

SPALDING COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND VOTER REGISTRATION

Minutes

June 23, 2025 Regular Monthly Meeting

The Regular Monthly meeting of the Spalding County Board of Elections and Voter Registration was held at the Office of Elections and Voter Registration at 825 Memorial Drive at 10:00 am, on Tuesday, June 23, 2025. In attendance: Chairman Ben Johnson presiding: James Newland, Chris Piland and Lee Howell. Not in attendance: Dexter Wimbish. Also present were Elections Director Kim Slaughter, Attorney Davd Penland with Ryan Callahan, and Kelly Romero to record minutes.

Call to Order – Chairman Ben Johnson called meeting to order at 10:07 am.

Invocation/Moment of Silence – Invocation was given by Chris Piland.

Pledge to the Flag – Pledge was led by Lee Howell.

Citizen Comment – No citizen comments.

Adoption of the Agenda with Modification – James Newland motioned to adopt the agenda with the following modifications: Add to New Business to move the BOE meeting from July 8, 2025 to July 21, 2025 to certify the July 15, 2025 Special Primary runoff election and to move the August 12, 2025 BOE meeting to August 5, 2025 due to staff attending GAVREO during this time.

Motion/second by James Newland/Lee Howell

Motion passed: 4-0

Voted for: Chairman Ben Johnson, James Newland, Chirs Piland and Lee Howell

Approval of Minutes: Chris Piland motioned to approve the May 6, 2025, Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes.

Motion/Second by Chris Piland/Lee Howell

Motion Passed :4-0

Voted for: Chairman Ben Johnson, James Newland, Chris Piland and Lee Howell

Election Supervisor Report –

Voter Registration Update: Presented by Sandra Hardy (Total number of Registered Voters as of 6/20/2025 is 54,590.)

Summary of all Processing:

- Transfers into Spalding County – 116
- New Voters – 67
- Within County Address Changes – 92
- Name Changes – 22
- Records with No Changes – 339

Election Calendar

Report of the June 17, 2025 Special Primary

- The election was a success.
- We had a few poll pad issues involving connectivity and wiring as well as printer issues, but all were resolved.

Board Mandated Hand Count

- PSC Republican Dist 3 – Precinct 13 – Advanced in Person
 - PSC Democratic Dist 2 – Precinct 21 – Absentee By Mail
 - PSC Republican Dist 2 – Precinct 16 – Election Day
- Hand count balanced to that of the results loaded into the Election Management System.

State Risk Limit Audit

- Dice Roll on Wednesday, June 25, 2025
- Audit begins Thursday, June 26, 2025 at 9:00 am

July 15th Special Public Service Commission Primary Run-off Election

- Deadline for registering to vote was May 19, 2025, the same as the Special Primary
- Logic & Accuracy testing begins Monday, June 30, 2025.
- Advance Voting will be held the week of July 7th – 11th, Monday through Friday, from 9:00 am until 5:00 pm daily.
- Election Day is July 15, 2025
- There will be 68 Poll Officers to serve during this election. The Poll Worker Training for the June Special Primary covers the Run-Off

November 4, 2025 – General Municipal Election & Public Service Commission

- City of Griffin – Commission Districts 1, 3, 5, & 6 up for election
- City of Orchard Hill – Councilman (1) Seat
- Public Service Commission General Election
- Qualifying Period:
 - August 18-22, 2025 8:30 am until 4:30 pm daily

Contract for Polyglot Labs/Eyesore

- Hammond Marketing gave a price of \$15,000
- Polyglot Labs/Eyesore would be a savings of \$7,000

HB769 Update

- Fifth Board member appointment: This legislation makes clear how the appointment of the 5th Board member is appointed.
- Allows the Board to hold Emergency meetings.
- Changed the title of Election Supervisor to Elections Director.
- Requires all Staff members including the Elections Director to be Spalding County registered voters and citizens.
- Allows the Board to hire legal counsel of its choosing or may choose to be represented by the County Attorney.

Discussion of Board Members Attendance on Election Day

- Director Kim Slaughter advised that she would like a Bi-Partisan showing on Election Day especially in the evening for dual control.
- Chairman Ben Johnson recommended to get dates and times set up and assign them to each person.

Certification of June 17, 2025, Special Primary for Public Service Commission Districts 2 and 3.

Motion was made by James Newland/Chris Piland to certify the June 17, 2025 Special Primary Results.

Motion/Second by James Newland/Chris Piland

Motion Passed: 4-0

Voted for: Chairman Ben Johnson, James Newland, Chris Piland and Lee Howell

Old Business - None

New Business – James Newland made a motion to reschedule the following BOE Regular monthly meeting dates:

Move BOE meeting from July 8, 2025 to July 21, 2025 to certify the runoff election and to move BOE meeting from August 12, 2025 to August 5, 2025 because staff will be at GAVREO during this time.

Motion/Second by James Newland/Chris Piland

Motion Passed: 4-0

Voted for: Chairman Ben Johnson, James Newland, Chris Piland and Lee Howell

Board Members Comments –

Lee Howell – Kim and staff great election as always

James Newland – Congratulated Kim Slaughter on being a Director now.

Chairman Ben Johnson – Is happy to be back. He likes his shirt. Kim Slaughter always does a great job and advised he will be back on election day for the runoff on July 15, 2025.

Chris Piland – Congratulated Kim Slaughter as well on becoming Director.

Adjournment –

Motion/Second by Lee Howell/James Newland

Motion Passed :4-0

Voted for: Chairman Ben Johnson, James Newland, Chris Piland and Lee Howell at 10:54 am.



James Newland, Vice-Chair



Kim Slaughter, Elections Director