

Election Commission Canvass & Board Meeting

Friday, August 28, 2020

Members present: Richard Baines, James "Ed" Elliott, Lamar Batchelor, Jimmy Cash, Doug Wilson, Randy Horton, Carlton Bridges (Attended Recount), & Jason Blanton (Attended Recount)

**also present were Amanda Walker (director) & Cassidy Nichols (clerk)

Members absent: one vacant board-member seat

Call to order: Richard Baines @ 10:01am; Doug Wilson opened with prayer

Minutes:

A public forum was offered from 9-9:30am. No one pre-registered to speak, therefore, no forum.

Richard led board members in repeating oath. Ed led Richard in repeating oath. All signed.

Randy made a motion to approve the minutes from 8-13-2020; all were in favor. Ed made a motion to approve the minutes from 8-14-2020; all were in favor.

There were no provisional ballots cast for any election held 8-25-2020.

Amanda stated that Gaffney Ward 5 was chosen for hand-count audit and completed by Richard, Lamar, and Randy; all numbers matched.

Amanda went over totals for the City of Gaffney Mayor's run-off and the City Council District 6 run-off. Randy made a motion to approve the certification for both; all were in favor; all signed.

Amanda went over totals for the Cherokee County School Board District 8 run-off. Lamar made a motion to approve; all were in favor; all signed.

Carlton Bridges & Jason Blanton arrived at 9:10am; just prior to recount.

Richard went over law that clarifies what constitutes a recount; we adjourned at 9:12am and proceeded to the equipment storage room where the recount took place. Both candidates, Rosa Webber and Shanese Dawkins, were present. Scott Powell (Gaffney Ledger) was also in attendance. Amanda had everyone sign in to the room for security purposes. Everyone was shown empty ballot bins, along with zero totals on the screen. Amanda passed out copies of totals for each precinct involved. All of the commissioners, plus Tillie Cook (clerk), fed ballots into the DS200's. Amanda explained the procedure of

closing the polls. All ballots were finished being cast at 10:17am. Amanda, Ed, the candidates, & media were present as the final totals were read into the computer.

We reconvened in Council Chambers at 10:45am. Richard administered oath to Carlton & Jason.

Shanese Dawkins (candidate) asked to address the board. She was expressing concern that a voter alleged that he was not able to vote for school board and should have and that he received ballot style 40. Amanda explained that she had looked at Gaffney Ward 2 and found the voter in question. He should have received ballot style 40, which included school board and mayor; but there were 3 ballots casts, within that ballot style 40, that did not have selections made for school board. Amanda also explained that she had question the clerk for GW2 and the clerk stated that several voters had questioned their ballots that day and the clerk double checked ballot styles for them before casting their actual vote in the DS200.

Rosa Webber (candidate) then spoke up and said that she had some voters that said they did not get to vote for school board; she realized it was probably a "line" issue and that the voter, more than likely, did not live in her district.

In the end, all vote totals stayed the same after the Cherokee County School Board District 8 recount. Ed made a motion to approve; all were in favor; all signed.

Richard informed everyone that there would be another run-off (the second one) on Tuesday, September 8, 2020 for Cherokee County School Board District 8. Absentee should be open on Tuesday, September 1. Amanda stated that mail-in ballots would not be able to go out until Tuesday, September 1; which cuts the mailing time down tremendously. She informed the candidates, and everyone else, to encourage voters to vote in person or walk their ballots back into the office in order to prevent delay in delivery since there was such a "time-crunch".

Jimmy made a motion to adjourn at 11:10am; all were in favor.

Carlton Bridges Sr.
Carlton Bridges, Secretary

8-28-20
Date

**minutes recorded by Cassidy Nichols (clerk)