

SHELBY COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 19, 2019

APPROVED

Regular Meeting of the Shelby County Election Commission that was held on March 19, 2019, at 4:00 pm at the Election Operations Center, 980 Nixon Drive.

CALLED TO ORDER: Chairman Meyers **Time:** 4:02 pm

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Commissioner Lester, Commissioner Nollner, Commissioner Stamson and Commissioner Tate

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 19, 2019 MINUTES

MOTION STATED: Commissioner Nollner made motion to approve February 19, 2019 minutes as presented

SECONDED BY Commissioner Stamson

OUTCOME OF MOTION: Passed unanimously

CERTIFY MARCH 12, 2019 ELECTION RESULTS

MOTION STATED: Commissioner Nollner made motion to approve March 12, 2019 Election results as presented.

SECONDED BY Commissioner Stamson

APPROVED: Passed unanimously

ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

Given by Attorney Varela

- **John Barzizza vs SCEC**
A consent order was filed to allow the plaintiffs to review the absentee and provisional ballots.
- **Shelby Advocates for Valid Elections(S.A.V.E.) vs Tre Hargett and SCEC**
State and SCEC filed a motion to dismiss. Plaintiff filed a motion to strike our motion to dismiss. State is preparing a response and we plan to join with the State.

ACTION ITEM:

Chairman Meyers inquired about the day and time Mr. Barzizza attorneys plan to review the absentee and provisional ballots. Attorney Varela informed the Chairman that the day and time have not be scheduled.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT (SEE ATTACHMENT):

Given by Mrs. Phillips.

The following items were discussed:

- High School registration drives
- The City of Memphis Police Association petitions update
- Appeal of rejected VR applications
- New full-time Democratic machine technician appointee
- Private & school elections
- New building sign update
- Website update
- SB 1356 / HB 1355
- HB 145 / SB 193
- HB 195 / SB 74
- HB 312 / SB 240
- HB 554 / SB 825
- HB 1432 / SB 1012
- HB 46 / SB 761
- HB 547 / SB 589
- HB 1273 / SB 1500
- League of Women Voters Soapbox dinner

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- EC security
- Upcoming Events

ACTION ITEM:

Commissioner Nollner inquired about any action to extend the parking lot at Nixon.

Commissioner Lester inquired about updating the election information on website. AOE, Linda Phillips informed Commissioner Lester that the website would be updated as election dates are confirmed.

Commissioner Lester inquired an update on all issue with the new VR system. AOE, Linda Phillips informed Commissioner Lester that not all issues have been resolved but we are still working toward a resolution.

Discussion followed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Each visitor was given 3 minutes to speak

- Rose Ann Bradley

OLD / NEW BUSINESS:

Old: None

New: Commissioner Lester expressed gratitude for the years served on the board.

Commissioner Nollner expressed gratitude for the years served on the board.

Chairman Meyers expressed gratitude for the years served on the board. Mr. Meyers also prepared a written statement please see below:

ELECTION COMMISSION GOODBYE

From Chairman Robert Meyers

I have had the privilege of serving the citizens of Shelby County as an Election Commissioner since 2008 and as Chairman since 2011. As some of you know, my time on the Election Commission is coming to a close.

As I reflect on my time with the Election Commission particular words keep coming to mind, grateful, thankful, honored and inspired.

*I am **grateful** to the Shelby County Republican legislators for recommending to the State Election Commission that I serve as an Election Commissioner. I am **thankful** the State Election Commission appointed me to this position. I was **honored** to serve with my fellow Commissioners for 11 years and also **honored** to have been selected by them as their Chairman for the past 9 years.*

*But mostly, I have been **inspired** by the hard work of and total dedication of those associated with the Election Commission's day-to-day operations: from former AOE Richard Holden to current AOE Linda Phillips, Deputy AOE Joe Young, Managers Al Holmes, Carla Lytle, Genine Taylor, my fellow Election Commissioners, as well as full-time, part-time and seasonal staff – who all work tirelessly for the voters of Shelby County.*

What most people don't know about the Election Commission is that it is made up of Republicans and Democrats who work together to administer each and every election in Shelby County - where we have lots of elections.

As my time on the Election Commission comes to an end, I would like to thank our staff, managers and Administrators for their hard work and dedication to our election process. I also thank my fellow Commissioners for their dedication, hard work and friendship, and thank our legislators and the State Election Commission for giving me this opportunity to serve our community.

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It has always been my goal to hold fair, efficient and transparent elections that support the American belief in democracy and our Republic. I am proud to say that we met this goal during my tenure on the Election Commission.

I wish the Election Commission continued success in the years ahead. I am always available to anyone if there is any issue I can provide assistance on. I have been humbled to be your Chairman - thank you.

Plaques were presented to all retirees.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Regular Commission Meeting scheduled for April 16, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Postponed for next regular scheduled meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting was adjourned.

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Linda Phillips, AOE
Joe Young, Chief Deputy AOE
Deborah Upchurch, Staff
Diana George, Staff
Pam Gentry, Staff
Henry Boozer, Jr., Staff
Jackie Trobee, Staff
Sylvia Hampton, Staff
Sharon Logan, Staff
Linda Allen
Janice Mitchell
Kimberly Wilburns
Beverly McCarthey
Brent Taylor
Bennie Smith
Leonard Hopkins, ITS
Attorney Ryder
Attorney Varela
Attorney Bibbs
Attorney Hagler

Rose Ann Bradley
Barbara Williams
Peg Watkins
Suzanne Thompson- Cozza
Michael Hewlett
Janice Banks
Hsuan-Hsin Abraham Lin



Steve Stanson, Chairman



Anthony Tate, Secretary

4-16-19
Date

4-16-19
Date



Shelby County Election Commission

Administrator of Elections Monthly Report March 2019

Voter and Candidate Services

- We are working on getting the high school registration drives completed. Letters have been sent to all of the schools. We are following up with phone calls and emails.
- Lille Jones had her surgery and is doing well; although in some pain and really, really not enjoying re-hab.
- The MPA project is taking most of our time: we have processed 3,559 pages. The current status:

Summary	
Total Signatures Processed	33045
Valid Signatures	13250
Pending Signatures	5162
Invalid Signatures	14633
Total	33045
Awaiting Supervisor Review	0

As to the question of when we will finish, I don't know. It will take as long as it takes. I will say we are going to quit when we reach the required number of signatures.

- At next month's meeting, you will be asked to consider the appeals of rejected VR applications. These are people who checked the box of the VR form that they had been convicted of a felony. Mostly, these are people who didn't read the form correctly and checked the wrong box; some are truly felons.

Operations Department

- Most of the activity of the last month has been in holding the TN Senate District 32 Election.
- Commissioner Lester and Tate appointed Ronald Boozer as the full-time Democratic machine technician; he replaces Matt Lucas.
- We have done four private/school elections since the last report.

Administrator

- You might have noticed that the base of the sign has been installed. It became very obvious that the sign was going to prevent people from seeing traffic coming from the south; since much of the traffic coming from the south is large equipment like dump trucks or rapidly moving law enforcement vehicles, this is a problem. The base will be moved.
- As of yesterday, our website has had 880,170 views; it published 1/31/2018. Contrast this with our old website page views; typically it was around 100,000 for a year. There have been two upgrades; the interactive GIS maps published and linked and EasyVote Campaign Finance has had a huge improvement in speed. Memphis City Council filings start on page 41. To see the documents we have, click on the little arrow to the right.

Public Filings for Shelby County

Full Name/Committee Name	Office
▶ Wright (t), Matt	Lakeland School Board
▶ Brown, George	Memphis Charter Comm
▶ Gibbons, Bill	Memphis Charter Comm
▶ Jeff, Jesse	Memphis City Council Dist. 1
▶ Logan, Rhonda	Memphis City Council Dist. 1
▶ Nicolson, Faye	Memphis City Council Dist. 1
▶ Morrison (j), Bill	Memphis City Council Dist. 1
▶ Roberts, Wayne	Memphis City Council Dist. 1
▶ Boyd, William	Memphis City Council Dist. 2
▶ Camper, Karen	Memphis City Council Dist. 2

755 total

41

A window will open that looks like this:

Document Name	Date Submitted	Document Type
Wright_Mail - Pre-General 2013 - FINAL	10/8/2013	Campaign Financial Disclosure
Wright_Mail - Spl Qtr 2013	10/09/2013	Campaign Financial Disclosure
Wright_Mail - 1st Qtr 2013	09/18/2013	Campaign Financial Disclosure

3 total

This shows all of the documents we have; click on any document and it will open in a new window.

- SB 1356/HB 1355 Compensation of AOE. This bill is still alive but has not been scheduled for a committee hearing, so my guess is that it is dead. The fiscal note was not very detailed and probably overstated the cost; this would really have benefited small counties and would have little impact on the larger ones.
- HB 145/ SB 193 Would allow a person who registered by mail to apply to vote absentee by appearing at a county election commission office. I think this is a low burden, common sense approach to the problem of students who register online. The Senate bill will be heard in Committee today; the House Bill is scheduled for tomorrow.
- HB 195/ SB 74 Would eliminate the use of the full SSN on election records. Both have passed on second consideration; neither bill is scheduled for committee hearing.
- HB 312/ SB 240 This would establish election day registration. If this is done correctly, it can be a huge improvement in the process since it can eliminate provisional ballots. 17 States have some form of Election Day registration. Both have passed on second consideration; neither bill is scheduled for committee hearing. I suspect this is dead; which is too bad, same day registration can be done well and benefit voters and taxpayers.
- HB 554/ SB 825 This would require us to establish an early voting location on college campuses with more than 8,000 students. The Senate bill will be heard in Committee today; the House Bill is scheduled for tomorrow. TACEO opposes

this bill. I oppose this bill; we don't have enough equipment, supervisors or people to accomplish this, so it has a high fiscal impact for Shelby County.

- **HB 1432/SB 1012 This would require the use of precinct based optical scanners for elections. Both have passed on second consideration; neither bill is scheduled for committee hearing. There is no fiscal note available for this bill; the fiscal impact would be huge. TACEO opposes this bill; there are better solutions for large counties and we should at least join this century by allowing digital scan rather than requiring technology that is older than I am.**
- **HB 46/ SB 761 – Would require us to have early voting on Sunday. This bill is dead.**
- **HB 547/ SB 589 - Would restore the voting rights for most felons without condition. Both passed on second consideration; HB 547 is scheduled for committee hearing tomorrow. SB is not scheduled for committee hearing.**
- **HB 1273/ SB 1500 – Would have required closed primaries and registration by party. This bill is dead.**
- **I will be a table moderator, along with Jackson Baker from the Memphis Flyer for the upcoming League of Women Voters Soapbox dinner on March 26, 2019. We will be at the table discussing alternative voting processes, same day registration, and potential legislation.**
- **Deputy AOE Young continues to put his focus on issues related to security, particularly in educating our staff.**
- **Days to Upcoming Events:**
 - **Town of Arlington – 184 Days**
 - **City of Memphis – 198 Days**
 - **Presidential Preference Primary -- 350 Days**