

SPALDING COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND VOTER REGISTRATION

July 21, 2025

Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes

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 Monday, July 21, 2025. In attendance: Vice Chairman James Newland presiding, Chris Piland and Dexter Wimbish (arrived at 10:15) Also present were Elections Director Kim Slaughter, Attorney Stephanie Windham, and Kelly Romero to record minutes.

Call to Order – Vice Chairman James Newland called meeting to order at 10:17 (Meeting started late due to lack of quorum.

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

Pledge to the Flag – Pledge was led by Dexter Wimbish

Citizen Comment – No citizen comments.

Amending of the Agenda – (Motion to Amend the Agenda to add an Executive Session)

Motion/second by Dexter Wimbish/Chris Piland

Motion passed: 3-0

Voted for: Vice Chairman James Newland, Dexter Wimbish, and Chris Piland

Adoption of the Agenda with Amendment –

Motion/second by Dexter Wimbish/Chris Piland

Motion passed: 3-0

Voted for: Vice Chairman James Newland, Dexter Wimbish, and Chris Piland

Approval of Minutes: Approval of June 23, 2025, Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes-

Motion/Second by Dexter Wimbish/Chris Piland

Motion Passed: 3-0

Voted for: Vice Chairman James Newland, Dexter Wimbish, and Chris Piland

Election Supervisor Report –

Voter Registration Update: Presented by Sandra Hardy (Total number of Registered Voters as of July 21, 2025 – 54,497.)

Tiles that have been processed: (Voter Registration will resume July 22, 2025.)

- Vital Records – 44
- Felon Records – 8
- Mentally Incompetent – 1

NGE Mailing – July 10, 2025: This mailing will target records who have inactive status continuously for 2 federal general elections. These records (2,387) have been mailed a notice, put on a 40-day clock and will be moved to Canceled status if no response is received. Postage for NGE mailers = \$1,647.00

NO CONTACT Mailing – July 22, 2025: This mailing will target approximately 1353 voter records with Active status that have not had any activity in 5 calendar years. (2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024.) If a voter on the NO CONTACT list does not respond within 40 days after the mailer is sent, they are moved to Inactive status.

Election Update

Elections Director Kim Slaughter reported the following about the July 15, 2025 PSC Special Primary Run-off:

- Slow but successful election
- Due to a thunderstorm, a couple precincts had water leakage, but voting equipment was not affected. Management was notified
- Several precincts lost power for a short period of time, but all machines returned to their normal status with no change in number of usages.
- One precinct did have trouble with a poll pad and a voter filed a complaint. They were moved to another poll pad and continued the process. A new card encoder and cord were deployed to this location and everything worked well thereafter.
- If our county had qualified under 21.2.270, we would have saved around \$17,758 for the special run-off by having it held in one location.
 - Dexter Wimbish suggested the following to Attorney Stephanie Windham. He would like for counsel to draft/propose legislation for an exemption for counties that will set a base line to create a process where we can petition to say we only have this amount of people and it's going to cost us this amount of money. Director Slaughter advised this law applied only to Primary elections.

Board Mandated Hand Count for the Special Primary Run-Off July 15, 2025

- **After all results were loaded into the election Management System, categories for the Board mandated audit were hand drawn and the results were as follows:**
- **PSC District 3**
 - Advance in Person – Precinct 7
 - Absentee By Mail – Precinct 20
 - Election Day – Precinct 16

The Board mandated hand count balanced to that of the results loaded into the Election Management System on Election night.

State Risk Limit Audit

- Dice Roll on Wednesday, July 23, 2025 around noon.
- Audit begins Thursday, July 24, 2025 at 9:00 am
 - Notice has been posted at the office and posted to our webpage.

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
- Referendum to all Spalding County Voters.

- Qualifying Period:
 - August 18-22, 2025, 8:30 am until 4:30 pm daily
 - City of Griffin Commission seats
 - Orchard Hill Post (1)

Contract for Polyglot Labs/Eyesore – Contract has been signed, and a meeting is scheduled with Garrett Massey on Tuesday morning, July 22, 2025 to finalize the web design.

Interviews for Election Assistant – Interviews begin today through Wednesday. A follow-up will be provided of any decision to the board. After this position is filled, Director Kim Slaughter will begin to fill the open part time position.

Precinct Consolidation – There will be a presentation given at the August meeting of consolidation recommendation and will be placed on the agenda for a vote.

LJA Engineering – Contacted Director Kim Slaughter at the direction of County Manager Steve Ledbetter to begin the estimated cost process for the renovation of the entire office space.

Announcements:

- GAVREO (GA Voter Registration & Election Officials) conference will be held in Savannah, Ga on August 10th -13th. Dexter Wimbish would like to attend virtually.
- The August meeting has been rescheduled due to the conference and will be held on August 5th, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at our regular location, Courthouse Annex, 119 E Solomon St, Room 108
- Director Kim Slaughter will continue to train and learn the new finance software, Tyler Technology, which went live right around Election time.
- Most of the office staff will join other Spalding County Government Departments in welcoming children back to school on their first day back, July 31st, 2025. We will be at Moreland Rd Elementary School.
- Staff Appreciation Day is July 30th, 2025.
- Director Slaughter also expressed that all Board members should be on call for all Election Days in case they are needed, but at least some be present when results are returning from the precincts. Attorney Stephanie Windham advised regarding the Board and Election Day, all members must be on call because we could have an emergency called meeting for a number of reasons.

Certification of July 15, 2025, Special Primary Run-Off.

Motion/Second by Dexter Wimbish/Chris Piland

Motion Passed: 3-0

Voted for: Vice Chairman James Newland, Dexter Wimbish, and Chris Piland

Old Business - None

New Business – None

Motion to go into Executive Session at 10:47 a.m. for the purpose of discussing pending or potential litigation to OCGA 50.14.2.1

Motion/Second by Dexter Wimbish/Chris Piland

Motion Passed: 3-0

Voted for: Vice Chairman James Newland, Dexter Wimbish, and Chris Piland

Motion to come out of Executive Session at 11:04 a.m.

Motion/Second by Dexter Wimbish/Chris Piland

Motion Passed: 3-0

Voted for: Vice Chairman James Newland, Dexter Wimbish and Chris Piland

Motion to return to Open Session at 11:04 a.m.

Motion/Second by Dexter Wimbish/Chris Piland

Motion Passed: 3-0

Voted for: Vice Chairman James Newland, Dexter Wimbish and Chris Piland

Board Members Comments –

Chris Piland – Great job as always, thank you.

Dexter Wimbish – Staff did a great job. I enjoyed being a part of that process. On a personal note, he shared that he was bummed out by voter apathy.

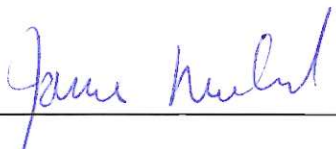
Vice Chairman James Newland – was glad Dexter Wimbish came on Election Day and that Chris Piland came in for adjudication. He advised the best way to learn is by doing it. Everyone needs to be there on Election Day.

Adjournment –

Motion/Second by Dexter Wimbish/Chris Piland

Motion Passed: 3-0

Voted for: Vice Chairman James Newland, Dexter Wimbish and Chris Piland at 11:10 a.m.



James Newland, Vice Chairman



Kim Slaughter, Elections Director