

MACON COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
Board Meeting, 10 May 2023

Participants: Director Melanie Thibault, Deputy Director Judy Fritts, Lynne Garrison, Gary Dills, John Vanhook and Jeff Gillette.

Observers: Brian Wacker, Rich Cassidy, Shawn Marcic, Rob Tolp, Carla Miller, Rodney Miller, Elizabeth Gibson

Call to Order: The Chair called the meeting to order at 3 PM.

1. Minutes from 8 March 2023: Ms. Garrison made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Mr. Gillette seconded the motion. Following discussion, the Board unanimously approved the minutes. Attachment 1.
2. Former Macon County Republican Chair Comments: The outgoing county GOP Chair, Carla Miller, requested a few minutes to address the Board. The Chair approved. She noted her opinion that one of our Board members had acted inappropriately at the recent Macon County Republican Convention. Prior to her comments, Mr Gillette reminded the Board and the observers of the duties of a County Board member. He also read the State Board of Elections (SBOE) process for public complaints of a Board member. Specifically, a complaint should be entered on the complaint form on the SBOE website. The SBOE is the governing body for such complaints not the County Board. Following Ms. Miller's comments, the Chair reminded her of the process, reiterating guidance given to her weeks prior to the meeting. Ms. Miller noted she would follow the process and thanked the Board for the time to comment. The Chair asked the other observers if any had comments. Mr Tolp noted that he was representing the current county GOP chair, Mr. Jimmy Goodman. He stated that Mr Vanhook has the complete confidence and support of the County GOP and that Mr Goodman nominated Mr. Vanhook for another term on the BOE. No other observers had comments.
3. Directors Updates: Ms. Thibault reported that all the new voting equipment was in place. One item was damaged, and HART replaced that item at no cost. The old equipment sold for \$1, and the buyer removed all the old equipment. The county maintenance staff constructed shelving for the new equipment where the staff stored the equipment in a safe, secure area of the Board of Elections (BOE) office. The BOE staff thoroughly cleaned the office rooms including the old storage area. They also removed documents no longer required by the office. The Director will report this to the County Commissioners as required by SBOE. She further reported that a recent

judicial ruling requires Voter ID for the fall municipal election. We must purchase new documents to comply with that ruling. Also, felons who have not completed all of the court mandated procedures may not vote (reversion to the rules prior to the pandemic). Lastly, Ms. Thibault reported that the SBOE expects to have an in-person conference in August. We have no details on dates and location.

4. Invoices: The Board reviewed, and the Chair signed twelve invoices. Attachment 2.
5. Budget Report: The Director provided the current budget report showing us on track with six weeks remaining in the fiscal year. Attachment 3.
6. Closed session: Ms. Garrison made a motion to go into closed session to discuss a personnel issue. Mr Gillette seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved. The Board went into closed session at 3:50 PM. Mr Vanhook made a motion to leave the closed session. Mr Gillette seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved. The Board left closed session at 4:15 PM.
7. Adjourn: Ms. Garrison made a motion to adjourn until 14 June 2023 at 3PM. Mr Gillette seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved. The Board adjourned at 4:20 PM.

Attachments

1. Minutes from 8 March 2023
2. Invoices:
 - a. HART payment for new equipment, \$197, 511.20
 - b. Amazon for office supplies, \$226.
 - c. Amazon for office supplies, \$183.
 - d. Franklin Office Supply for training booklets. \$597.92
 - e. Macon Printing, \$546.72
 - f. HART for equipment supplies, \$3525.00.
 - g. Board member checks (five invoices)
 - h. HART, \$3440.00
3. Budget report year to date