



TRUMP COUNTY, GEORGIA
BOARD OF ELECTIONS & REGISTRATION
MINUTES • JANUARY 30, 2018

Called Meeting

Planning & Zoning Conference Room

10:00 AM

100 Ridley Ave, Troup County Government Center, LaGrange, GA 30240

I. CALL TO ORDER

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
William Tatum	Chairman	Present	
Dianne Davidson	Vice Chair	Present	
Randall Hodge	Secretary	Present	
Issac Jeff Anderson	Board Member	Absent	
Johnnie Freeman	Board Member	Present	
Lonnie Hollis	Board Member	Present	
Gary S. Wood	Board Member	Present	

II. INVOCATION

Mr. Hodge led Invocation.

III. PLEDGE

Mr. Tatum led Pledge.

IV. PROPOSED LEGISLATION

1. Send Letter to Legislation.

Mr. Tatum reason we are here is to discuss the House Bill 680.

Mr. Tatum asked if everyone had read over it and also if we are ready to proceed with the discussion.

Mr. Harper gave each member a copy of the proposed bill and also a let from Secretary Kemp in regards to this legislation, stated that each person may interpret it differently.

Ms. Hollis stated that she had been in contact with people and there will be changes to the bill, talked to people and machines can be tampered with, prefer to get a ballot out of the machines and give to poll worker.

Ms. Freeman asked if the reason we were here is to understand the bill or to give our input on electronic machines or paper ballots.

Mr. Harper stated that he brought this to the chairman and the chairman wanted to have everyone voice heard, and also to see if how the board wanted to respond.

Mr. Tatum stated that he wanted to hear the voice of the entire board. Regardless what the bill does we will deal with it. We just need to decide how the board would like to respond.

Ms. Freeman stated that she would not mind staying electronic but produce a receipt, how she voted, and keep a copy. All machines could be manipulated.

Mr. Harper explained that the machine that was used as a pilot in Rockdale County in November you would vote on the touch screen and then print out the ballot and also not cast your ballot until you placed it into the optical scan machine.

Mr. Hodge asked if that process if you cast your ballot on the machine.

Ms. Davidson asked about why voted on something unseen.

Mr. Harper the bill is unclear about paper or electronic.

Ms. Hollis can't really go with this because they are making changes on the bill.

Mr. Harper what we are asking is how board want to proceed with paper or electronic or a receipt of your ballot.

Ms. Hollis told about a post on firefly from Ms. Holden that some of the legislators have seen the machines, and the letter from the county that members have a copy of from Tattnall County, also about the day at the capitol.

Mr. Harper stated they did a presentation to some legislators and also not sure about a date for the day at the capitol.

Ms. Davidson we have a lot of information from chatter on firefly.

Mr. Tatum not sure exactly what the bill draft is proposing of the changes.

Mr. Wood stated that he thinks that they want input from all boards and if we go back to paper we are backing up, and this would be more open to tampering, we need to continue electronic machines and possibly produce a print out.

Mr. Tatum print out would be a great deal and good idea.

Ms. Davidson already problems with people seeing the ballot.

Ms. Freeman stated that the machines helps with voters that have trouble viewing can enlarge and look at and with paper you can't enlarge paper.

Mr. Hodge stated that we already have problems with the duplication process on election night absentee ballots and provisional ballots.

Ms. Davidson asked why this is being brought up because they came out and stated that Georgia was not connected on line and not hacked.

Mr. Harper stated that this was brought on by from a lawsuit that was filed from what he understands, and that Kennesaw will not be building our ballots any longer, and all that process has been moved strictly back to the Secretary of State and Michael Barnes will be coming to the SOS.

Mr. Tatum asked if lawsuit was settled.

Ms. Davidson said that was not hacked was information was removed.

Ms. Freeman data was lost at KSU.

Mr. Harper stated that the board would need to decide how to vote on this matter.

Ms. Wood remain status quo and print out paper trail.

Ms. Davidson stated that she could not vote to go back to a paper ballot. The machine she saw at training was basically a printer.

Mr. Harper explained the presentation from the one they had in Augusta. Make your selection on touch screen and then hit print on card stock and ballot prints out, and then place ballot into optical scan is when you cast your ballot.

Ms. Hollis stated that some people complained that they voted for this person and then it choose someone else, there is always room for technology, always for changes to take place.

Ms. Davidson same problems with using a pen.

Ms. Hollis person voting made that mistake not the machine.

Ms. Davidson same thing, before starting here she had to go to judge and explain on a person voted on ballot and understand what they were intending.

Ms. Hollis person could look at it in hand and not on computer and because if they see their mistake on paper they can change and on computer you cast ballot you can't go back and change.

Mr. Harper explained that if they do that on new system it would be a spoiled ballot.

Ms. Freeman you introduce a lot of potential for errors that coming from her work experience. Going back to KSU that was a data breach.

Ms. Davidson if we could see a demo of the machines that is what everyone is asking on firefly how this work.

Mr. Harper stated that he will let everyone know what day and if you wanted to go to watch presentation at the Capitol.

Ms. Davidson so when they see the demo and they can make a decision and then we can make our decision.

Mr. Hodge understands today we are just wanting to know if we want to stay electronic or go back to paper ballot.

Mr. Wood that is the simple bottom line, stay electronic and paper printed copy, don't see how they can draw up any kind of legislation without any input

Mr. Tatum letter given to us they are wanting our opinion, nowhere in this do we see what Ms. Freeman stated about a voter getting a copy.

Ms. Davidson if that is what they are going to do eventually they should print out 2 copies.

Mr. Wood that make it even more complicated.

Mr. Tatum they paper copy would satisfy the voter but not change the turnout either way or change the outcome in any way.

Mr. Tatum asked the board what are the point that we would like to make if we approve or disapprove.

- 1) Remain Electronic, and update all equipment statewide.
- 2) Modify equipment to produce a receipt of ballot cast, for the voter to keep.

- 3) All Counties, Cities, and Legislators would need a demonstration of any equipment being considered and have the Legislators consider the Election Officials input before approval.
- 4) The American Disabilities Act (ADA) would need to be consider in this matter to make it more user friendly.
- 5) Funding and Training needs to be considered in this as well, as there are entities that have limited resources.

Mr. Hodge asked when we go to electronic voted, Mr. Harper stated he went back and asked Judge and he stated 2004.

Ms. Freeman asked how to find out who in the United States have the latest and greatest voting machines.

Mr. Tatum stated this be finical substantially for all counties and especially smaller counties.

Mr. Harper stated this proposed bill would take effect after January 1, 2019.

Ms. Freeman talked about the letter from Secretary Kemp and don't hold back on how you feel about HB680, need to hear the voices, ultimately this will impact every voter.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	William Tatum, Chairman
SECONDER:	Dianne Davidson, Vice Chair
AYES:	Tatum, Davidson, Hodge, Freeman, Hollis, Wood
ABSENT:	Anderson

V. ADJOURN

1. Adjourn

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Randall Hodge, Secretary
SECONDER:	Lonnie Hollis, Board Member
AYES:	Tatum, Davidson, Hodge, Freeman, Hollis, Wood
ABSENT:	Anderson