# SPALDING COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND VOTER REGISTRATION REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES August 5, 2025

The Regular Monthly meeting of the Spalding County Board of Elections and Voter Registration was held at the Spalding County Courthouse Annex at 119 E Solomon St. Room 108 Griffin, GA 30223 at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 5, 2025. In attendance: Chairman Ben Johnson presiding, James Newland, Dexter Wimbish and Lee Howell. Also present were Elections Director Kim Slaughter, Attorney John O'Neal, and Kelly Romero to record minutes.

Call to Order - Chairman Ben Johnson called meeting to order at 6:06 pm

Invocation/Moment of Silence - Invocation was given by James Newland

Pledge to the Flag - Pledge was led by Lee Howell

<u>Citizen Comment</u> – No citizen comments.

#### Adoption of the Agenda -

Motion/second by James Newland/Dexter Wimbish

Motion passed: 4-0

Voted for: Chairman Ben Johnson, James Newland, Dexter Wimbish, and Lee Howell

Approval of Minutes: Approval of July 21, 2025, Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes-

Motion/Second by Dexter Wimbish/James Newland

Motion Passed: 4-0

Voted for: Chairman Ben Johnson, James Newland, Dexter Wimbish, and Lee Howell

# Election Supervisor Report -

<u>Voter Registration Update:</u> Presented by Sandra Hardy (Total number of Registered Voters as of August 5, 2025 – 54,773.)

Summary of Processed files: (Voter Registration resumed July 22, 2025.)

- New Voters 251
- Transfers into County 301
- Address Change 284
- Name Change 67
- No Change 766
- Vitals 25
- Request to Cancel 4

NGE Mailing – July 10, 2025: This mailing will target records who have inactive status continuously for 2 federal general elections. These records (2,387) have been mailed a notice, put on a 40-day clock and will be moved to Canceled status if no response is received. Postage for NGE mailers = \$1,647.00

NO CONTACT Mailing – July 22, 2025: This mailing will target approximately 1353 voter records with Active status that have not had any activity in 5 calendar years. (2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024.) If a voter on the NO CONTACT list does not respond within 40 days after the mailer is sent, they are moved to Inactive status.

ELM Update: Our office has processed 568 NGE mailers as returned mail.

REIF Tickets (Reporting Elections-Systems Issues Form)-one Reif Ticket was submitted on July 22, 2025, concerning incorrect signatures on cards through the DDS tile. This issue has affected 27 voter application cards. The issue has not yet been resolved and has been noted on the calendar for review in 14 days.

#### **Election Update**

#### State Risk Limit Audit:

- Dice Roll was held on Wednesday, July 23, 2025
- Audit selection: Absentee by Mail Batch 2 and Election Day Precinct 12
- Audit began Thursday, July 24, 2025 at 9:00 am and ended approximately at 9:20 am.
- All audit results balanced to that of the results loaded into the Election Management System on Election night.

# November 4, 2025 - General Municipal Election & Public Service Commission

- City of Griffin Commission Districts 1, 3, 5, & 6 up for election
- City of Orchard Hill Councilman (1) Seat
- Public Service Commission Special General Election
- Referendum to all Spalding County Voters.
- Qualifying Period:
  - o August 18-22, 2025, 8:30 am until 4:30 pm daily
    - City of Griffin Commission seats
    - Orchard Hill Post (1)
  - August 13, 2025 Packets will be ready for pick up

<u>Contract for Polyglot Labs/Evesore</u> – A meeting was held with Garrett Massey and Beth Davidson to review the new website in its entirety. Submissions were made for additional changes/updates. Polyglot will be emailing the test URL tomorrow (Tuesday) for the Elections Director's review and approval.

<u>Interviews for Election Assistant</u> – There are two front runners with a couple of more applications and the goal is to have this position filled after the return from Conference. After the Elections Assistant is filled, the Elections Director will begin working to fill the open part time position.

<u>Precinct Consolidation</u> – There will be a presentation given at the September meeting of consolidation recommendation and will be placed on the agenda for a vote. Ms. Slaughter stated that she has a meeting scheduled with GIS Consultant, Bryan Haynes, for a final review of various data in hopes to answer any questions from the Board.

Remodeling of newly acquired space: – The Task Order Form has been signed and submitted to our office by County Manager Dr. Steve Ledbetter and Assistant County Manager Erica Dye. Ms. Slaughter will be meeting with LJA the week of August 18<sup>th</sup> for a final review of the layout.

#### **State Election Board Hearings:**

- Attorney Stephanie Windham and the Elections Director attended the hearings at the State Capital on July 29<sup>th</sup>.
  - o Summary
    - SEB2022-026 DISMISSED BOARD VOTE: UNANIMOUS
    - SEB2022-165 DISMISSED BOARD VOTE: 3-1 w/ the Chair exercising his right to vote.
- Ms. Slaughter thanked Ms. Windham for her support and representation on her behalf as Elections Director for Spalding County.

#### Announcements:

- GAVREO (Ga Voter Registration & Election Officials) conference will be held on August 10<sup>th</sup> 13<sup>th</sup>. The Elections office will be closed on Friday, August 8<sup>th</sup> through Tuesday, August 12<sup>th</sup> due to attendance at the conference.
- The next Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025.
- Request to the Board to remain up to date on your email and please let Director Slaughter know if
  you are having any issues accessing your email.
- Sandra Hardy along with other Spalding County employees helped to welcome students back to the first day of school at Moreland Rd. Elementary.
- The Staff Appreciation Day on July 30, 2025, held at the Aquatic Center was enjoyed by all Staff. As some employees come and go, it remains that we in the Office of Elections and Voter Registration have wonderful professional Staff and as Elections Director for Spalding County, I am very blessed to work alongside each and every one of them as well as our 95 plus Poll Workers.

# Old Business - Precinct Consolidation

• Request to consolidate voting precincts as presented within the Election Supervisor's monthly report.

# Motion to Table Consolidation of Precincts

Motion/Second by James Newland/Lee Howell

Motion Passed: 4-0

Voted for: Chairman Ben Johnson, James Newland, Dexter Wimbish, and Lee Howell

#### New Business -

 Request to call for a countywide Special Election for Spalding County, Georgia to be conducted on Tuesday, November 4, 2025. This call is pursuant to H.B. 758 (2025) which requires approval or rejection at referendum by the electors of the Spalding County school district.

# Motion to approve the Call for a Countywide Special Election for Spalding County

Motion/Second by Lee Howell/Dexter Wimbish

Motion Passed: 4-0

Voted for by: Chairman Ben Johnson, James Newland, Dexter Wimbish, and Lee Howell

# **Board Members Comments -**

**Chairman Ben Johnson** – Thanked Director Slaughter for showing up at the State Board of Elections and doing a good job. Thanks to staff for the job well done. He also wanted to make sure the Board would be available on Election Day and to be sure to read their emails.

**Dexter Wimbish** – As always wanted to thank Director Kim Slaughter and staff for a wonderful election.

**Lee Howell** – I always appreciate Director Slaughter's leadership and her ability to do a good job and make us proud.

**James Newland** – I am very happy with the way things went at the State Board of Elections. I don't think they could have gone any better. Thank you to Director Slaughter and Attorney Windham for representing us there. Thank you very much.

# Adjournment -

Motion/Second by Dexter Wimbish/James Newland Motion Passed:4-0

Voted for. Chairman Ben Johnson, James Newland, Dexter Wimbish, and Lee Howell at 6:28

Ben Johnson, Chairman

Kim Slaughter, Elections Director