



# Floyd County Board of Elections and Registration

March 21, 2023

## Election Center

Caucus	5:30 PM
Meeting	6:00 PM

**PRESENT:** Elections and Registration Board Members Jerry Lee, Ralph Davis, Corey Townsend, Gary Stamper, Layla Shipman, Election Supervisor Akyn Trudnak, County Attorney Chris Jackson.

- I. **Welcome** – Chair Lee called the meeting to order.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. **Approval of Agenda** - Chairman Lee requested a motion to approve the agenda. A motion was made to approve the agenda by Ralph Davis. A 2<sup>nd</sup> was made by Gary Stamper. Motion to approve the agenda was voted on by board by a vote of 5-0.
- IV. **Approval of the Minutes from Previous Meeting** – Chairman Lee requested a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. A motion was made to approve the minutes by Ralph Davis and a 2<sup>nd</sup> was made by Gary Stamper. Motion to approve was voted on by board by a vote of 5-0.
- V. **Election Supervisor Report** - Ms. Trudnak presented her report. She reported on dates for the upcoming Voter Education Series and topics to be discussed at each session. The first session on March 28, 2023 will start at 6:00pm and cover general residency and voter ID requirements as well as the voter registration process. The June 17<sup>th</sup> session will include a 9:00am or 12:30pm time and will cover the election process, what to expect with early voting, absentee by mail, election day, methods of voting, and where to vote. The final session will be held on November 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm and will cover audits, recap of the election, and looking to further improve the elections department. Each session will have an “ask the experts” portion with various experts at each course. Ms. Trudnak updated on the voter card clean-up in the office. The process is going great. She informed everyone that this is just updating/cleaning up physical paper back-up voter cards and that the computer system contains the most updated voter records. After the paper audit is completed, they will go back through to perform another detailed audit. Ms. Trudnak pointed out all of the tabulation tapes posted along the walls and tables to let folks see the work going into one of our Open Records Requests. She stated that these tapes are public and posted at each precinct at the end of the night during an election.
- VI. **County Attorney Report-** Mr. Jackson reported that they are continuing to help with streamlining the Open Records Requests. Working on this process will help with the numerous requests. Chairman Lee asked about any pending election lawsuits that would hinder us from destroying records that are at the timeframe for destruction.

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Mr. Jackson stated that he does not think we will be able to start on this anytime soon and we would need to preserve any evidence.

**New Business-** Ms. Trudnak is legally preparing for the Election Call. 2024 will be huge election year and we can use this year to get ready for the 2024 election cycle. She presented a tentative schedule for early voting in the City Municipal and Countywide SPLOST election. The election office will work to train the poll workers on using the poll pad sign in as poll worker scheduling. Early voting is a great chance for poll workers to get experience outside of election day only. There will be 3 weeks of early voting with Monday-Friday hours of 8:00am-5:00pm. The 2 Saturday voting times will be 9:00am-5:00pm and one Sunday voting day with times 1:00pm-5:00pm. The City does not have to follow if they are conducting their own elections, but because Floyd County is stepping in, we have to follow the 3 weeks of early voting as well as Saturday and Sunday dates. Due to the IGA, the City will qualify candidates and help with ballot review. The Board decided to table the discussion on the election dates/times until the Election Call.

**VII. Public Participation** – Charles Howell of Silver Creek stated that he has been a poll worker and loves the process. He got involved because of machines not working. He wants to become a super volunteer and lend his talents. He asked about downloadable ballot imagines showing multiple QR codes and why that happens. Ms. Trudnak stated that it is common for multiple QR codes to appear if you have multi-page ballots or large amount of data. Daniel Eason of Rome asked if Vanessa Wadell had retired and if so he hopes that she will have some type of celebration. Mr. Eason stated that he attends most meetings and feels she was very accommodating, helpful, and did an admirable job especially during COVID. He inquired if the Voter Education Series could be video taped and put out by the Election Office. He thinks that would be another resource.

**VIII. Other Business-** There was no other business to discuss.

**IX. Executive Session** – Corey Townsend made a motion to move to executive session. A 2<sup>nd</sup> was made by Ralph Townsend. The Board voted 5-0 to move to executive session to discuss personnel and legal matters. No action was taken during executive session.

**X. Adjourn** – Seeing no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.