

Cherokee County Voter Registration & Elections

Minutes for meeting held Monday, February 7, 2022

The following board members were present: James "Ed" Elliot, Richard Baines, Carlton Bridges, Jimmy Cash, & Jerry Bridges. Lamar Batchelor was present by phone.

****absent members:** Jason Blanton and two vacancies

****also in attendance:** Amanda Walker (director) & Cassidy Nichols (deputy director)

Agenda was posted in accordance with the SCFOIA.

Call to order: 9:01am; Richard Baines led in prayer

Minutes:

January 2022 board meeting was cancelled (by email) due to several people having covid and vast exposure.

Jerry made a motion to approve the minutes from 11.4.2021; Carlton seconded; all were in favor.

Ethics are due by March 30, 2022. Amanda will send link (again) for new website.

We just received the DHS security Assessment report from their visit in November 2021. We were found to be vulnerable in the area of cameras and panic buttons for desks. We have since added cameras; still no panic buttons. Everything else on report was found to be sufficient.

Continuing education classes for 2022 have been posted. Amanda gave everyone a copy of the classes that will be offered. She asked everyone to please circle 3 possible options and give to her (hopefully) by February 14 in order to get signed up for the 2nd quarter (1st quarter is already full). These classes have to be completed by December 31, 2022. There is a new training site for us to use; Amanda will be sending out info regarding our credentials for that site.

Absentee is currently open for the City of Chesnee Special election (3.8.2022). Need one commissioner to work on 3.8.2022. Amanda gave everyone a detailed calendar showing all elections, delivery dates, canvass/board meeting dates, etc. Amanda also informed everyone of the changes to absentee regarding the use of ballot boxes instead of DS200. This is how absentee was done for Presidential Primary (Feb. 2020) prior to Covid (proviso) 2020.

Gaffney Ward 1 is now going to stay at Mary Bramlett Elementary School for 2022. Alma precinct was going to move to Cherokee Charter Academy, but the county has purchased Alma Elementary school and has offered to let us stay there for 2022. As long as the charter school will keep their offer on the table until 2024, we will proceed with staying at Alma this year; but, if the charter school prefers for us to start using their facility now (2022), then we will go ahead and move Alma precinct. The Cherokee Charter Academy board will discuss and let us know soon. Morgan precinct is currently still located at Cherokee Creek Substation, but we are waiting on State Line Baptist Church to have a congregational vote in regards to us using their facility in the future.

Amanda update board on redistricting. There is a lawsuit pending against the congressional maps that may or may not impact filing and/or June election. Local entities redistricting maps will not be affected by this lawsuit. We are waiting on all local entities to finalize their changes and are expecting to receive those changes in the near future.

The SEC will be sending "phishing" emails to employees/board members for cyber attack training. Amanda ensured the board members that if she sends them an email, she will also notify them, by text, that she has indeed sent an email.

Next scheduled board meeting will be Thursday, March 10, 2022 @ 9am. This will also be the canvass meeting for the City of Chesnee Special election (3.8.2022).

Howard (Howie) Knapp is officially the new director of the SEC.

Amanda made reference to House Bill H4919 that has been introduced. It would support absentee still being opened 30 days ahead of election, but the last two weeks would become "early" voting (no excuse) for every registered voter. The bill would also require us to be open until 6pm for those last 2 weeks.

We now have two vacancies on our board. Randy Horton just resigned and we still have not filled Doug Wilson's position (2020). Delegation is aware of vacancies.

Richard made a motion to adjourn @ 9:42am; Jerry seconded; all were in favor.

Carlton Bridges Sr.
Carlton Bridges, Secretary

March 10th 2022
Date

**minutes recorded by Cassidy Nichols (deputy director)