



Coweta County Board of Elections and Registration 87 Newnan Station Drive
Regular Meeting Session

Newnan, GA 30265
www.coweta.ga.us

770.254.2615

Thursday, June 13, 2024

1:00 PM

Board Room

~ Minutes ~

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Mae Reeves	District 5 - Chairman	Present	
Jane Scoggins	District 2 - Member	Present	
Wayne Farmer	District 3 - Member	Present	
Randy Wahoske	District 4 - Member	Present	
Natasha Werner	District 1 - Member	Present	

The Board of Elections and Registration of Coweta County, Georgia met in Emergency Meeting Session on Thursday, June 13, 2024.

Meeting Called to Order

Chairman Reeves called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

SPECIAL SESSION

1. Voter Challenge

Director Gay advised that the Voter Registration Office received a letter from Shirley Jerman challenging 239 Electors. The purpose of this meeting is to consider such challenge and determine whether probable cause exist to sustain such challenge.

Each board member was given a copy of the challenge. Director Gay advised that no supporting documentation was included. Other than a few additional comments or observations, the main reason for the challenges is an NCOA (National Change of Address). No documentation was included showing why an NCOA was filed.

Attorney Michael Hill advised that the challenge was made under OCGA 21-2-230, which states once the challenge is received, the board is to immediately determine if there is probable cause to sustain the challenge. He advised what legal precedent has established in the past. He advised that the board cannot under Federal Law perform a systematic challenge of voters within 90 days of an election. However, Federal Law does not prohibit the board from an individual assessment of a voter and their ability to be on the rolls. The courts have said however, there needs to be more than a NCOA, there is no information regarding a legitimate reason that someone could move out of state. (Military, contract worker, a student).

He stated that if the board finds probable cause there are steps that need to take place. Poll Workers and Absentee Clerks must be notified; hearings must take place before the Election can be certified.

Member Wahoske asked if the May Election was decided by less than 240 votes. Director Gay advised she believed not. Wahoske asked if this would give them more time. Hill advised that the June runoff is next week and that the challenge would have to be put in place to notify Poll Workers.

Member Scoggins advised that in 2020 a similar challenge was submitted, and the Board did not find probable cause in that case, and she does not see why probable cause would be found now, if it was not found then. Advising that there is not supporting notes on why the voters should be challenged. Member Werner agreed.

Member Farmer stated there is not enough evidence, that anyone can put together a spreadsheet; that there needs to be more evidence. That the people had not been contacted, therefore this is not enough evidence.

Director Gay advised that the state has processes for National Change of Address. The Office mails out confirmation notices provided by the state. If a response is received by the office and the voter responds that they have moved out of state, they are removed from the rolls; if they say they have moved to another county then the notice is sent to the other county; if they do not respond they go inactive. If they do not vote in 2 General Elections, they are then sent another notice notifying them that they will be removed from the rolls.

Member Scoggins stated that the state has a good handle on NCOA and does not believe the Board should interrupt their process.


Chairman Reeves then called for a motion to go forward or not. Member Farmer stated he makes a motion not to go forward.

Motion: Probable Cause Does Not Exist to Sustain Such Challenge.

RESULT:	ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Wayne Farmer, District 3
SECONDER:	Natasha Werner, District 1
AYES:	Reeves, Wahoske, Farmer, Scoggins, Werner Approved by a vote of 5-0

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Reeves adjourned meeting at 1:14 PM



 Signature

06-24-2024

 Date