

SPALDING COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND VOTER REGISTRATION
Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes
March 10, 2026

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, March 10, 2026. In attendance: Chairman Ben Johnson presiding, Board members James Newland and Dexter Wimbish. Not in attendance were Board members Chris Piland and Lee Howell. Also present were Elections Director Kim Slaughter and Attorney Stephanie Windham.

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

Invocation/Moment of Silence – Invocation was given by Dexter Wimbish

Pledge to the Flag – Pledge was led by James Newland

Motion to Amend the Agenda - to move the new business of the Election of Vice-Chair and Secretary as well as the Chairman to appoint a Chair to the By-laws Committee until all 5 Board members are in attendance.

Motion/Second by Dexter Wimbish/James Newland

Motion Passed: 3-0

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

Adoption of the Amended Agenda –

Motion/second by James Newland/Dexter Wimbish

Motion passed: 3-0

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

Citizen Comments – None

Approval of Minutes: Approval of February 10, 2026, Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes

Motion/Second by Dexter Wimbish/James Newland

Motion Passed: 3-0

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

Election Director Report –

Voter Registration Update: Sandra Hardy - (Total number of Registered Voters as of March 10, 2026 – 53,343.)

Summary of Processed files:

- New Voters – 252
- Transfers into County - 271
- Address Change - 261

- **Remodeling of newly acquired space:**

- Next Monday evening, there should be a request to go before the BOC to approve a \$73,000 request for the architectural firm's bid. Once that is approved, the architect will begin work to finalize the plan and prepare the documents to bid for work for renovation.

- **Precinct Consolidation:**

- 100% of consolidation processing has been completed and all voters affected have been updated within the GARVIS system.
- 100% of affected voters have been contacted via mailed correspondence.
- 50,783 voters were affected by some type of related change.
- It's important to note that 21,625 voters did not move locations but were affected by a "precinct number change" only.
- We are required by law to notify voters of any changes.
- Complaints/Concerns received about the Precinct Consolidation:
 - 2 complaints for the traveling distance from Faith Baptist Church to Union Baptist Church. (1) of these not really upset just working out their concern.
 - 1 visitor to the office yesterday to complain that the precinct consolidation was a form of Voter suppression. This voter's record reflected the use of Absentee by Mail for her voting record. We assured the voter that this was not a form of voter suppression and that it would in no way affect how she cast her absentee ballot by mail. After having an open dialogue with the voter, she was fine when she left our office.
- Signage will be placed at each old and new polling location for voters who are affected by the change.

- GAVREO Conference will be attended by three staff members from March 22 to March 25, 2026
- Poll Officer Training Dates have been set beginning on April 7th and ending on April 23rd, and the process of poll officer assignments and equipment assignments have begun.
- Important dates for the May 19, 2026 General Primary/Nonpartisan Election

- April 20, 2026 Voter Registration Deadline
- Advance (Early) Voting (825 Memorial Dr. Griffin, GA 30223/Times 9:00am to 5:00pm)
 - April 27, 2026 – May 2, 2026
 - May 4, 2026 – May 9, 2026
 - May 11, 2026 – May 15, 2026
- Absentee By Mail Timeline
 - March 2, 2026 – First day to submit an application
 - April 20, 2026 – First day of mailing Absentee Ballots
 - May 8, 2026 – Last day to submit an application

Old Business - None

New Business – See Motion to Amend the Agenda

Board Members Comments –

- **Dexter Wimbish – No comment**
- **James Newland – Was sorry he missed the last meeting.**
- **Chairman Ben Johnson – Appreciates everyone.**

Adjournment –

Motion/Second by Dexter Wimbish/James Newland

Motion Passed:3-0

Voted for: Chairman Ben Johnson, James Newland and Dexter Wimbish at 6:13 pm

Ben Johnson, Chairman

Kim Slaughter, Elections Director