

SHELBY COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
MAY 26, 2020

The regular meeting of the Shelby County Election Commission was held electronically on May 26, 2020.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: By Chairman Stamson at 5:37pm

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Commissioners Uhlhorn, Taylor, Smith and Tate

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Linda Phillips, AOE
Joe Young, DAOE
Attorney Varela
Carol Collinsworth, staff
Stacy Scott, staff

APPROVAL OF MAY 7, 2020 MINUTES

MOTION STATED: Commissioner Taylor made a motion to approve the minutes

OBJECTION BY: Commissioner Smith asked for corrections to be made

OUTCOME OF MOTION: Minutes will be corrected

ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

Attorney Varela stated there is one lawsuit by Latroy Alexander Williams, Jr.

POLLING PLACE CHANGES:

Changes are still in process. Several precincts are too small to allow for social distancing and some alternative locations are not ADA compliant. Resolution of all polling place changes will be presented at June meeting.

DISCUSSION OF EARLY VOTING:

In 2016, 38,000 people over 60 voted so based on that we are looking at approximately 25,000 people voting early and 25,000 on election day since most of the current absentee requests are by people over 60. Commissioners want all sites open full time no matter how few people vote in person.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

There are 3 lawsuits to increase absentee voting.

We are working on finding additional space, computers and phones to handle the volume of absentee requests. Currently we have received 1300 applications and most are over age 60. The Secretary of State is sending a mailing to all voters over 60 advising how to get an absentee ballot.

We are increasing the number of people on the counting board. Commissioners Uhlhorn and Smith need to be at SCEC by 6:45am on election day to open the ballot boxes so the process can begin at 7am.

We are ordering new letter openers and postage meters and preprinted ballots.

The state is providing COVID-19 items and we will have masks, sneeze guards, face shields, disposable styli, hand sanitizer, etc. We are ordering extra tables, extension cords, etc. to allow for social distancing. We are working with the health department. We will encourage the public to wear masks when they come to vote.

Nursing homes are an issue as they are not allowing visitors so we can't send in our nursing home teams. We are waiting on a decision from the legislature on how to proceed. Same issue with the inmate voting.

OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS:

Commissioner Smith requested a copy of the budget and forecasted lifecycle savings.

Commissioner Taylor discussed the committee meeting held on February 26, 2020 and recommended the name revert to Operations and Technology. An update from this meeting will be added to the agenda for the June meeting.

Commissioner Smith asked about the contract for disposal of old equipment.

MOTION STATED:

Commissioner Smith made a motion to post a link to the state absentee voting form and remove the SCEC form due to inflammatory language.

DISCUSSION: AOE Phillips stated that the state form is confusing as it combines UOCAVA and regular absentee on the same form. The State Coordinator of Elections has to approve the form and they directed the language on our form. Commissioner Tate was concerned that changing forms in midstream could be confusing.

Commissioner Uhlhorn stated that the current form has been in use for two years without complaint. Commissioner Taylor suggested it be changed for the November election.

SECONDED: None

OUTCOME: Motion failed.

MOTION STATED:

Commissioner Taylor made a motion to change the absentee form to remove the objectionable language, get it approved and have it ready for the November election.

SECONDED: Commissioner Uhlhorn.

OUTCOME: Passed

Taylor – yes

Uhlhorn – yes

Tate – yes

Smith – no

Stamson – yes

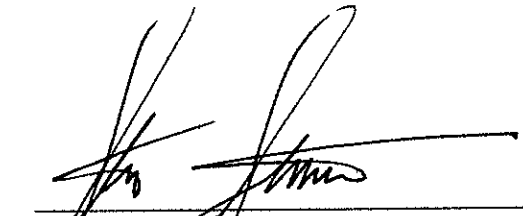
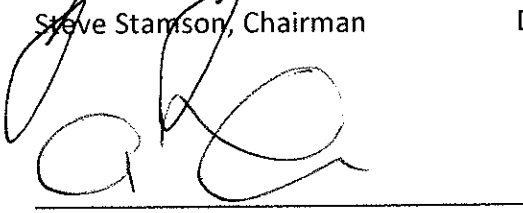
Commissioner Smith requested a copy of the NDAs, both signed and unsigned.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There was one comment from Rose Ann Bradley.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 5:56pm.

	
Steve Stamson, Chairman	Date
	
Anthony Tate, Secretary	Date

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/recording/7061656717519744007>