action so that you all can stay in place continuing to protect the transparent in the transparency of the elections and the protection of the voters in Fulton"

Aileen Nakamura commented:

"My first comment is that given the passage of SB202, it is crucial that this Board obtain insurance as soon as possible so you can get legal representation should the Fulton BRE be "taken over" by the State Election Board. As a Fulton resident who volunteers most of my time on election integrity, I am keenly aware that the notion that Fulton's Board will be taken over is not one of "if", but one of "when."

Marilyn Marks from the Coalition for Good Governance has emailed you with more information, but what terrifies me as a Fulton voter is that the state can now take over the five members of this BRE, with ONE PERSON who may or may not know anything about the needs of our county, nor have the best interest of us Fulton voters in mind. I feel it's imperative that WHEN the state takes over, you, as suspended Board members, will have the ability to get legal counsel without having to do so out of your own pocket. So PLEASE, vote TODAY to obtain insurance for yourselves.

My second comment, which I feel is equally important, is that as you are revising the BRE By-Laws, please insert language to require that meeting documents, such as the packet that is sent to BRE members before each meeting, be posted on the Fulton Elections website.

Especially in light of the fact that we have no idea how meetings will be run should the BRE get taken over, citizen oversight and transparency will be of paramount importance, and the only way we can guarantee that we have access to information is if the by-laws state that information be available to the public.

While virtual meetings have allowed all of us to see presentations online, should we return to in-person meetings, I remember sitting at every in-person BRE meeting having no idea what reports or documents the BRE members are looking at and discussing. I ask that the BRE packet be posted on the Fulton website BEFORE each BRE meeting, so that we, as active observers, can follow along when the Board discusses things such as which polls will change or what the operating budget is."

OLD BUSINESS

#3- APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Executive Session Meeting- February 11, 2021
- Regular Meeting- March 11, 2021

Chairman Wan entertained a motion to approve the Executive Session and the Regular meeting minutes. The motion was made by Vice Chair Nuriddin, seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried by a unanimous vote of 5-0.

➤ **Special Meeting- March 30, 2021**

Chairman Wan made a motion to amend the reasons for convening into Executive Session was for litigation matters not personnel matters on March 30, 2021. The motion was made by Chairman Wan, seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried by a unanimous vote of 5-0.

Chairman Wan made a motion to approve the Executive Session minutes as amended. The motion was made by Chair Wan, seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried by a unanimous vote of 5-0.

#4- MONTHLY OPERATIONS REPORT FOR MARCH 2021

- The General Election is Countywide Election due to TSPLOST
- DRE will petition the court on City of Atlanta mandated time for closing polls at 8pm
- Municipalities' cost set based on a 2019 Resolution 9 by the BOC
- Rate per registered voter:
 - General Elections **\$2.96**
 - Runoff Elections **\$2.46**
 - Rates are too low due to the increased cost
- 2-Additional Check-In Centers added for future elections
- Inventory Systems pending
- Reorganizing Poll worker recruitment & training
- **SB 202** Impacts- Review in item #9
- A legal hold remains on the **DRE** voting units from the April 18, 2017 and June 20, 2017 6th Congressional Special Election and Runoff Special Election (**Relocated to offsite facility**)
- Total voter registration applications received in 2021: **26,084**
- **8,146** voter registration applications received in March
- As of April 1st, **859,594** (822,206 active and 37,388 inactive) registered voters reside in Fulton County
- Total New Applications: **15,122**
- Felon Hearings: **0**
- Felon Letters Mailed:**255**
- Street Audits identified Non-Residential Address: **1,280** sent letters to be removed
- Registration Division mailed letters to voters using nonresidential addresses
 - Voters are scheduled to join the BRE meeting for hearing
- SOS and University of Georgia are completing an audit of signature matches statewide
 - 557 ABM envelopes
- Administration maintaining expenditures from Grant Funds and County Budgets
 - 2021 Processing Invoices
 - Budgeting Grant Funds
- Weekly meetings with various Departments
- Ongoing Audit of the Department
- Personnel Matters:
 - Axiver Harris hired as Elections Officer
 - Pamela Coman resigned

Mr. Wingate asked does **SB 202** have a provision that actually puts together a time period for all elections to be uniform, and that is 7am to 7pm instead of 8pm in City of Atlanta

Mr. Barron responded that provision is only for early voting, early voting hours have to be open a minimum of 9am-5pm, and then they can be open a maximum of 7am to 7pm. There's a provision in the law that allows for any city with over 300,000 registered voters holding an election on Election Day, must stay open from 7am to 8pm.

Dr. Ruth

Unapproved Minutes

Regular Meeting- April 15, 2021

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I'm happy to hear about the RFP bringing in a consultant to review internal protocols. Can you tell us the length of time for that consultant? What's the timeline for their assessment? And I would also love to be able to see the RFP

Mr. Barron

As soon as we get the final language ready, we'll send that up to the Board; possibly next week. And we're going to we're proposing that it be done in several phases and probably run through the end of February' for some phases to be completed before the November election. With a completion date in place for the May 2022, General primary.

Dr. Ruth asked will it also include looking at the logistic protocol

Mr. Barron responded yes, we're writing it so that they will look at every process in the department.

Mr. Johnson

First off, congratulations to Pam, we will truly miss you and very excited for you to have this new opportunity. Second, the drop boxes that are going to be removed, what is going to happen to them, and I guess we'll store them in our warehouse for the time being.

Mr. Barron

And then then we're going have to decide where best to place those eight. Since the County is 75 mile long, we're going to distribute them in an evenly throughout the county. I think we'll use the Government Center and our two annexes and then we'll choose five other locations.

Vice Chair Nuriddin

Some years back, we had a push back from Fulton County Board of Education, they wanted to kick us out of their schools. Do you think we're going to have get any resistance by adding these elementary schools back

Mr. Barron responded **Ms. Williams** spoke with them to add the for those schools as Check-In location on Election night

Vice Chair Nuriddin

And also, you said something about the drop boxes can only be inside the polls now. And I wonder if you were going to consult with the board of registration and elections, prior to deciding where you're going to put those polls? What's going to happen with that process? And you may not know this, right, because we're kind of in uncharted territory. But what if the BOC disagrees with that recommendation for polls? You think that's the legal question or?

Mr. Barron

The Board of Registration and Elections has the authority over the polls and then with regard to where we're going to put the drop boxes. The plan is to bring those recommendations to the BRE in order to have the Board approve the eight drop boxes. The locations when we had 38, I think it was 90% of the voters were within three miles of a Dropbox. Decreasing that to eight over 75 mile long county is going to be tricky where we place those, and they're only going to be accessible during early voting hours. So we've got to find the right places for each box. We'll probably consult with the Stakeholder groups in the community before and then we'll bring those recommendations to the board to approve.

Mr. Wingate inquired about the each Commission District having at least one drop box

Mr. Barron answered yes

Vice Chair Nuriddin

I do appreciate all the work your team has done. And I wanted to say, congratulations to Axiver, and to Johnny as well as to Pamela. And all those that are moving up, or getting a different position. So I was just really wondering about the municipal costs did you say you were going to meet with all the municipalities

Mr. Barron

We've sent them out three information packets already. And Nadine Williams can give you the details. But we have done surveys, we've asked them what races they have and if they have any ballot language. We've also given timelines and the cost of what the election. We communicate with the City Clerk's who then take that information to their council member and Mayor.

Chairman Wan

Questions on the first one has to do with the possible double voting, those numbers? I don't have a point of reference as to whether those are higher or in line with normal elections. I'm assuming they're higher?

Mr. Barron

I think they are, they're actually much higher. Some of these could be clerical errors. So Ralph's team right now is researching all of those.

Chairman Wan directed **Mr. Barron** to follow-up with Board of the department's findings to the Secretary of State's Office (SOS). Secondly, Chairman requested the timeframe for the 2021 Audit and when will the report be available.

Ms. McCloud explained that no timeframe was provided, the audit will be ongoing until further notice

Vice Chair Nuriddin

You said that it was higher, I just wanted you to elaborate on what you were saying when Chairman Wan asked you about double voting. I think it's higher than normal? Because I don't remember seeing numbers since I've been here. I don't remember seeing any report. So are you saying double voting is normal?

Mr. Barron

We've never seen numbers come to us from the Secretary of State on double voting before. His question was he wanted frame of reference as to whether this was consistent with the past? Or if it's abnormal, and I would say this is abnormal.

Chairman Wan

You mentioned a number of changes that you are planning on for the Absentee Division part of your operations, including having to post the position and getting Board of Commissioners' approval on all those different pieces that they have authority over. If all goes well, when do you anticipate the changes being implemented in terms of having a new person in place and all those personnel shifts? Is that a three month or six month process?

Mr. Barron

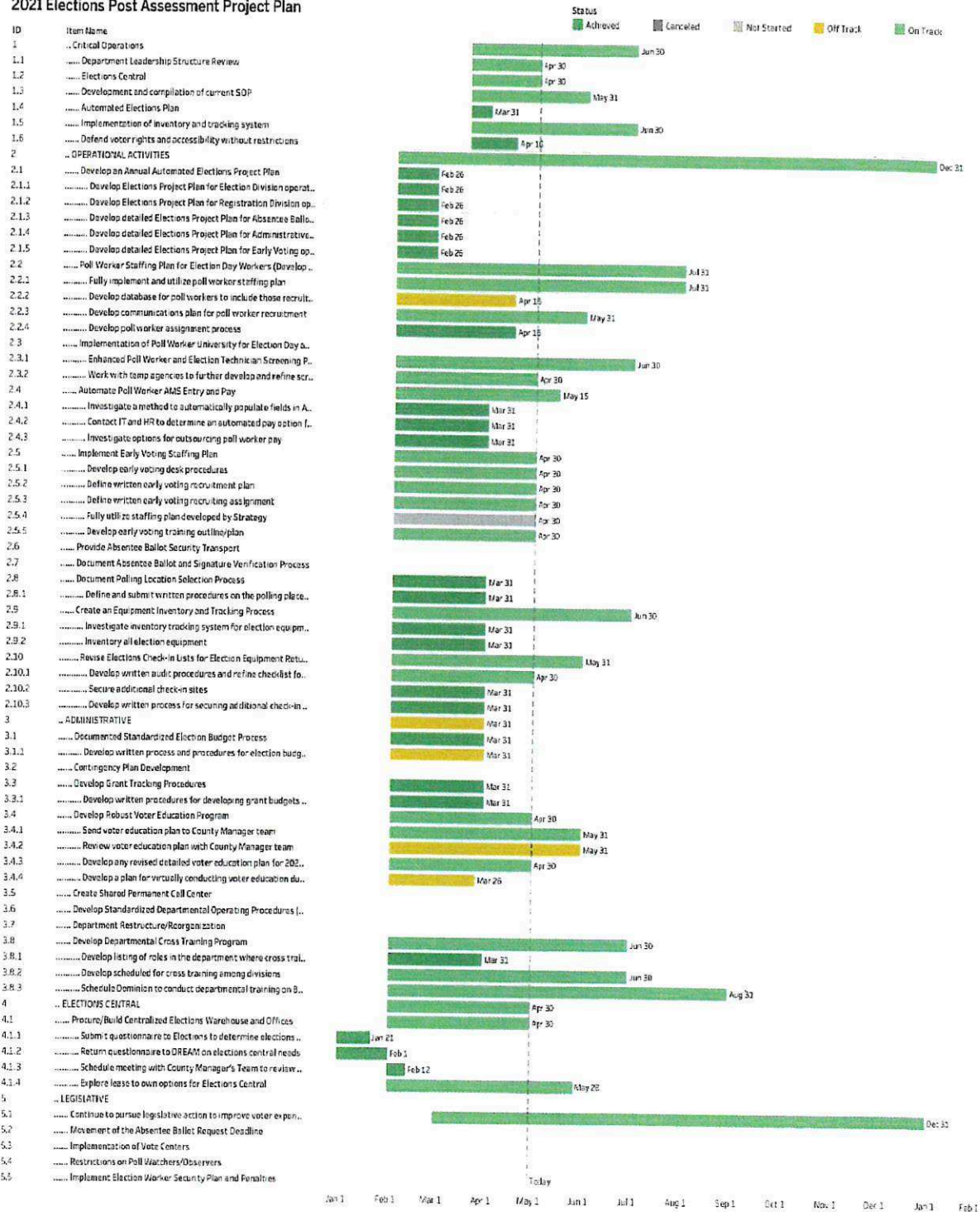
I would say it's probably at this point, because the PDQs have all been completed and submitted to Human Resources, I would say closer to a three month process. In 2019 BOC approved 13 new positions for us and we were able to post and hire all those positions within six weeks. The staffs really good about getting through the list of qualified candidates, getting interviews scheduled and getting that process done quickly.

Ms. Williams

The only comment I have is that regarding the location of the new polling sites. We are working with the schools to make Election Day a Teacher's work day. But we're avoiding schools as much as possible.

#5- POST-ELECTION ASSESSMENT UPDATE

2021 Elections Post Assessment Project Plan



Mr. Wingate

Before we move on from there, is there any individual or body that has the responsibility to verify the completion of these activities as so described here?

Mr. Barron

The best way to go through this in depth for the board would be to have a work session. And that way we can, we can, you can be apprised of who in more in depth, who is assigned each one of these duties, who's assigned to do it. And we can give you more details on each one of these plans, because I think it would probably take a full meetings length, just to go through each one of these items. And so I think that might be the best way to go. Is to schedule a work session for the board and key staff to go through this.

Chairman Wan

So I have a question on this chart itself, though, lines that have no bars on them. So for example, 2.3, 2.6 and 2.7. What's the reason for that?

Mr. Barron

That has been impacted by Senate Bill 202, our procedures are going to be rewritten for these two items. The signature verification process has essentially been eliminated and it's going to be a different process. The ballot security transport, those procedures are going to change. And the implementation of poll worker University for Election Day is on hold. We will add a date on that in the near future and then get started on it.

Chairman Wan

I really like this a lot. I guess it's a really easily digestible way of saying of what the tasks are projects are if we're on track or not. And I would suggest, in addition to a potential work session is that we write this into your monthly report. And, we'll see that dashed line moving down the path with each subsequent board meeting and we can see the ones where, if the deadlines are missed or not, or if they start flipping to off track, will be aware of it as part of your monthly report.

Mr. Wingate

Just to your comment, Chairman, what this Gantt chart represents is a, an itemized listing of those activities with an end date that is proposed. It is not a tracking type of instrument. So what is the proposal as you have laid out to us, that verifies the tracking of progress to each of these activities?

Chairman Wan

I think that goes back to the suggestion of the work session, I think, if we can take a deeper dive into exactly what each one of these components are. And then I think at that point, we can kind of discuss, um, I liked your question about verification of completion. Just because it's presented to us in a chart doesn't necessarily mean it's done. So I think that's something that we can, once we get into be able to start dissecting this in more detail, let's figure out what those checkpoints and monitoring pieces. And again, I'm following up from the last meeting the satisfaction survey information that someone will be raffling for a little more detail and background

Mr. Barron

There were four 4803 voters that were surveyed. 2769 of those were for the November election, and 1983 of those work for from the January election and 51 people filled out the survey for the December election.

Chairman Wan

There were additional questions about where in the county those data points came from? I think that would be somewhat informative and enlightening

Mr. Barron

I can get all the data points from Bridgette Bailey. I think that I can get all of the surveys in detail if you'd like to see them. And then I believe that the locations of those will be stamped on there

Mr. Wingate

Follow-up item from last meeting. I want to acknowledge that that ask was out there. And I do think some of the information and questions that the board members and the public made on that, to the extent that we can make sure we get responses or the data requested

Dr. Ruth

I think it's really important if we have an overview. I mean, not just submitting numbers, but a real overview of the assessment is really important with those demographics, that demographic information would be really helpful. I did want to mention with the dashboard, I don't see any comments around training

Mr. Barron

That's part of the implementation of the poll worker University, which is the item that doesn't have a deadline on it right now. But Nadine has given personnel direction on what to do with regard to developing the poll worker training plan going forward. And she's on here, so she can give you the details on that. But that is going to be something that we will we will add to item 2.3.

Ms. Williams

We have conducted a roundtable with the poll managers and have received all of their input to what they want, what they need and what we need to revamp and training. So we are waiting for also for the SB 202 guidelines to come out as well. And once all that is done, we're going to completely revamp all the curriculums for training.

Mr. Barron

The Secretary of State's office indicated to us I think it was last week that they would have all of their interpretation of Senate Bill 202, completed in a couple of months.

Dr. Ruth

I would just recommend that within that, as you all revamp the training, I think it's really important that we also put a put some focus on developing a more robust evaluation of the training to ensure that learners are obtaining the necessary skills and materials and knowledge that are needed to successfully run the polls.

Mr. Barron

So, going forward to we're going to have to, we're going to be demanding more of the poll workers because of some of the provisions in SB 202. So it's going to be important for us, to lengthen the training. We're going to the Commissioners to request an increase to poll worker's pay, to increase the stipend for poll worker training; especially with the poll managers due to the demands of the deadlines that are in SB 202. And so it's going to be important for us to make sure that we compensate poll workers for the increased training that we're going to they're going to have to undergo, and I think the increased demands on their time. In addition, one of the items is that we can now hire poll workers from adjacent counties. So I think there may be some competition out there with regard to pay between the counties on who can attract the better poll workers with pay. It's my understanding that it was sometime around 2008 was the last time poll worker pay was increased.

#6-Monthly Legal Update

- Litigation – Cheryl Ringer, David Lowman
- Open Records Requests – Mariska Bodison

Chairman Wan

This was off of feedback from the last meeting. The way I'm envisioning this is that we just want to make sure that we are aware of litigation that is before us the status of that, but any questions that we have any conversations that would impact legal strategy, or kind of the thought process, we need to make sure that we take that into Executive Session. But if I heard everyone correctly, I do think it is a good practice that there was this case there is this hearing, there was a hearing

or there is a hearing coming up. Everything that is in the public realm already, I think this would be the placeholder to get an update on that. But again, I just want to make sure that we walk into this section with understanding of what should be taken into Executive Session versus what is discussed here. The same with open records requests, I think it is good or Freedom of Information Act request is just good for us to know what people are asking for. So that in case we get asked about it later, we're not surprised or blindsided by that. So that's the intent of adding this to kind of the monthly update and I don't know if anybody has any, just general thoughts on that, that those parameters before we hear from Mr. Lowman

Mr. Johnson

Would it make sense to do it in Executive Session just in case there are questions that come about, because as he starts to talk, it may generate legal questions, and then we would have to stop and jump into Executive Session? I'm totally fine with doing whatever the Board desires.

Chairman Wan

Well, here's another way we might be able to do it because I appreciate the sensitivity. Or maybe this is one of those things that is just included in our written report, just a listing an enumeration of the cases and the things in the status. And then from there, we can say, you know, what, these are the ones that board members would like to take into executive session that way. It's more just a list rather than a presentation. And we won't run the risk of, of what you're saying. And that way, I don't know how folks feel about that. But again, to accomplish this notion of, we want to know what's before us, without risking revealing any sort of legal strategy. In the interim, I don't know if Mr. Lowman or Miss Bodison want to say anything about that. Or if we can just table for this meeting, and they move into that new approach for the main meeting?

Attorney Lowman

This is David Lowman, I would like to go into Executive Session. There's a couple of things I would like to discuss with the board very briefly. So at that time, we can discuss any questions that the board might have at this time.

#7-BRE BYLAWS AMENDMENTS

- Amendment 1 & 2

Chairman Wan

Proposed Amendments:

- 1. to add language in Article five political activities, the proposed language was no board member may be employed by a political campaign or by the Office of an elected official.**

Mr. Wingate

My belief has is and will remain that for any of us, present and into the future, that makes the decision to take on a paying staff job for a political candidate, or an incumbent sitting legislator of some sort, that we just need to discuss the potential of conflict of interest that can or could arise from that particular situation. I will say clearly that if I were to ever, which I doubt that I will ever to take a position along the lines of any of the numerous people I know, that are holding political office, that if I was to be offered and accept a position on staff to be paid for that my one of my most immediate things that I would do is to send the appropriate letter to the appropriate parties, resigning from the Fulton County Board of Registration and Elections, because I would clearly personally not want to have any view of from any voter or anybody that I could potentially be compromised. So, that's my opinion and what I would do personally, and I put that out there for the board's consideration and discussion.

Mr. Johnson

I personally feel all this is directed towards me, as I have taken a position in a cold not in a political office and not in a candidate's office, but in a government office. And I think that there's a distinct line between the two. One of the things and just responding to what you just said, Mr. Wingate, I don't know if it's because it's paid or not. But when we talk about political activities, our bylaws currently state that the all board members shall comply with the limitations of political activities set forth in O.C.G.A, which prohibits their engagement

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in any political activity on behalf of a candidate political party, or body or question while conducting the duties of such persons office. Now, if I'm not mistaken, you sir, are the district House District Chair for the Republican Party. So that could also calls into question and

conflict. If you look at your bylaws from the Fulton County GOP, it specifically states that you are recruiting candidates to run for office. So in the entire time that you've been on the board, I don't think that you felt that you had a conflict or anybody else has had a conflict based on your position as the chairman of House District 49. Now also with me, there is a distinct difference between political activity and working on the government side. I think a lot of us know, the question is, is there a conflict? Do you feel like there's a conflict?

I understand, I think that the mere fact that I'm assigned by the Democratic Party, some members of the Republican Party may feel like there's a conflict of interest there. Some members are assigned by the Republican Party, people may feel like that's a conflict of interest as well, which is why we have a Chairperson that is done on a Non-Partisan basis. But if there's ever a question of conflict, I can always recuse myself from anything that this Board feels like maybe a conflict. One of the other things that I want to mention is the fact that this is not the first time there has been a member of our Board and a Chair of our Board that worked on the government side, and the way it was disposed of is to always recuse himself of working on or dealing with any issue that had a direct effect on the candidate on the knot candidate he worked for, but on the elected official he works for, and I think that there's a great difference between an elected official and a candidate there. Even our Bylaws talk about working under political activities, political activities, and government activities are totally different. And I think some of us who've worked on the government side understand that there are policies set in place so that people who work for elected officials are not a part of have their candidate side. And our by law stays the same. And I do believe that over the time that we've been on the board, you and I have voted probably 95% of the time, the same. And so my integrity, and my conflicts have never come into question before. Now I understand that there's some question now, and that's fine. However, I still hold myself up to the same standards that I did before January, you and I have voted even since January, pretty much the same most of the time, even though a lot of our votes have been administrative votes. But even on issues, if you look back at my record, on the entire time that I've been on this board, my vote has never been called into question. And I don't think that that will be the case, anytime, anytime in the future. So I know there's probably already a determination as to what it would be. But I do think that you should also contemplate what exactly does that mean. So if a person who is on the board works at a company, where the Vice President is an elected official in Fulton County, does that count? If I work for an insurance company that an elected official is on the Board? Does that count what counts as working for an elected official, because in your mind, and in this thought process is even though is not what it says on paper? Right now, it just is working for an elected official. So I think there needs to be clarity. Honestly, I feel like that all I have to do is recuse myself from any vote that came down to one particular elected official, however, I think you need to look at the big picture, and not just right now.

Mr. Wingate

I appreciate your comments, for a large part, I don't disagree with what you're saying. But let me, you know, to your comments, and for the record, my representation for nearly 30 years, the Fulton County Republican Party, you know, covers many duties, and obviously, and I don't hope, I would hope to think that you would disagree, is to render and gain support, for whomever in Fulton County, on the Republican side, is supported it, maybe you don't, but in a House District Chair, which I occupied, which I no longer do for HD49. those positions don't have any responsibility at all, for recruiting candidates, you know, the party officers, which includes the Chair, the first Vice Chair, and down through the various vice chairs and others, they have responsibility as being elected by the party at the full county party itself, to manage whatever affairs of that. And also in conducting any financial considerations, not House District chairs, the House District Chairs, as well as precinct chairs are in place. And frankly, were not so well, in a lot of cases made so that there can be then localization of support. And, but all of the all of the direction comes from the party officers. So I can assure you that in the time that I guess, a couple of years that I spent as an HD Chair up here in 49. That's what we did. We gathered support with candidates who were in fact, in running positions for whatever position, and there was never any payments or any type of pay, you know, any type of financial considerations for any of those people. As well as there is not even with the officers of these organizations, the Republican Party in the democratic Well, I don't know about the Democratic Party. But no, none of these, none of these are paid positions. And, again, I you know, I understand you believe that this was, you know, that I personally was picking on you. Well, I hate that you have that notion. I believe when that information came across, I believe to every board member back several months ago. I think it's a fair question to ask and as I stated earlier, just for the board to have discussion on I'm one board member, I have a view, but that doesn't constitute a majority, obviously. So I think with that, you know in by the very Words that you used, I think that's very good consideration for discussion. If there is not going to be any kind of a change, there are recusant along certain items that can certainly be something that takes place. I'm not sure in every instance, how you go about trying to have discussion, then take a vote, or you have to pause to make it a recusant consideration. I don't know how you, I'm just not smart enough know how you do that. But again, I don't disagree with that approach. But this is not personal, like I said, or at least I tried to say was, if I personally was ever to get into a situation like that, I would feel personally compelled to step aside, from the Board of Registration and Elections. That's just me. Maybe I've done this too long. I don't know, some people say I have maybe that's true. But just from the standpoint of everything we have all of this is coming about, right, wrong. Agree or disagree in terms of election integrity. It's just something that we ought to have discussion on. And then the board, take whatever measures that they see make sense. That's my position.

Mr. Johnson

One of the things that you mentioned specifically in your opening was you're supporting whomever, on the Republican side. So does that cause a conflict of interest? Whenever there's an issue that's before this board? If you are working to support a particular side, that would cause conflict? And is the issue the paid position on the government side? Now you talked about you would step aside, but you served as the District Chair for the Republican Party, you had a leadership role in the Fulton County party. But there was no contemplation of stepping aside then. The Bylaws doesn't state, anywhere whether it's a paid or unpaid position, it just says in official capacity, or a leadership role.

Vice Chair Nuriddin

I definitely understand the position that Mr. Johnson is making with the analogy of political activity. I do want to ask, because to be honest with you, I've never worked for an elected official. I've never been a government worker. So I don't know the dynamics of the position that you were offered. You say you were offered a government job? And would that job be independent of whomever is in that office?

Mr. Johnson

I you technically work for the House of Representatives. Are you hired by a particular elected official? Absolutely. However, by policy, you work for the House of Representatives, and you're guided by the rules and laws of the House of Representatives.

Vice Chair Nuriddin

I understand I did a little research about it as much as I could find, which said it's just like an administrative role in her district office. And I don't know much about the US House of Representatives. I think my question is, and hopefully I'll restate it better, is the position independent of whoever's in that role? Who's ever in CD5?

Mr. Johnson

Yes, there are other elected there are other people who work in offices and they transition from one to another. Okay, I'll give you a prime example. There are several staff members across the House of Representatives that will go from one to another by staying in the house or staying in the Senate or staying in other elected offices just like at the house of representatives here in Georgia, the General Assembly. You'll see elected officials come and go all the time, but you have people that have been there for years.

Vice Chair Nuriddin

I didn't know fully about the positions that Mr. Wingate had, I can't say that understand the roles that he plays with the party. What I'm hearing you say, Mr. Johnson, is if it applies to if this new proposed bylaw applies to you, then it must in turn, apply to Mr. Wingate?

Mr. Johnson

Well, Mr. Wingate is now saying that he's no longer in that position; however, it's on the website and on his tag from emails that he just sent. So he's saying he's not there anymore. But it's clear in the current Bylaws that could be a conflict of interest. But we're not discussing that we're discussing something that you want to put forward based on me.

Vice Chair Nuriddin

My concern is not you are the position. My concern would be people running against Ms. Williams in 2022. So you're saying you might be able to just recuse yourself from those elections? That's what you're willing to do?

Mr. Johnson responded yes.

Vice Chair Nuriddin

I think what you're saying is that when they recused themselves that it has to do with a conflict with a campaign or elected official, and that may or may not be the case, but was my biggest concern is the people who are running against Miss Williams in 2022. I just think that there should be some clarified information in our Bylaws. So I learned about it from social media. I saw your picture on some of her other staff she hired for her offices. Do you believe it's okay for because I did get an email from Miss Heard. For me, I represent all the Fulton County. But do you do you believe that you should be able to get paychecks from other elected officials not only Miss Williams if someone else wanted to hire you for what you

say a government job. Do you see any impropriety or possible conclusions that can be drawn from you working in this positions directly for Miss Williams?

Mr. Johnson

How your phrasing it and what you really saying is are totally different. You talk about service to the people of Fulton County, I'm offering service. I'm doing service, which is something that I've been known for and have done for years. I've worked in several elected work in several different governments, always in constituent services and trying to help the people upon which I've worked for. That's what I'm doing right now. Now, the way you keep throwing in getting a paycheck elected officials.

I get the direction that you're trying to go. However, the question about this is, do you have a conflict of interest? Can you function as a member of the board? In this hyper-political atmosphere, we're always going to have that question. There's been a question about each one of us at some point, about our integrity and about why we're making votes in a particular way. But I think we can show as a board, that we have not done anything political, or that we have not done anything that has been in a conflict. And in order to keep that from happening, all you have to do is recuse yourself. But everybody at some point is going to have someone they know, a classmate, someone, they went to school with someone they work with running for office, and they may have an issue in front of us as a board. The question is, are we doing the right thing by the citizens of Fulton County? And then the question becomes, have I done anything to show that I will have not done that, or I will not continue to do that.

Chairman Wan

I agree with Mr. Johnson, there are very, very fine lines over at the city in terms of what staff could do or not do. And it was very clear, and I want to understand if Fulton County has the same structure, etc, set up for thinking through potential conflicts of interest, reviewing charges of conflict of interest, because if there are, I feel like that's the appropriate venue for that, in terms of the elected official relationship piece, I completely agree with the campaign side, because I think that would just look shady from every angle that you look at. So I agree with the first part of the this proposed amendment about employed by political campaign, but Mr. Lowman could walk me through what the ethics office equivalent in the Fulton County processes to evaluate things like this, that would be helpful.

Attorney Lowman

With respect to the ethics of the situation. The ethics code provides that an officer of an for employees that has an interest in a contract matter or transaction that he or she has reason to believe be affected by his or her official acts or actions, or by the official acts or actions of the county shall abstain from participating in such official acts or actions, and shall not vote for or against, discuss, decide or otherwise participate in the county's consideration of the contract, matter or transaction. In addition, the officer or employee shall disclose publicly the nature of such interest prior to any determination of the contract matter or transaction. And our office provided an opinion. And I don't know if this opinion was provided to this board separately, but provided an opinion to one of the board members, Board of Commissioners members that in this matter, there did not appear to be any problems with Mr. Johnson or anybody else who works for an elected official in the capacity that he works for them in to serve on this board. But to avoid the appearance of impropriety in a recusal of any matter that might affect directly or indirectly, that official, who employs the board member shall be undertaking. So at this time, there does not appear to be any prohibition against what Mr. Johnson or anyone else on this board is doing if they're working for an elected official. And it's not a political activity that is specifically prohibited.

Chairman Wan

As a formal former federal employee for 14 years, you know, we had to abide by the Hatch Act, which prevented us from engaging in political activities. I wonder if we should think about or consider adding another article to the Bylaws that talks about conflicts of interest. And if Mr. Lowman could help us create that language that might be really helpful to make, because we all you know, we're represented by our party. And so we all may sometimes enter into an activity or something that may be seem a little bit gray. And so I think this would also help us to ensure that we are continually moving forward with integrity in our work on this Board. So I would propose adding another article to our Bylaws that addresses conflicts.

Mr. Wingate

For clarification, I brought this to the attention of the former chair, lady, Mary Carol Cooney. And quite frankly, to reiterate, it was a question. It wasn't me making a demand. I think that as an appointed board for the county to represent all Fulton County voters? I think it's a fair question and that was the reason I put it on the table to ask the question. Now that Mr. Johnson wants to take this as a personal attack on him. No, the information that came to all board members, was that he was in that position with Miss Williams in her US Congressional capacity. I will never ever back down from the fact is that

it is a pertinent question, to have in front of this Board. And I would hope that going forward anything along these lines that can reflect, just something that the board should be aware of, and consider just to make sure that we're all basically in

unison, I think if we ever stopped that process, and there's probably one more reason not to have this Board. But in terms of again, I brought it to the table, but according to Mr. Lowman there is no ethics issues here. And all of this can be handled as described. I have no problem with that. But at least now, knowing that we know going forward, that these kind of things as they come about, needs to be addressed. That's my point. And I think we can just end conclude the discussion.

- 2. The board shall respond to any question or request by citizen made during the public comment section of a meeting, either reading or no later than the following regularly scheduled board meeting .**

Chairman Wan

I am reading into or inferring there was just a concern about responses. And if that's the question, then perhaps Mr. Barron and I should figure out a process by which we can have Mariska inventory topics and make sure that they are resolved, versus a statement in our bylaws

Vice Chair Nuriddin

This came about due to a lot of allegations of non-responsiveness of the department. And in the effort of hoping that we're trying to improve and move forward instead of going backwards, I just want you to know that it really came about because people were complaining that their concerns, complaints, or issues were just fallen on deaf ears. Because with the addition of the new staff, there may be internal protocols to handle I know that it was something that this board to talk to the department about addressing in the past.

#8-LETTER TO THE GEORGIA ATTORNEY GENERAL

Mr. Wingate

One of the issues was that the council that we had or was looking at this and prepared the letter that was proposed to go to the AG had a continuation of their position to remain anonymous, which was certainly problematic. In that term, we tried everything that we could. Consequently, we chose a couple of other channels. And ultimately, what transpired here is, is that we did get a position off the record, if you will, from the AG, that given that we submitted this type of a letter with this issue that the AG or the AG's office, I should say, would not respond to it. In other words, they would not take a position. Then that concluded this notion of the letter to the AG. So that's off the table now.

NEW BUSINESS

#9- Review of 2021 Georgia Legislative Session

- SB 202

Jessica Corbitt

The most significant piece of election legislation, which has been brought up several times this morning, which was Senate Bill 202. And you will recall that there were many, many, in fact, dozens of pieces of legislation brought forward during the session related to registration and elections. But Senate Bill 202 sort of rolled up many of those other pieces of legislation. And this bill has been signed into law and portions of it. Most portions of it will take effect on July 1, Senate Bill 202 has been discussed very, very widely in many, many contexts. So as a frame of reference, we have looked at this in the context of impact on the operations of the Fulton County Department of registration and elections. I have worked with the elections department, I've been with Fulton County for 21 years, and I've had a lot of opportunity to work with this department, I worked with the team that the kind of the county managers team that coordinated and collaborated with the election staff during last year's election. And again, my office handles Inter-Governmental Affairs for the county. So I just want to be very clear, because I know there has, there's a lot of political discussion related to this legislation. That is not my role, my role is operational. And I just wanted to just see that from the beginning, I will just go through these we have depending on how much time you'd like to spend, we've really kind of broken out some of the operational highlights, as

you probably are all aware of Senate bill two, two is a very lengthy piece of legislation. It's 98 pages, it makes amendments to many, many different code sections related to elections. Some of those are really in the purview of the state, and then the Secretary of State's office and the state election board. Some of those are really more impactful to smaller counties, or to again the state process for calling of elections and things like that. So we've really focused in again on the operational impacts.

PAST / EXISTING FULTON COUNTY RESOURCES

- ▶ Maximum 1 drop box per 100,000 registered voters (8 total)
- ▶ Mobile voting units limited to emergency use during Governor-declared disasters
- ▶ No use of private/foundation grants (\$9.7 million in 2020)

NEW COSTS (ACTUAL/POTENTIAL)

- ▶ Purchase of security paper for all ballots
- ▶ Possible printing costs – all ballots must have specific ballot # printed at top
- ▶ Additional staffing may be needed for overnight shifts and to meet compressed timelines for absentee ballot processing and Election Night processing
- ▶ If voters wait in line for more than 1 hour during a General Election, the number of assigned voters must be reduced to 2,000; this could triple the number of precincts in Fulton County.
- ▶ Sanctions are possible if several key deadlines are not met.

ADMINISTRATION

- ▶ Major procedural updates and extensive re-training will be needed for absentee ballots, provisional ballots, and Election Day processing
- ▶ SEB may call for performance reviews of elections officials and potentially appoint temporary officials

OPERATIONAL

- ▶ Timelines are shortened for the request / delivery of absentee ballots, with a cutoff 11 days before an Election.
- ▶ Voters must provide Drivers License #, last 4 digits of SSN or other ID on the outer envelope
- ▶ Ballot processing may not cease on Election Night; by 10 p.m. the number of ballots must be reported to SOS; reporting by 5 p.m. after Election
- ▶ Out-of-precinct provisional ballots may not be accepted before 5 p.m. on Election Day
- ▶ Additional requirements for public notification throughout the Election Cycle

VOTER EDUCATION

- ▶ Educate voters about shortened timelines for requesting absentee ballots.
- ▶ Educate voters about changes in process for providing ID for requesting absentee ballots.
- ▶ Educate voters about changes in absentee ballot drop box availability.
- ▶ Educate voters about changes in use of provisional ballots for out of precinct provisional ballots

Dr. Ruth

Thank you so much for your presentation. You touched on the importance of voter education, and as the marketing communications person for the department, what are your thoughts around ensuring that voters have this information? Is there a plan to create some talking points

Ms. Corbitt

I can't say that we have plans fleshed out completely yet because I think we still had some questions, about making sure that that we understand everything that the bill includes. There are many other provisions I didn't go into. I tried to focus on those that were most impactful to voters and to operations. But I certainly think, we need to have a full complement of voter education materials, we need to have, talking points, PowerPoints and videos especially on the absentee ballot. Process. In particular that I think voters need to understand what their rights and responsibilities are. And when they can act upon that. What I would say is we can begin that process. And we do have the group from the county manager continued to meet weekly. So those are things that we would want to kind of add to the work plan and begin development. I do want to I'm very curious to hear if there are any interpretations or new information that comes out of the Secretary of State's office that would inform those as well.

Mr. Johnson

Thank you, Jessica is always a great presentation. I know sometimes that litigation comes out and it pauses it or keeps it going or where we as it relates to outside legislation. And for my understanding, there was a resolution yesterday from the County Board of Commissioners. The Board of Commissioners approved a resolution that contemplates legal action related to SB 202.

Ms. Corbitt

Yes there was a discussion in Executive Session based on and pursuant to the resolution that did pass yesterday

Mr. Johnson

I was going to have a question about the mobile voting units. But you did mention that it has to not just be an emergency, but an emergency as defined by the governor, in order to use our mobile voting units

Ms. Corbitt

A typical power outage would not meet that mandate. The legislation reads, declared emergency not a declared storm

Mr. Johnson

I just I want to put it in perspective, we can now only have eight drop boxes in use in the entire county, and we've had before 30 plus. So now that means we won't even be able to have drop boxes at all of our early voting locations anymore because of the sheer number. And it's just odd to me that a county with 45,000 people and Fulton County has 1 million people would have the same number. There was no proportion as to population. It's just you can have eight, right?

Ms. Corbitt

It's 1 per 100,000 registered voters. So actually, most counties will have fewer than then eight

#10-RETAINING OUTSIDE COUNSEL

Attorney Lowman advised the Board to discuss in Executive Session.

#11- CTCL GRANT FUNDS AUDIT

Mr. Wingate

Yes, I personally found out that the BOC had taken this action. I would suggest to the board that Yeah, we can table that unless there's other discussion

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Wan entertained a motion to close the regular session and convene into executive session to discuss Pending Litigation. The motion was made by Mr. Wingate, seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried by a unanimous vote of 4-0.

After executive session, Chairman Wan entertained a motion to resume into regular session. The motion was made by Mr. Wingate, seconded by Vice Chair Nuriddin and carried by a unanimous vote of 4-0.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other items requiring the Board's action, **Chairperson Cooney entertained a motion to adjourn. Mr. Wingate moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion.** Collectively, the Board agreed to adjourn at 1:49 p.m.

The meeting adjourned.

Prepared by,

Mariska Bodison, Board Secretary



INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Fulton County Board of Registration and Elections

FROM: Richard L. Barron, Director, Registration and Elections
Nadine Williams, Elections Chief
Ralph Jones, Registration Chief
Brenda McCloud, Administrative Manager

RE: **Monthly Operations Report – APRIL 2021**

DATE: May 6, 2021

ELECTIONS DIVISION

During the month of April the focus of the Election Division activities were on the following tasks:

November 2, 2021 General Election:

With the changes in legislation from SB202 we are updating procedures to be in compliance. We have been contacted by the representative for Atlanta Public Schools and Fulton County Schools to add an ESPLOST to the ballot. The budget will be revised to include the ESPLOST election cost contribution. The municipalities' office build surveys and resolutions are being forwarded to CES as received for ballot building.

Polling Locations:

We are attempting to find alternate locations for polling precincts with active voters over 5000 and for locations that have declined usage. All proposed sites will be presented to the board at the June board meeting.

Check In Locations:

Training will be conducted when the new inventory system is installed and when SB202 forms are finalized by the SOS. A revision has been made to the facilities secured:

- Frederick Douglas High School – new location
- Holcomb Bridge Middle – new location
- Maynard Jackson High School – to remain
- Paul D. West Middle – to remain
- Liberty Point Elementary – to replace South Annex
- North Springs United Methodist Church – to replace North Annex
- Vickery Mill Elementary – to replace Roswell City Hall

Advance Voting:

Facility reservations for Advance Voting locations are being placed. We are working to ensure locations are evenly distributed throughout the county. A map of proposed locations will be presented to the board at the June meeting.

Absentee Ballot Drop Boxes:

SB202 reduces the boxes to be utilized to 8 total. We are confirming with legal that boxes do not have to be placed at the election offices (Government Center, South Annex, and North Annex) since staff will be on site at the office locations during business hours to receive ballots. Training of Advance Voting Managers will include the SB202 absentee ballot drop box procedures. A map of proposed locations will be presented to the board at the June meeting.

Poll Worker Recruitment & Training:

Election Officers are in the process of revising class curriculums to ensure SB202 procedures are included and awaiting SOS guidance on procedures and new forms to finalize. A virtual demo is being scheduled with Know Ink to implement electronic fee schedules and procedures to expedite poll worker payroll.

Election Preparation Center & Hapeville Annex:

Supply and equipment inventory is being conducted. Staff is currently placing orders for equipment and supplies to ensure there are no equipment need overlaps with advance voting, training, and Election Day needs.

Mobile Voting Units:

SB202 has made the units obsolete. Units we be utilized for voter education, Election Day emergency use, if approved, and loaned to other county departments upon request.

Tasks to Be Performed for Future Reporting Periods:

- Virtual meeting conducted for election planning, preparation, and processes.
- Meeting and review of Elections Division internal processes and procedures
- Organize warehouse spaces
- Implement an automated inventory management system
- Create directory of poll workers
- Reorganize check in procedures
- Revise municipal election budget

REGISTRATION DIVISION

This Monthly Report provides a summary of the critical registration activities, workload levels and voter statistics for the Registration Division of the Fulton County Registration & Elections Department for April 2021. The primary activities upon which we worked in April were processing voter registration applications, confirmation notices, researching street issues, municipal voter/street audits as well as voter registration applicant processing problems, preparing notices to voter registration applicants, scanning, indexing registration cards, and training.

VOTER REGISTRATION

The total number of voter registration applications we have received in 2021 is **32,835**. We received **6,751** voter applications in April. We are processing those applications.

As of May 1, 859,902 (822,491 active and 37,311 inactive) registered voters reside in Fulton County.

The Historic Overview of Registration Applications for the Months of March/April are as follows:

Year	March Voter Registration Applications	April Voter Registration Applications
2012	11,323	11,571
2013	6,061	5,724
2014	7,627	5,374
2015	6,498	5,608
2016	13,933	19,704
2017	21,425	19,036
2018	24,841	26,124
2019	23,952	22,716
2020	19,422	10,875
2021	8,146	6,751
Total Applications for 2021		32,835
Total Applications Processed 2021		
Total New Applications for 2021		

WORKLOAD STATISTICS FOR April:

Voter Registration Applications Needed to be Processed		
Total Applications needed to be processed		1,143
DDS Applications		1,143
Online Applications		0
Paper Applications		0
Confirmation Letters		0

Completed Voter Registration Applications Processed for April		
Total Number of Processed Applications		7,559
Total New Registrations to Fulton County		4,221
New Registration (1st Time)		1,864
DDS Applications	1,533	
Online Applications	118	
Paper Applications	213	
Transferred into Fulton		2,357
DDS Applications	1,921	
Online Applications	99	
Paper Applications	337	
Total Number of Changes to Fulton County		3,338
Address Changes Only	2,390	
Name & Address Changes	312	
Duplicate (No Changes)	209	
Name Changes	427	
Total Number of Removals of Fulton County		3,997
Felons	635	
Moved out of State	1	
Duplication	304	
Error	73	
Hearing	0	
Not Verified Deletion	0	
Requested	39	
Transfers out of county	2,393	
Vital Records	552	
Mental Incompetent	0	
Inactive to Deletion	0	

REGISTRATION REPORTS:

FELON LIST

State law requires counties to review felon reports and to conduct hearings for those voters with matching data that raises questions regarding their eligibility to vote in accordance with O.G.C.A 21-2-228. All reports must be processed in accordance with O.C.G.A. 21-2-231.

Number scheduled for April Hearing 0.

We mailed 255 letters to voters who are suspected felons. If they do not respond, they will be removed from the voting rolls.

DEPUTY REGISTRAR ACTIVITIES

The Registration Division completed the following Voter Education Activities for the Month of April:

Deputy Registrars Trained	Deputy Registrar Classes	Deputy Registrar Drives
0	0	0

We issued 62 TVICs. We sold 0 voter list CD's.

PERSONNEL/STAFFING:

We have a total of 16 permanent employees and 2 managers currently. We have 4 supplemental workers. They will be processing voter registration applications and indexing absentee and voter registration applications. We have an opening for the Registration Manager.

MUNICIPAL VOTER FILE

We have sent each municipality a voter list for their examination of their voters. We asked the municipalities to verify that the voter addresses are in their municipality. The deadline to receive changes is July 2, 2021.

STREET FILE AUDITS

We have identified addresses to be a non-residential address or a post office box. We have found 1,280. A letter was sent out on April 6, 2021 to the voter to update their voter information. If we do not hear from the voter, a hearing is scheduled on May 13, 2021 at 10:00 am. At that time, the Board of Registration will make the determination of the status as a registered voter in Fulton County.

UGA ABSENTEE BALLOT SIGNATURE MATCH STUDY

The SOS with the help of UGA researchers have been selected to conduct an absentee ballot signature match from the November General Election. Fulton has to submit 557 randomly selected absentee ballot envelopes by Friday, April 16th. These envelopes will be scanned to the SOS for their auditing purpose.

POSSIBLE JUNE 2020 PRIMARY AND RUNOFF ELECTION DOUBLE VOTERS

The SOS office generated a report that identified possible double voters during the June 2020 Primary and Runoff Elections. Each of these voters voted in-person on election day and may have voted by mail absentee ballot, or in-person during early voting. We are reviewing the list of voters to determination if these voters were actual double voters. We have to report our findings to the SOS

office by April 30th. Below is a chart on the number of possible double voters.

<u>ELECTION</u>	<u>FULTON</u>	<u>STATWIDE</u>
JUNE 2020 PRIMARY IN PERSON	13	162
JUNE 2020 PRIMARY BY MAIL	235	881
JUNE 2020 PRIMARY TOTAL	248	1043
AUGUST 2020 RUNOFF IN PERSON	85	278
AUGUST 2020 RUNOFF BY MAIL	1	16
AUGUST 2020 RUNOFF TOTAL	86	295

IMPACT OF SB 202

- Absentee ballots must be printed on security paper that incorporates authentication features. [very expensive]
- The period to apply for a mail in ballot currently begins 180 days before Election Day and ends 4 days before. This reduces the application period so that it begins 78 days before and ends 11 days before.
- Photo ID requirement for a mail in ballot application
- Clarifying existing policy that those in jails must be able to request necessary personal effects to enable them to make a request for an absentee ballot.
- Repeals signature match for mail in ballot applications
- Bans SoS, counties, and other government entities from sending absentee ballot applications without a voter's request.
- Limits those who can pre-fill a ballot application for a voter to an authorized relative or a person signing as assisting an illiterate or disabled voter
- Limits those who can handle or return an absentee ballot application
- Adds a misdemeanor for anyone other than the elector, "a person signing as assisting an illiterate or physically disabled elector with his or her application, a common carrier charged with returning the ballot application, an absentee ballot clerk, a registrar, or a law enforcement officer in the course of an investigation" to handle or return an absentee ballot application.
- If anybody besides the SoS sends an application for an absentee ballot to a voter, they must include a disclaimer that the document is not a ballot and is not being sent by a government entity. Text and design are specified
- Restricting the ability of any person or entity to send mail in ballot applications other than the SoS, superintendents, boards of registrars, or absentee ballot clerk
- Extends the period a hospitalized person can request a ballot from five days to ten days. The request should be processed immediately and the ballot delivered by board of registrars or Absentee Ballot Clerk
- Requires voters to print identification number from Georgia Drivers License or State ID on outer envelope. If voter does not have either Georgia Drivers License or State ID, voter can indicate by checking a box and include the last four digits of Social Security Number. Stipulates the envelope should be designed so as to hide identifying information. Also states that it's illegal to open the envelope for any purpose other than removing the ballot
- Requires voter to sign an oath stating they completed their ballot in secret, that no one else has seen it except (i) authorized helpers, (ii) the elector's child under 18 years old, or (iii) any child

under 12 years old, and that they have not let an unauthorized person deliver or return their ballot. (includes wording of proposed oath)

- Creates Ranked Choice Voting for overseas citizens and military
- Eliminates signature match for voters who provide Georgia Drivers License or State ID number. Stipulates signature match for any voter providing the last four of social security number.
- If the information on the ID does not match voter registration information, the absentee ballot will be rejected.
- Beginning the third Monday prior to the election at 8:00 AM, the election superintendent is authorized to open the absentee ballots that have been verified for the purpose of scanning (but not tabulating) the absentee ballots. At least three persons (registrars, deputy registrars, poll workers, or absentee ballot clerks) must be present. Tally or tabulation is prohibited until polls close on election day. Counties must notify the Secretary of State at least seven days prior of their intent before beginning the process.
- The scanning process is open to the public but only employees are allowed to touch or otherwise handle the ballots. Anyone involved in processing and scanning ballots will swear an oath similar to that of poll workers
- County executive committees or state executive committees where no county executive committee exists of each political party has the right to designate two persons to act as monitors for the process. Independent and non-partisan candidates may appoint one monitor to observe the process. Monitors are prohibited from interfering with the process, bring in any recording devices including cell phones, engaging in campaigning activity, etc.
- The SEB will promulgate rules requiring
 - Reconciliation procedures
 - Prompt scanning of ballots after mail in ballot envelopes are opened
 - Secrecy of election results before polls close on Election Day
 - Other protections to protect the integrity of the process set forth in this section
- Counties can begin opening and counting mail in ballots as early as the third Monday before Election Day
- The Secretary of State is authorized to inspect information contained in absentee ballot applications, absentee ballots, and/or absentee ballot envelopes any time in a twenty-four month period following election at his or her discretion.
- If a voter goes to the wrong polling place, they can only cast a provisional ballot if it's after 5pm on Election Day and they sign an statement saying that they're unable to vote at their correct polling place before polls close and why
- Provisional ballots cast out of precinct will only be counted if the voter voted on Election Day, between 5pm and the regular closing time, and provided a sworn statement as required by Section 34 of this bill. The ballot and sworn statement will be sent to the SoS and will be reviewed by the SEB
- As soon as possible after polls close, and no later than 10pm on the day of the primary, election, or runoff, the superintendent will report to the SoS and publicly post
 - The number of ballots cast on Election Day, including provisional ballots
 - The number of ballots cast during early voting
 - The number of mail in ballots received by the deadline
- The superintendent will then compare the total number of ballots reported in the primary or runoff election minus any rejected/uncured absentee ballots, uncounted provisional ballots, and any

other uncounted ballots, with the total number of ballots cast. They will report the results of the comparison, along with any explanatory materials, to the SoS. Any discrepancies will be fully investigated and reported to SoS

- When a ballot must be duplicated because it's torn, bent, or for some other reason can't be put through the tabulation machine, the superintendent must order a duplication panel to duplicate the ballot instead of simply doing it themselves, which is the current practice.
- Sets out the composition of the duplication panel for partisan and for nonpartisan elections
- Each duplicate ballot must be assigned a number that will connect it to the original ballot
- Moving the deadline for certification of elections from the second Friday after Election Day to the Monday after, shortening the time period for certification by 4 days
- Only mail in ballots received by the end of Election Day will be counted (except military overseas votes)
- Making it a felony to take someone's mail in ballot for delivery or return to the Board of Elections
- Voting Code/procedures will further be amended by allowing for scanned ballot images to be public records subject to disclosure

TASKS TO BE PERFORMED FOR FUTURE REPORTING PERIODS:

- Notifications of Hearing for Felons
- Coordinating Deputy Voter Registration Drives as Requested
- Continue List Maintenance Activities
- Continue Review / Update Voter Registration procedures
- Continue Indexing, Scanning Voter Registration Applications
- Continue to Perform / Conduct performance counseling sessions
- Respond to State Election Investigations
- Continue Precinct Card Mailings and other Correspondences
- Staff Training

ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

This report provides specific administration and election tasks performed during the month of April 2021. Standard operations and activities from the Administrative Division include: personnel, payroll, procurement, finance, travel and training coordination and support to the Board of R&E and Registration and Elections Divisions.

Zoom Meetings Attended

Department Supervisor's Meeting - Weekly
 County Manager's Strategy Team - Weekly
 Municipal Election Review – Budget, Contract & Timeline
 Purchasing Meeting – Weekly
 H.R. Liaisons Update Meeting

Elections Budgets

The Finance Department, the Purchasing Department and the Strategy Executive team are still working closely with the department for reconciling 2020 election expenses and staying on track with grant expenses.

2021 Election Preparation Update

The budget for the 2021 municipal elections and countywide special SPLOST election has been prepared. The intergovernmental agreement with the flat rate contribution costs to the municipalities was submitted to the city clerks in April 2021. The timeline to receive the documents and check is May 15, 2021.

Personnel Vacancies and Recruitment

The following vacant positions were open for recruitment, interviews and selections:

Deputy Director – R&E	New funded position	job announcement was posted	Candidate chosen. Offered being tendered.
Voter Education & Outreach Manager	New funded position	Title of Position changed	H.R. to process new classification for recruitment
Registration Manager	Vacant Position due to resignation	Position will be posted in May	Waiting on qualified list of applicants

2021 Audit Plan

The Fulton County Audit Department is conducting an internal financial review audit of the department, requesting information for election budgets, procurements, contracts and standard operating procedures. Brenda McCloud is coordinating the responses for the department.

Standard Operating Procedures (**SOPs**) sent to Audit Division

Administration	Elections	Registration
Grants Process	Poll Worker Manual	Georgia Voter Registration System User Guide
Election Budget Process	Supply & Logistics	Online Voter Registration



#	Level	Indented Name	Status	Start Date	Due Date	Assigned To	Last Comment	Updates	Last Updated
	Plan	2021 Elections Post Assessment Project Plan	On Track	2/16/2021	12/31/2021				3/15/2021
1	Milestone	Critical Operations	On Track	3/18/2021	6/30/2021	Richard Barron			
1.1	Deliverable	Department Leadership Structure Review	Achieved	3/18/2021	4/30/2021	Richard Barron	The leadership structure has been evaluated and PDQs have been submitted to HR in order to ask the BOC to approve more staff. The hierarchy and who reports to who has been decided.		5/3/2021
1.2	Deliverable	Elections Central	Achieved	3/18/2021	4/30/2021	Richard Barron	We have provided Tim Dimond our needs.		5/3/2021
1.3	Deliverable	Development and compilation of current SOP	On Track	3/18/2021	5/31/2021				4/2/2021
1.4	Deliverable	Automated Elections Plan	Achieved	3/18/2021	3/31/2021				4/2/2021
1.5	Deliverable	Implementation of Inventory and tracking system	On Track	3/18/2021	6/30/2021				4/2/2021
1.6	Deliverable	Defend voter rights and accessibility without restrictions	Achieved	3/18/2021	4/16/2021	Richard Barron			4/12/2021
2	Milestone	OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES	On Track	2/1/2021	12/31/2021	Richard Barron			4/6/2021
2.1	Deliverable	Develop an Annual Automated Elections Project Plan	Achieved	2/1/2021	2/26/2021	Nadine Williams			3/1/2021
2.1.1	Task	Develop Elections Project Plan for Election Division operations to include election warehouse operations, equipment deployment, polling site selection, etc.	Achieved	2/1/2021	2/26/2021	Nadine Williams			3/1/2021
2.1.2	Task	Develop Elections Project Plan for Registration Division operations	Achieved	2/1/2021	2/26/2021	Ralph Jones			3/1/2021
2.1.3	Task	Develop detailed Elections Project Plan for Absentee Ballot processing to include opening, processing, data entry, tabulation, location, etc.	Achieved	2/1/2021	2/26/2021	Ralph Jones			3/1/2021

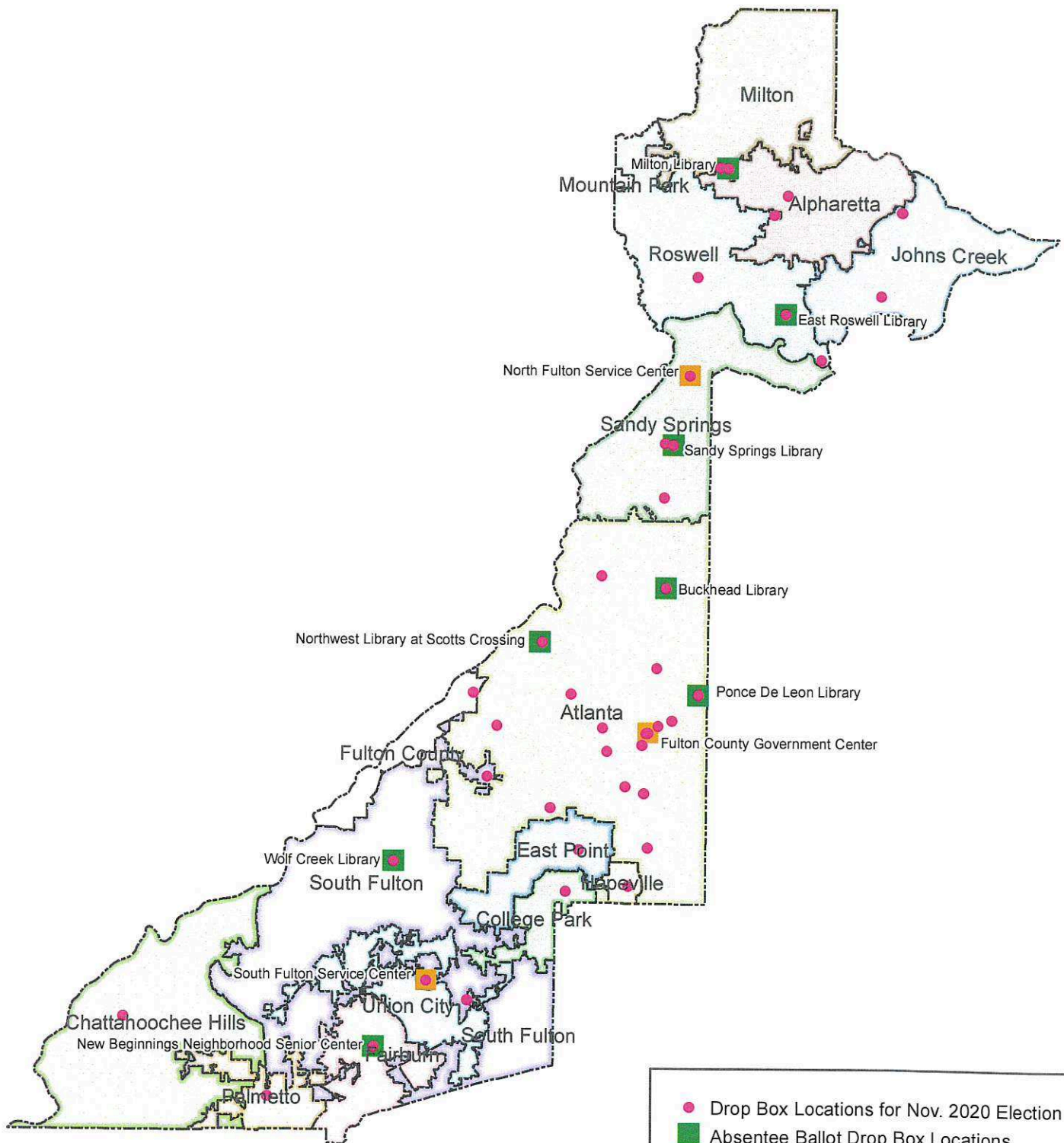
#	Level	Indented Name	Status	Start Date	Due Date	Assigned To	Last Comment	Updates	Last Updated
2.1.4	Task	Develop detailed Elections Project Plan for Administrative Division functions to include, staffing, voter education, election budget preparation and tracking, etc.	Achieved	2/1/2021	2/26/2021	Brenda McCloud			3/1/2021
2.1.5	Task	Develop detailed Elections Project Plan for Early Voting operations to include staffing, site selection, recruitment plan, equipment deployment, etc.	Achieved	2/1/2021	2/26/2021	Sharon Benjamin			3/1/2021
2.2	Deliverable	Poll Worker Staffing Plan for Election Day Workers (Develop and Implement)	On Track	2/1/2021	7/31/2021	Johnny Harris			5/2/2021
2.2.1	Task	Fully implement and utilize poll worker staffing plan	On Track	2/1/2021	7/31/2021	Johnny Harris	We are currently working with members of the IT Department to fully implement the plan.		5/2/2021
2.2.2	Task	Develop database for poll workers to include those recruited on-line and by the SOS Office	On Track	2/1/2021	5/21/2021	Steve Williams	The database itself is complete. Johnny Harris to schedule meeting to fully define user requirements so that all needed functionality can be implemented.		5/3/2021
2.2.3	Task	Develop communications plan for poll worker recruitment	On Track	2/1/2021	5/31/2021	Johnny Harris	The communication plan is complete		5/2/2021
2.2.4	Task	Develop poll worker assignment process	Achieved	2/1/2021	4/16/2021	Johnny Harris			4/18/2021
2.3	Deliverable	Implementation of Poll Worker University for Election Day and Early Voting Staff	On Track			Sharon Benjamin			5/2/2021
2.3.1	Deliverable	Enhanced Poll Worker and Election Technician Screening Process	On Track	2/1/2021	6/30/2021	Richard Barron	Johnny and Axiver need to provide detailed comments on where this stands, but they are working on this.		4/18/2021
2.3.2	Task	Work with temp agencies to further develop and refine screening process of all election workers; submit action plan	Achieved	2/1/2021	4/30/2021	Nadine Williams			5/2/2021
2.4	Deliverable	Automate Poll Worker AWS Entry and Pay	On Track	2/1/2021	5/15/2021	Johnny Harris	The encrypted poll worker application will go live before the end of the week.		5/2/2021

#	Level	Indented Name	Status	Start Date	Due Date	Assigned To	Last Comment	Updates	Last Updated
2.4.1	Task	Investigate a method to automatically populate fields in AMS poll worker data entry: work with HR	Achieved	2/1/2021	3/31/2021	Johnny Harris	We forwarded the information to the IT Department. This shouldn't be a problem moving forward..		4/8/2021
2.4.2	Task	Contact IT and HR to determine an automated pay option for poll workers	Achieved	2/1/2021	3/31/2021	Johnny Harris	We had a productive meeting with HR and IT on April 7th.		4/8/2021
2.4.3	Task	Investigate options for outsourcing poll worker pay	Achieved	2/1/2021	3/31/2021	Johnny Harris	We were not able to find a way to outsource poll worker pay.		4/8/2021
2.5	Deliverable	Implement Early Voting Staffing Plan	On Track	2/1/2021	6/1/2021	Sharon Benjamin	Dates moved from April 30 to July 1st		5/2/2021
2.5.1	Task	Develop early voting desk procedures	On Track	2/1/2021	6/1/2021	Sharon Benjamin	Dates moved from April 30 to July 1st		5/2/2021
2.5.2	Task	Define written early voting recruitment plan	On Track	2/1/2021	6/1/2021	Sharon Benjamin	Dates moved from April 30 to July 1st		5/2/2021
2.5.3	Task	Define written early voting recruiting assignment	On Track	2/1/2021	6/1/2021	Sharon Benjamin	Dates moved from April 30 to July 1st		5/2/2021
2.5.4	Task	Fully utilize staffing plan developed by Strategy	On Track	2/1/2021	6/1/2021	Sharon Benjamin	Task will be completed by July 1, 2021		5/2/2021
2.5.5	Task	Develop early voting training outline/plan	On Track	2/1/2021	6/1/2021	Sharon Benjamin	Dates moved from April 30 to July 1st		5/2/2021
2.6	Deliverable	Provide Absentee Ballot Security Transport	On Track	5/3/2021	6/30/2021	Ralph Jones			5/3/2021
2.7	Deliverable	Document Absentee Ballot and Signature Verification Process	Canceled	5/3/2021	6/30/2021	Ralph Jones			5/10/2021
2.8	Deliverable	Document Polling Location Selection Process	Achieved	2/1/2021	3/31/2021	Richard Barron			3/15/2021
2.8.1	Task	Define and submit written procedures on the polling place selection process (document should include eligibility, restrictions and any supporting documents for signature)	Achieved	2/1/2021	3/31/2021	Nadine Williams			3/15/2021
2.9	Deliverable	Create an Equipment Inventory and Tracking Process	On Track	2/1/2021	6/30/2021	Nadine Williams			3/11/2021
2.9.1	Task	Investigate inventory tracking system for election equipment	Achieved	2/1/2021	3/31/2021	Nadine Williams			4/2/2021
2.9.2	Task	Inventory all election equipment	Achieved	2/1/2021	3/31/2021	Nadine Williams			4/2/2021

#	Level	Indented Name	Status	Start Date	Due Date	Assigned To	Last Comment	Updates	Last Updated
2.10	Deliverable	Revise Elections Check-In Lists for Election Equipment Return	On Track	2/1/2021	5/31/2021	Nadine Williams	Date extended: awaiting SB202 update from SOS		5/7/2021
2.10.1	Task	Develop written audit procedures and refine checklist for election equipment return on election night	On Track	2/1/2021	8/1/2021	Nadine Williams	Change due date to 8/1/2021; awaiting form changes from SB202 from SOS; awaiting inventory system installation		5/2/2021
2.10.2	Task	Secure additional check-in sites	Achieved	2/1/2021	3/31/2021	Nadine Williams			3/7/2021
2.10.3	Task	Develop written process for securing additional check-in sites	Achieved	2/1/2021	3/31/2021	Nadine Williams			4/2/2021
3	Milestone	ADMINISTRATIVE	On Track	2/1/2021	8/31/2021	Richard Barron	Work session with BRE being planned.		5/10/2021
3.1	Deliverable	Documented Standardized Election Budget Process	Achieved	2/1/2021	3/31/2021	Brenda McCloud	See Attachment - Budget Process		4/21/2021
3.1.1	Task	Develop written process and procedures for election budget development to include timeline for develop, how to complete prorated budgets for municipal elections, election expense tracking procedures, etc.	Achieved	2/1/2021	3/31/2021	Brenda McCloud	The Election Budget Process is attached.		5/3/2021
3.2	Deliverable	Contingency Plan Development	On Track	5/3/2021	8/30/2021	Nadine Williams			5/3/2021
3.3	Deliverable	Develop Grant Tracking Procedures	Achieved	2/1/2021	3/31/2021	Brenda McCloud	I have compiled information to include as steps in the process.		3/15/2021
3.3.1	Task	Develop written procedures for developing grant budgets and tracking and reconciling grant expenses.	Achieved	2/1/2021	3/31/2021	Brenda McCloud	2.3.1 should be combined with 2.3		3/15/2021
3.4	Deliverable	Develop Robust Voter Education Program	On Track	2/1/2021	5/31/2021	Brenda McCloud			3/22/2021
3.4.1	Task	Send voter education plan to County Manager team	On Track	2/1/2021	5/31/2021	Brenda McCloud	Date extended: awaiting SB202 updates from SOS		4/19/2021
3.4.2	Task	Review voter education plan with County Manager team	Off Track	2/1/2021	4/30/2021	Brenda McCloud	Plan will be reassigned to voter education lead and/or manager		3/22/2021

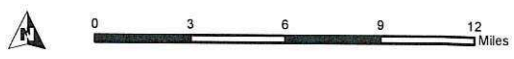
#	Level	Indented Name	Status	Start Date	Due Date	Assigned To	Last Comment	Updates	Last Updated
3.4.3	Task	Develop any revised detailed voter education plan for 2021 to include: specific offerings, specific partnerships and agencies where seminars and demonstrations will be conducted, list of potential new agencies, meeting schedule with elected officials, list of public events where Voter Ed team can provide service, etc.	On Track	2/1/2021	5/31/2021	Brenda McCloud			3/22/2021
3.4.4	Task	Develop a plan for virtually conducting voter education duties in 2021	Off Track	2/1/2021	3/26/2021		Waiting on Deputy and Voter Education Manager		3/22/2021
3.5	Deliverable	Create Shared Permanent Call Center	Achieved						3/22/2021
3.6	Deliverable	Develop Departmental Cross Training Program	On Track	2/1/2021	6/30/2021	Nadine Williams	Date extended, waiting SB202 updates from SOS		5/7/2021
3.6.1	Task	Develop listing of roles in the department where cross training is beneficial	Achieved	2/1/2021	3/31/2021	Nadine Williams		5	4/19/2021
3.6.2	Task	Develop scheduled for cross training among divisions	On Track	2/1/2021	6/30/2021	Nadine Williams	Date extended awaiting SB202 updates from SOS		5/7/2021
3.6.3	Task	Schedule Dominion to conduct departmental training on BMD operations	On Track	2/1/2021	8/31/2021	Richard Barron			4/12/2021
3.7	Deliverable	Schedule and facilitate work session with BRE	Achieved	4/30/2021	5/7/2021	Richard Barron			
4	Milestone	ELECTIONS CENTRAL	On Track	2/1/2021	5/28/2021	Tim Dimond			2/22/2021
4.1	Deliverable	Procure/Build Centralized Elections Warehouse and Offices	On Track	2/1/2021	5/28/2021	Tim Dimond		1	2/22/2021
4.1.1	Task	Submit questionnaire to Elections to determine elections central needs	Achieved	1/1/2021	1/21/2021	Tim Dimond			2/26/2021
4.1.2	Task	Return questionnaire to DREAM on elections central needs	Achieved	1/1/2021	2/1/2021	Richard Barron			3/15/2021
4.1.3	Task	Schedule meeting with County Manager's Team to review elections central needs	Achieved	2/1/2021	2/12/2021	Tim Dimond		1	3/22/2021

#	Level	Indented Name	Status	Start Date	Due Date	Assigned To	Last Comment	Updates	Last Updated
4.1.4	Task	Explore lease to own options for Elections Central	On Track	2/1/2021	5/28/2021	Tim Dirmond			3/22/2021
5	Milestone	LEGISLATIVE	On Track						
5.1	Deliverable	Continue to pursue legislative action to improve voter experience	On Track	3/2/2021	12/31/2021	Jessica Corbitt			3/22/2021



- Drop Box Locations for Nov. 2020 Election
- Absentee Ballot Drop Box Locations
- Election Office Locations

Absentee Ballot Drop Box Locations for November 2, 2021 Election



5/11/2021

2021 State Elections & Voter Registration Calendar

Elections	Voter Registration Deadline	Election Date
General Election Runoff for Federal Offices	December 7, 2020	January 5, 2021
Special Election Date	February 15, 2021	March 16, 2021
Special Election Runoff Date	February 15, 2021	April 13, 2021
Special Election Date	May 17, 2021	June 15, 2021
Special Election Runoff Date	May 17, 2021	July 13, 2021
Special Election Date	August 23, 2021	September 21, 2021
Special Election Runoff Date	August 23, 2021	October 19, 2021
General Election/Special Election Date	October 4, 2021	November 2, 2021
General Election/Special Election Runoff Date	October 4, 2021	November 30, 2021

Key Dates

January 1, 2021	Deadline to mail or issue absentee ballots for Federal Runoff. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-384(a) (State Holiday - State is closed)
January 5, 2021	Date of Federal Runoff Election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-501(a)(3)
January 18, 2021	Martin Luther King's Birthday Holiday (State is closed)
February 1, 2021	Last day to fix and publish qualifying fees for offices to be filled during the 2021 Election Cycle. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-131(a)(1)(A)
February 15, 2021	Last day for a person to register and be eligible to vote in the March Special Election and Runoff Election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-224(b)(2) *February 15th is a Federal Holiday*
February 22, 2021	Earliest day for a registrar to mail an absentee ballot for the March Special Election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-384(a)(2)
February 22, 2021	Advanced (Absentee In-Person) Voting begins for March the Special Election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-385(d)(1)(A)
May 17, 2021	Last day for a person to register and be eligible to vote in the June Special Election and Runoff Election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-224(b)(2)
May 24, 2021	Earliest day for a registrar to mail an absentee ballot for the June Special Election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-384(a)(2)
May 24, 2021	Advanced (Absentee In-Person) Voting begins for the June Special Election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-385(d)(1)(A)
May 31, 2021	Memorial Day Holiday (State is closed)

July 2, 2021	Last day to submit absentee ballot application for the July Special Election Runoff O.C.G.A. 21-2-381(a)(1)(A)
July 4, 2021	Independence Day Holiday (State is closed on July 5, 2021)
August 16, 2021	Earliest day to apply for an absentee ballot for the November General Election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-381(a)(1)(A)
August 16th – 20th	Municipal Qualifying Period - No less than three days and no more than five days. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-132(c)(3)(A)
August 23, 2021	Last day for a person to register and be eligible to vote in the September Special Election and Runoff Election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-224(b)(2)
August 30, 2021	Earliest day for a registrar to mail an absentee ballot for the September Special Election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-384(a)(2)
August 30, 2021	Advanced (Absentee In-Person) Voting begins for the September Special Election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-385(d)(1)(A)
September 4, 2021	Mandatory Saturday Voting for the September Special Election O.C.G.A. § 21-2-385(d)
September 5, 2021	Optional Sunday Voting for the September Special Election O.C.G.A. § 21-2-385(d)
September 6, 2021	Labor Day Holiday (State is closed)
September 10, 2021	Last day to submit absentee ballot application for the September Special Election O.C.G.A. 21-2-381(a)(1)(A)
September 11, 2021	Mandatory Saturday Voting for the September Special Election O.C.G.A. § 21-2-385(d)
September 12, 2021	Optional Sunday Voting for the September Special Election O.C.G.A. § 21-2-385(d)
October 4, 2021	Last day for a person to register and be eligible to vote in the November General Election and Runoff Election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-224(a)
October 8, 2021	Last day to submit absentee ballot application for the October Special Election Runoff O.C.G.A. 21-2-381(a)(1)(A)
October 11, 2021	Columbus Day Holiday (State is closed)
October 12, 2021	Earliest day for a registrar to mail an absentee ballot for the November General/Special Election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-384(a)(2)
October 12, 2021	Advanced (Absentee In-Person) Voting begins for the November General Election. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-385(d)(1)
October 16, 2021	Mandatory Saturday Voting for the November Municipal General/Special Election O.C.G.A. § 21-2-385(d)
October 17, 2021	Optional Sunday Voting for the November Municipal General/Special Election O.C.G.A. § 21-2-385(d)
October 22, 2021	Last day to submit absentee ballot application for the November General Election O.C.G.A. 21-2-381(a)(1)(A)
October 23, 2021	Mandatory Saturday Voting for the November Municipal General/Special Election O.C.G.A. § 21-2-385(d)
October 24, 2021	Optional Sunday Voting for the November Municipal General/Special Election O.C.G.A. § 21-2-385(d)
As soon as possible	Absentee ballots shall be mailed out as soon as possible prior to the General Election Runoff for Local and State Offices. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-384 (a) Advanced (In-Person) Voting begins for the General Election Runoff for Local and State Offices. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-385(d)(1)
November 11, 2021	Veteran's Day Holiday (State is closed)
November 19, 2021	Last day to submit absentee ballot application for the November General Election Runoff O.C.G.A. 21-2-381(a)(1)(A)

**O.C.G.A. § 21-2-14. When the last day for the exercise of any privilege or discharge of any duty prescribed or required by this chapter shall fall on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the next succeeding business day shall be the last day for the exercise of such privilege or the discharge of such duty.*

BYLAWS

BOARD OF REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS FULTON COUNTY, GEORGIA

ARTICLE I

Purpose

These Bylaws are adopted by the Board of Registration and Elections of Fulton County, Georgia (the "Board"), to provide operational and ethical guidance to assist the Board and its members in the accomplishment of the following duties and responsibilities:

- To carry out the Board's obligations under state and local law;
- To select, support and periodically assess the performance of the executive director (the "Director") of the Department of Registration and Elections of Fulton County (the "Department");
- To provide financial oversight for the Department, and to advocate for resources sufficient to carry out the Department's obligations;
- To ensure that elections administered by the Department comply with applicable federal and state law and are worthy of the public's trust;
- To articulate the Department's goals and accomplishments to the public and to the elected bodies to which the Department answers so that the public and elected officials maintain confidence in elections administered by the Department.

ARTICLE II

Officers

Section 1. The officers of the Board shall be a chairperson and a vice chairperson.

Section 2. The chairperson shall be appointed in the manner prescribed by law and shall serve for a term as provided by such law until his/her successor is duly appointed and qualified. The chairperson:

- Shall convene and conduct all Board meetings, and shall call special Board meetings when necessary or advisable;
- Shall prepare and distribute the agenda for Board meetings;
- Shall work in partnership with the Director to ensure that Board policies and directives are carried out;
- Shall act as spokesperson for the Board consistent with Board policies and directives, and shall convey the Board's policies and directives to the Director;
- Shall coordinate an annual performance evaluation of the Director;
- May vote on any matter presented to the Board membership, but shall not be authorized to present a main motion at a meeting of the Board.

Section 3. The vice chairperson shall be elected annually by majority vote at the July Board meeting of each year, and shall serve for one year or until his or her successor is duly elected. Any member of the Board shall be eligible to serve as vice chairperson; provided, however, that only an appointee of one political party shall be entitled to succeed an appointee of the other political party who served during the prior calendar year as vice chairperson. The vice chairperson shall perform the duties of the chairperson of the Board in the event of the absence or disability of the chairperson.

Section 4. Vacancies in the office of the vice chairperson shall be filled by majority vote at any meeting of the Board at which a quorum is present and voting.

ARTICLE III

Meetings

Section 1. Except as provided herein, the Board shall meet monthly on the second Thursday of each month at 10 a.m. Additionally, the Board shall meet at 6:30 p.m. on the days of elections conducted by the Department, to oversee election returns, and at 10 a.m. on the Saturday following any such election, to certify results. The Board shall hold such other meetings as may be necessary upon the call of the chairperson, or by any two members of the Board, with proper notice given pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1. The chairperson may change the date and time of any single meeting by prior electronic communication to members and in compliance with O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1.

Section 2. Notice of the time and place for each regular meeting of the Board shall be served in writing by electronic notification upon each member of the Board, at least 18 hours prior to the scheduled time. Such notice shall contain, so far as practicable, an agenda approved by the chairperson upon which are listed the various items of business to be discussed at such meeting and the issues to be voted upon. It is the responsibility of each member of the Board to file with the Director, and to update, his or her current electronic address as necessary.

Section 3. Special-called meetings may be scheduled by giving actual notice of the time, place and purpose of such meeting to each member of the Board by the Director, and shall additionally comply with applicable law for open meetings. Any and all notice to members of the special-called meeting must be transmitted electronically at least 24 hours in advance of such meeting. Attendance of any member at any special-called meeting shall of itself constitute waiver of notice and waiver of any and all objections to the time and place of the meeting and the manner in which it has been called or convened, except where a member attends a meeting solely for the purpose of stating, at the beginning of the meeting, any objection to the transaction of business.

Section 4. Each meeting shall provide time for public comment, during which citizens may voice voter registration and election-related requests, concerns, questions and opinions to the Board, provided that the total time for public comments shall not exceed one hour, provided further that each speaker must fill out a speaker card, prior to the commencement of the meeting, and shall not be allowed to speak for more than two minutes (or such longer period as the Board may approve), and further provided that speakers are required to refrain from abusive, profane or derogatory language.

two minutes (or such longer period as the Board may approve), and further provided that speakers are required to refrain from abusive, profane or derogatory language.

Section 5. Three members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Board.

Section 6. All actions of the Board shall require a vote of the majority of the members present and voting at any meeting.

Section 7. Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, which shall govern the Board in all cases to which such rules are applicable, and not inconsistent with these by-laws, the Constitution of the State of Georgia of 1983, the United States Constitution, general or special acts of the legislature or any other applicable law, which shall take precedence over such rules.

Section 8. The ability of this Board to discharge its duties and responsibilities depending on a sufficient number of members to constitute a quorum at its meetings, the Board reserves the right to seek the removal of any member whose nonattendance prevents a quorum at regular meetings.

Section 9. The Board shall designate a secretary of the Board, who may be an employee of the Department, to keep a journal of all decisions of the Board and minutes of its meetings. Such records, once approved by the Board, shall constitute the official records of Board decisions.

Article IV

Training

Each Board member is obligated, in cooperation with other members, to ensure that at least one member of the Board obtains the annual training required by state law codified at O.C.G.A. § 21-2-100. In addition, each Board member is obligated to make his or her best efforts to obtain such training each year on an individual basis.

Article V

Political Activities

The Board and its members have the responsibility to administer all elections in which Fulton County voters cast ballots in an impartial and fair manner, and to avoid any appearance of conflict and/or impropriety. All Board members shall comply with the limitations of political activities set forth in O.C.G.A. Section 21-2-214(c), which prohibits their engagement in any political activity on behalf of a candidate, political party or body,

or question while conducting the duties of such person's office. As interpreted by the Board, this prohibits any Board member from being a declared or qualified candidate, or forming an exploratory committee for, any elected public office, or from serving while such member's parent, spouse, child, brother, sister, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, brother-in-law, or sister-in-law is a declared or qualified candidate for any office for which Fulton County voters will cast ballots. No Board member may serve in a visible leadership capacity or position in any campaign for any declared or qualified political candidate seeking election in a contested primary, general or special election to any public office for which Fulton County voters will cast ballots. Visible leadership positions include, but are not limited to, campaign officer positions, honorary campaign officer positions, campaign planning or steering committee positions, campaign finance committee positions, campaign fundraiser host or campaign representative soliciting financial support. No Board member shall publicly endorse any candidate for any elective office for which Fulton County voters will cast ballots. In addition, no Board member shall distribute campaign literature, wear badges, buttons or clothing with partisan messages, or engage in any communication that advocates or criticizes a particular candidate, officeholder, or political party or body while conducting the duties of such person's office. The chairperson of the Board shall not hold any office in a political party at any level of such political party, as prohibited by O.C.G.A. Section 21-2-75. The Board does not interpret O.C.G.A. Section 21-2-214(c) to prohibit any Board member from voting in any primary or election or making financial contributions to candidates or political parties or attending, in an individual capacity, any political or campaign event, meeting, forum or function.

Article VI

Employees

Section 1. The Board hereby delegates the powers and duties of the superintendent and the board of registrars, as provided in O.C.G.A. § 21-2-70 and § 21-2-212, to the Director, pursuant to Sec. 14-42 of the Fulton County Code of Ordinances; provided, however, that the Board acknowledges its ultimate responsibility for the discharge of these powers and duties.

Section 2. The Director is hereby authorized, and has the duty, to direct and supervise the employees of the Department.

Section 3. No individual Board member is authorized to direct the work of the staff, or to discipline any staff member. In the absence of the Director or his or her designee, or in the absence of pertinent Board policy or directive, the Chairperson may exercise supervision only until the return of the Director or his or her designee or until the next Board meeting at which any policy or directive issue can be resolved.

Section 4. No employee of the Department shall take direction relating to the discharge of the duties and responsibilities of the Department except from the Director or his or her designee, and as provided above.

Article VII

Amendments

The Bylaws may be amended at any time by an affirmative vote of no fewer than three members of the Board at any regular or special meeting, provided that any such amendment shall have first been presented in writing to each member at least fifteen days prior to the meeting at which the amending vote is taken. These bylaws shall be amended at any time necessary to conform to applicable law.

Article VIII

Resolution of Conflicting Provisions

To the extent that any rule within these Bylaws conflicts with any applicable provision of state or county law, the Board acknowledges that such law supersedes any provision herein.

Amended and Adopted by the Fulton County Board of Registrations and Elections the 11th day of February, 2021.

Fulton County Board of Registration and Elections:

Alexander Wan, Chairman

Vernetta Keith Nuriddin, Vice Chair

Members:

Kathleen Ruth

Aaron V. Johnson

Mark Wingate

List Maintenance Procedures

Felon List – Maintained Monthly

Our Process:

From the Felons List maintenance on the ElectioNet (Enet) Dashboard proceeds as follows:

The Georgia Crime Information Center provide information at the first of each month to the Secretary of State (SOS) office and they generate a felon report. All reports are processed according to O.C.G.A. § 21-2-231. Voter Registration (VR) studies five reports with a filter in order to find “possible matches” and eliminate “non-matches.” We send each “possible match” a letter to their last known address that they are to be removed from the list of electors 30 days after the date of the notice unless they requests a hearing. O.C.G.A § 21-2-23 (2).

Non-Citizens – Maintained Monthly

Our Process:

The Clerk of Superior Court (CSC) supplies the SOS with a list of persons who indicated they fail to qualify for jury duty due to non-citizenship. This occurs on or before the 10th day of each month. Once VR receives notice from END we remove these voters, scan, and file the information electronically.

O.C.G.A. § 21-2-231(a.1)

Vitals – Maintained Weekly

Our Process:

For Vitals VR processes the list on ElectioNet. VR reviews the Obituaries each day as they appear in the Atlanta Journal (AJC). VR also receives written notice from family members (with a signature) or Death Certificates. We add the Voter Registration Number onto written correspondence. VR scans those items and adds them to the voter registration file. Our office does not scan the AJC Obituaries.

In ElectioNet under Vital Records, two reports appear. The first one is the Last Name and Date of Birth Report and the second one is the Last Name and Social Security Report. Each report will display a name under a heading of Vitals (from SOS) and the other has a Heading for Master (our files). VR scrubs these lists against one another. We make no changes on non-matches. If scrubbing the lists produces a match, we cancel the voter and that name will disappear from the list. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-231(d)(e)(e.1)

Mentally Incompetent – Handled Immediately

Our Process:

Our office receives an official document from a court or a doctor stating that a voter has been declared mentally incompetent and requests that the voter registration be cancelled. We process these requests without delay. VR scans the original document and stores it in the electronic VR file.

O.C.G.A. § 21-2-231 (b)

Transfers in and Out of County and Out of State – Maintained Daily

Our Process:

Voters drive the transfer process when they submit VR applications to us from another county. The requests come in writing. If a list comes in from the State, VR staff processes it. The SOS handles out of state matches directly.

Notice of Cancellation with an Elector's Signature. Information/Report that Elector has moved out of State. Send Confirmation Notice to Start List Maintenance Process. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-232(b)

The Confirmation Process

Our Process:

The Confirmation Process (odd year usually done twice) is driven by three things and this includes Returned Mail, National Change of Address (NCOA) and No Contact (March or April of the odd year).

- Returned Mail – When VR receives returned mail sent by first class to a voter at his or her registered address, we follow it by mailing a Confirmation Notice to the voter at the same address. If the USPS returns the mail again we know the voter no longer resides at that address. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-234(b)
- National Change of Address (NCOA) – At the pleasure of the SOS, normally during odd years, the SOS runs the voter file against the NCOA list. With any matches VR sends confirmation notices.
- No Contact – After a General Election, in March or April of an odd numbered year, the SOS produces a No Contact Report. These are electors with which we have had no contact and were unidentifiable as changing their addresses under code section 21-2-233. VR mails a letter via first class and if it is returned a confirmation notice is mailed by first class to the voter, with forwarding service requested.

The voter must return the card within 30 days after the date of the notice. If no response is had within 30 days, the voter is moved to Inactive Status for three years per O.C.G.A. §21-2-235.

If the elector sends the card back indicating that they have moved outside of the county, the voters name will be removed, and information will be sent to the voter explaining how they can continue to be eligible to vote O.C.G.A. §21-2-235.

A voter who fails to respond to the confirmation notice will have his or her status changed to inactive. If the voter remains Inactive for two (2) General Elections the state can cancel the voter from the electors' list. O.C.G.A. §21-2-234(a) and O.C.G.A. § 21-2-235

If the voter returns that card and they have moved within the county, they will remain on the list of electors and VR will update their address O.C.G.A. §21-2-226. If the card is returned and they still reside at the same address, this information is recorded and they will remain on the list.

State law prohibits list maintenance within 90 days of a general primary or general election for federal offices or a presidential preference primary.

O.C.G.A. § 21-2-234 (i)

Registration Verification Process – Maintained Daily

Our Process:

All new voter registration applications must go through a 24 hour verification process. This is verified through the Social Security Administration and/or the Department of Driver Services (DDS) depending on what information was provided by the voter. The voter can provide the last 4 digits of the social or the complete number.

During the 24 process, if there is not a match there will be a letter produced and sent to the voter notifying them that they did not pass the verification process. The voter has 30 days to respond to the letter. If not, their status will change from pending to cancelled. The fields that are verified are the first name, last name, date of birth, driver's license number and/or social security number.

O.C.G.A. § 21-2-231(a)(f)

Voter Registration Card, Registration Applications and Records – Maintained Daily

Our Process:

Cancelled voters or voters who have moved out of Fulton County have a retention period of two years. Active or inactive voters require their information to be stored for a lifetime. We have all of the documents stored electronically via Rocket File. We have never discarded or destroyed any electronic files. All returned mail must be retained for two years.

O.C.G.A. § 21-2-231(g) and O.C.G.A. 21-2-236

O.C.G.A. § 21-2-236 (2016) Periods of retention of registration cards, applications, and records of list maintenance activities; rules and regulations regarding safekeeping and maintenance of electronic records.

Challenged Voters

Our Process:

The Fulton County BRE or other citizens can challenge a voter's eligibility. Once this happens a hearing takes place and the BRE makes the final determination as to whether the voter remains on the role. The hearing can happen any time and also on election night.

O.C.G.A. § 21-2-22

List maintenance shall be completed no later than 90 days prior to a general primary or general election for federal offices or a presidential preference primary.

O.C.G.A. § 21-2-234 (i)

http://sos.ga.gov/index.php/elections/georgia_code - lexisnexis

Searched: List Maintenance

O.C.G.A. § 21-2-234

GEORGIA CODE
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*** Current Through the 2016 Regular Session ***

TITLE 21. ELECTIONS
CHAPTER 2. ELECTIONS AND PRIMARIES GENERALLY
ARTICLE 6. REGISTRATION OF VOTERS

O.C.G.A. § 21-2-234 (2016)

§ 21-2-234. Electors who have failed to vote and with whom there has been no contact in three years; confirmation notice requirements and procedure; time for completion of **list maintenance** activities

(a)(1) As used in this Code section and Code Section 21-2-235, the term "no contact" shall mean that the elector has not filed an updated voter registration card, has not filed a change of name or address, has not signed a petition which is required by law to be verified by the election superintendent of a county or municipality or the Secretary of State, has not signed a voter's certificate, and has not confirmed the elector's continuation at the same address during the preceding three calendar years.

(2) In the first six months of each odd-numbered year, the Secretary of State shall identify all electors whose names appear on the list of electors with whom there has been no contact during the preceding three calendar years and who were not identified as changing addresses under Code Section 21-2-233. The confirmation notice described in this Code section shall be sent to each such elector during each odd-numbered year. Such notices shall be sent by forward able, first-class mail.

(b) When mailings to electors whose names appear on the list of electors, including, but not limited to, acknowledgments under Code Section 21-2-226, are returned undeliverable by the United States Postal Service, the confirmation notice described in this Code section shall be sent to such electors.

(c) The confirmation notice shall be a postage prepaid, preaddressed return card on which an elector may state such elector's current address and which also includes a notice which states substantially the following:

(1) If the elector has not changed addresses or has changed addresses within the county or municipality in which the elector is currently registered, the elector must return the card with the updated information, if any, within 30 days after the date of the notice; and

- (2) If the card is not returned within 30 days after the date of the notice, the elector's name shall be transferred to the inactive list of electors provided for in Code Section 21-2-235.
- (d) If the elector returns the card and shows that he or she has changed residence to a place outside of the boundaries of the county or municipality in which the elector is currently registered, the elector's name shall be removed from the appropriate list of electors and information shall be sent to the elector explaining how the elector can continue to be eligible to vote.
- (e) If the elector returns the card and states that the elector has changed residences within the county or municipality in which the elector is currently registered, the elector shall remain on the list of electors, the registration records shall be corrected to reflect such new address, and a new voter identification card shall be issued pursuant to Code Section 21-2-226.
- (f) If such elector returns the card and confirms that such elector continues to reside at the current address at which such elector is registered, the fact of such confirmation shall be recorded and the elector shall remain on the list of electors.
- (g) If the elector fails to return the card within 30 days after the date of the notice, the elector shall be transferred to the inactive list provided for in Code Section 21-2-235.
- (h) Nothing in this Code section shall prevent the removal from the list of electors of an elector for ineligibility to vote.
- (i) **List maintenance** activities pursuant to this Code section and Code Section 21-2-233 shall be completed not later than 90 days prior to a general primary or general election for federal offices or a presidential preference primary. This subsection shall not apply to notices sent pursuant to subsection (b) of this Code section.

HISTORY: Code 1981, § 21-2-234, enacted by Ga. L. 1994, p. 1443, § 3; Ga. L. 1995, p. 8, § 1; Ga. L. 1996, p. 26, § 1; Ga. L. 1997, p. 649, § 2; Ga. L. 1998, p. 295, § 1.

Title Note

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