

**SPALDING COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND VOTER REGISTRATION
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 14, 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, October 14, 2025. In attendance: Chairman Ben Johnson presiding, James Newland, Chris Piland and Lee Howell. Not in attendance: Dexter Wimbish. Also present were Elections Director Kim Slaughter, Attorney Stephanie Windham, and Kelly Romero to record minutes.

Call to Order – Chairman Ben Johnson called meeting to order at 6:00 pm

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

Pledge to the Flag – Pledge was led by Chris Piland

Citizen Comment – No citizen comments.

Adoption of the Agenda –

Motion/second by Lee Howell/James Newland

Motion passed: 4-0

Voted for: Chairman Ben Johnson, Chris Piland, James Newland, and Lee Howell

Approval of Minutes: Approval of September 9, 2025, Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes-

Motion/Second by Chris Piland/James Newland

Motion Passed: 4-0

Voted for: Chairman Ben Johnson, Chris Piland, James Newland, and Lee Howell

Election Supervisor Report –

Voter Registration Update: (Total number of Registered Voters as of September 9, 2025 – 52,959.)

Summary of Processed files:

- New Voters – 148
- Transfers into County -232
- Address Change - 164
- Name Change - 4
- No Change – 589
- Vitals – 81
- Request to Cancel – 7
- Moved out of County - 255

NCOA: 1 day remaining on the 40-day clock, voter will then become inactive.

- Out of county – Returned with Out of County mailing label – 22, Returned Mail Undeliverable – 43
- Out of State – Returned with Out of State mailing Label – 37, Returned Mail Undeliverable – 13

- Within County – Forwarded Mail – 64, Returned Mail Undeliverable – 57
- Eric Cross State – Cancelled – 4, Returned Mail Undeliverable - 8

REIF Tickets (Reporting Elections-Systems Issues Form) to the Secretary of State Elections Division – 0

Card Audit Update – The office has completed 70% of the physical card audit.

Our office received a package from the Secretary of State's Office today at 3:30 p.m. containing 23 pieces of Voter Registration mail which were processed accordingly.

Election Update

November 4, 2025 – Statewide Special & Municipal General & Special Election

- **What is on the Ballot?**
 - Special Public Service Commission District 2
 - Special Public Service Commission District 3
 - City of Griffin Commission Districts 1, 3, 5, and 6
 - Spalding County Special Referendum for Homestead Exemption for Educational Purposes

Advance Voting Dates & Times

- Oct 14-18
- Oct 20-25
- Oct 27-31
- 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. daily

Advance Voting - 196 Voters have cast their vote early on the first day of Advance Voting.

Absentee By Mail – 150 Absentee Ballots were mailed today.

Precinct Consolidation -

- Timeline:
 - Request to change meeting for public comment from November 10, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. to January 13, 2026 6:00 p.m.
 - If the Precinct consolidation is passed, data entry will begin next day.
 - Precinct notifications will be mailed out no later than January 30, 2026
- There was discussion - Discussion was held between Board members and the Election Director about the request to change the meeting for public comment. Board member Lee Howell shared that he thought that there should be a month in between public comments on the precinct consolidation proposal and the scheduling of the vote. Director Slaughter shared that the Board entrusted her to do the job she was hired to do and that her responsibility is to the Staff and to the voters of Spalding County. She also shared that if the proposal were to pass, the office had work to process with the voter registration system and afterwards to notify all voters who would be affected by the consolidation. She shared that signs would need to be made for all locations involved as the law mandates. She included also that there was not any need to wait a full month until voting on this issue when the proposal has been presented to the Board and has been a subject of conversation for at least four months. She also reminded the Board that there had been two consolidations of Precincts brought before the Board in the past. And Board members at that

time did not select to have a meeting specific to public comment. Board Members Chris Piland, Vice Chair James Newland, along with Chairman Ben Johnson were all in agreement that the Board should be prepared to vote on the Precinct consolidation the night of Public comment, which is to be held on January 13, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. It was determined that the decision to approve or not approve be made immediately post hearing taking into consideration the public comments made.

Remodeling of newly acquired space: Director Slaughter will continue to work with LJA along with the floor plans for the newly acquired workspace. This is a work in progress.

Announcements:

- Kiwanis Fair was successful.
- QR Code will be removed from ballots as of July 1, 2026

Old Business – None

New Business – None

Board Members Comments –

- Chris Piland – No comments
- Lee Howell – No comments
- James Newland – This is going to be a busy year coming up with a lot of offices to be voted on. Our people will be very busy and sooner we can get the consolidation voted on and get their minds on the election the better.
- Chairman Ben Johnson – I appreciate everybody and all that you are doing. I'm glad we had almost 200 people show up to vote on the first day.

Adjournment –

Motion/Second by Chris Piland/James Newland

Motion Passed: 4-0

Voted for. Chairman Ben Johnson, Chris Piland, James Newland, and Lee Howell at 6:29 pm

Ben Johnson, Chairman

Kim Slaughter, Elections Director