



TRUP COUNTY, GEORGIA
BOARD OF ELECTIONS & REGISTRATION
MINUTES • APRIL 19, 2018

Regular 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	Absent	
Issac Jeff Anderson	Board Member	Present	
Johnnie Freeman	Board Member	Present	
Lonnie Hollis	Board Member	Present	
Gary S. Wood	Board Member	Present	

II. INVOCATION

Mr. Tatum led Invocation.

III. PLEDGE

Mr. Tatum led Pledge.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Approval of Agenda

RESULT:	APPROVED [5 TO 1]
MOVER:	Gary S. Wood, Board Member
SECONDER:	Dianne Davidson, Vice Chair
AYES:	Tatum, Davidson, Anderson, Freeman, Wood
NAYS:	Hollis
ABSENT:	Hodge

V. MINUTES APPROVAL

1. Board of Elections & Registration - Regular Meeting - Mar 15, 2018 10:00 AM

RESULT:	ACCEPTED AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Issac Jeff Anderson, Board Member
SECONDER:	Dianne Davidson, Vice Chair
AYES:	Tatum, Davidson, Anderson, Freeman, Hollis, Wood
ABSENT:	Hodge

VI. SUPERVISOR REPORT

1 - Mr. Harper explained why the letter was sent to Ms. Tanya Jones-Cameron. - Response to the questions asked in person I answered in my office when she hand delivered the letter back dated. I wanted to make sure I sent them to her in writing also in order to cover/ protect the office / board / county.

2 - Conference update, asked members if they needed any print outs or look at his book.

3 - Atlanta Complaint on Mr. Harper from 2015 update - turned over to attorney general. Mr. Harper gave Ms. Hollis a copy of the minutes before he came into office and taking title away from employee that she claimed before State Board that I had done things. Provided members a copy to the other Board members.

3 - L&A progress most has been done and also a few more things to finish up. Ms. Hollis asked about training -some of it already done and a few more classes, possible make up class depending on how many more show up for training.

4 - Mr. Harper explained that the Board has been approached as to people wanting to move voting precincts out of the schools. Mr. Harper stated that Mr. Tatum would let the Board members know what went on. Ms. Hollis asked why all Board was not aware of meeting. Mr. Harper stated that he was asked to have an informational meeting of the process. Ms. Hollis asked why again and who wanted the meeting. Mr. Tatum asked Ms. Hollis if he was permitted he would explain. Mr. Ted Beason business man has some concerns about closing schools for the purpose of voting and have students all their class time. Mr. Beason has been asking Mr. Crews. Mr. Thornton, Mr. Tentler and members of the community for at least 2 years. The County Chairman Mr. Crews called the meeting. Present were Mr. Crews, Mr. Thornton, Mr. Beason, Mr. Cameron, School board, Dr. Pugh, Mr. Ratcliff, Mr. Tentler, Mr. Tatum, and Mr. Harper to discuss to relocate in order not to close schools at all. Mr. Tatum and Mr. Harper explained the procedures and approximately time lines of how long it would take. (This would need to happen in odd year, 2019 or 2021) Public hearings, etc. one of the main reason is School Safety for the Children. Mr. Tatum stated that the take away from the meeting is to possibly move and also at the same time to combine some of the precincts in order to cut cost in the Elections. The committee asked that Mr. Tatum and Mr. Harper get with this Board and come back with some possible locations and any changes that they would like to propose. Mr. Tatum asked that all Board members be thinking about the issues over the next months and being back any information to this Board to look at to move forward with possible doing this. Mr. Tatum stated that if we move voters we have to go thru the process. Mr. Tatum asked about a possible location of the old state patrol building and he stated the building is in design to turn that into the Fire Station training and could be possibly used but would not be ready until maybe 2020. Hollis Hand is a large precinct and then it was suggest possible for the College or the Methodist church. Hillcrest maybe a church in the process of adding fellowship hall, and these are just ideas at this point, no one has been approached yet. Ms. Hollis asked who would be making these decision as to where the precincts would be located. Mr. Harper stated that they asked that this board look at the possible locations and different ideas. Mr. Tatum stated that is why he is presenting this to the board at this time. Mr. Harper stated that the suggestion from the meeting was or this board to come up with any locations and do a presentation to the Commissioners and City Council. Mr. Harper explained the required ADA rules and notice to voters and also the cost. Ms. Davidson asked about since the school safety is a possible issues, is the entire state and country going to change. Mr. Tatum stated that this is not the only state or county with schools being used and we are just dealing within Troup County. Ms. Davidson stated how we are wanted to do this and if this Board does not want to move them. Ms. Davidson stated that this has been going on for centuries and do not want to inconvenience voters. Mr. Tatum stated that we have Rosemont, McClendon (Hillcrest), Gardner Newnan (administration building), Hollis Hand, Highland, Northside (Hope), Mountville also but not a problem since school closed as long as they own the building. Ms. Hollis stated that this is ironic because Mr. Cameron has been wanting to do this for years when he was on the board, because he was concerned about schools being on lockdown. Recent violent going on is an issue. Ms. Davidson is there any other options for these location. Mr. Wood stated that is the reason Mr. Tatum gave is for us to study for a month or two and come up with possible locations and if they are not feasible then possible legislation. Mr. Tatum stated that the old state patrol location could combine Rosemont and also Highland. Hollis hand is going to be difficult. Ms. Hollis stated Hope academy is an issue and also there are some retail building that might could use. Mr. Tatum stated any government building. Mr. Anderson asked about could it be a city building. Mr. Tatum said yes. Mr. Harper stated that if the board chooses a location then we could approach the location and they would have to agree and understand the location would have to be available for any election. Example was Mr. Barry Gordy for East Vernon precinct understood the process and kept it not rented for those dates. Mr. Tatum stated if it is a private building they would need to might let us have it at that particular time and then later on want to sell or maybe approached to make more money on it and then it would be another issue. Ms. Freeman asked if we could get a map

and list to look at. Mr. Harper stated yes. Ms. Davidson stated we knew more since we were at the meeting. Mr. Anderson stated that this has been discussed for years that he knew of. Mr. Tatum stated that after he came on the board Mr. Beason called and he has been wanting a meeting for years. Ms. Davidson asked who wanted the meeting. Mr. Tatum stated that Mr. Crews had been approached by Mr. Beason and Mr. Cameron, and he is the person who set up the meeting. Mr. Harper stated that after some time they have been talking and he was asked to be there and so he asked Mr. Tatum to join him in the meeting and explain the process. Mr. Tatum stated whether is a private owner or county or city it will take some time and maybe a year. Ms. Freeman stated that a year is not a long time. Mr. Harper stated that if the board choose to do it in 2019 we would need to arrange to have public hearings and voting on later this year or early next year. Ms. Freeman stated that 2019 will be here before you know it and also see the safety concern of the schools and is a legitimate concern, closing the school for the election do they not build that into the schedule. Mr. Harper explained that this upcoming election was built into the calendar but it is the last day of school. Mt. Tatum stated that Mr. Beason and Mr. Cameron concerns is coming to school on Monday and then being out of school on Tuesday and then back to school for the remaining of the week, concerns about higher rate of absentee on Monday. Mr. Anderson stated that his personal opinion is it needs to be done and need to get something done about it. Mr. Tatum stated we just need proper locations. Ms. Davidson stated that it has been going on for years and some other places have already done this. Ms. Freeman stated that Ms. Davidson is right we can benchmark it be using the examples of others in moving them, and not start from scratch. Ms. Hollis stated is needs to happen since we have had so much violence. Ms. Davidson stated you are on the Democratic Party and maybe you could get some information for us. Mr. Harper stated that other counties have been already doing this. Ms. Hollis asked if we could get the information of how many voters are in each precinct. Mr. Harper stated yes. Mr. Anderson stated that he believes this is the right board to get this done. Mr. Tatum asked everyone to think about looking and bringing back the information. Mr. Wood had to leave, and excused himself. Ms. Hollis asked about the old theater building on commerce. Mr. Anderson stated that building would not work. Mr. Tatum asked everyone to just be looking and gave the precincts again. Mr. Tatum asked if anyone had anything further.

VII. ADJOURN

1. Adjourn.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Lonnie Hollis, Board Member
SECONDER:	Issac Jeff Anderson, Board Member
AYES:	Tatum, Davidson, Anderson, Freeman, Hollis
ABSENT:	Hodge
EXCUSED:	Wood

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Dianne Davidson, Vice Chair
SECONDER:	Issac Jeff Anderson, Board Member
AYES:	Tatum, Davidson, Hodge, Anderson, Freeman, Hollis, Wood

3. Minutes of Feb, 15 2018 10:00 AM

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

VI. SUPERVISOR REPORT

Mr. Harper gave each board member for updated information.
 Mr. Harper gave a list of the qualified candidates.
 Mr. Harper reminded board members about upcoming training.
 Mr. Harper gave board members a copy of the proposed budget that was submitted.
 Mr. Harper explained that legislation has created the Election Supervisor position.
 Ms. Hollis stated that the board is responsible for the budget and everyday affairs of the office.
 Mr. Hodge explained that is the reason why we have an Election Supervisor, and that he was not coming into office and do the day to day operations.
 Mr. Tatum explained we had asked about compensation and is till on hold until commissioner's change.
 Ms. Hollis stated until the commissioners change legislation the board won't be in charge.
 Ms. Davidson stated that the board oversees what Mr. Harper does and when we see something wrong give advice.
 Ms. Freeman asked, how we, as a board, know how we are supposed to know how to operate.
 Ms. Davidson stated that most in the code and also legislation and now we have a supervisor.
 Ms. Hollis stated that code states what the board can and cannot do.
 Ms. Davidson stated that the board should be collectively in agreement.
 Mr. Harper reminded Ms. Freeman about Mr. DeGennaro coming and giving an update about what the duties of the board were.
 Mr. Wood explained the process of the government and also submitting the budget for approval.
 Mr. Wood explained that the commissioners could dissolve this board today and there is nothing that could be done.
 Mr. Harper explained the different line items and what is in each line such as supplies, training, printing, etc.
 Ms. Hollis asked if we still print out own ballots.
 Mr. Anderson asked if we want to submit this budget as is or change.
 Mr. Wood explained that is what we are doing if we want to add more items. If we want to increase Mr. Harper can present it to the board for an increase.
 Ms. Freeman stated that we need to take a proactive approach on this budget in the future.
 Mr. Mosley explained that they had asked all department for a flat budget (no increase), and also explained the process of approving the budget, and the commissioners will be holding public hearings.
 Ms. Hollis asked about the board being compensated, and Mr. Tatum has gone before and they have chosen not to respond.
 Ms. Freeman stated that this board's main purpose is here for the voters of Troup County.
 Mr. Harper has asked about report on the pilot program in Rockdale County. Report but has not completed it and will provide us one when done.
 Ms. Davidson asked about the legislation about paper ballots.
 Mr. Harper stated that it has not passed as of yet.
 Mr. Harper told members about what they are asking for the Veterans Home at conference.

VII. ADJOURN

1. Adjourn

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Dianne Davidson, Vice Chair
SECONDER: Randall Hodge, Secretary
AYES: Tatum, Davidson, Hodge, Anderson, Freeman, Hollis, Wood

Minutes Acceptance: Minutes of Mar 15, 2018 10:00 AM (Minutes Approval)