

Pickens County Registration and Elections Commission
222 McDaniel St. B-9
Pickens, SC 29671

November 10, 2011
9:00 a.m.

Members Present: Mrs. June Bowers, Chairperson; Ms. Geneva Robinson, Vice-Chairman; Mrs. Gretchen Campbell, Secretary;
Mr. Noel Anderson; Mr. Herb Thompson; Mrs. Sheree Chapman;
Ms. Jane Goolsby

Staff Present: Mr. Rodney Allen, Executive Director; Ms. Stacey Kitchens, Office Coordinator

Public Present: Philip R. Smith, candidate for Mayor in Liberty

THE MEETING OF THE PICKENS COUNTY REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS COMMISSION WAS HELD PURSUANT TO THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT AND ALL REQUIRED NOTIFICATIONS WERE MADE.

Chairperson Bowers called the meeting of the Pickens County Registration and Elections Commission to order at 9:00 a.m. and it is to be noted that notices required by the Freedom of Information Act were posted and written notices were given to every voter who cast a provisional ballot. An invocation was given by Mr. Herb Thompson.

Chairperson Bowers stated that the first item of business was approval of the minutes from the November 1, 2011 meeting of the Commission. Mr. Herb Thompson motioned to accept the minutes as presented from the previous meeting. Ms. Geneva Robinson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Philip Smith, candidate for Mayor in the City of Liberty, was present and wanted to speak. First he wanted to thank the Commission and especially the office staff for all of the help they provided him before the election and on Election Day. He did have a few issues that he felt needed to be addressed. The first was the size of the font on candidate and poll watcher name badges. State law indicates the size of a name badge that is worn by a candidate, a poll watcher or candidate representative be no larger than 4 ¼ x 4 ¼ . He said it was not made clear how large the font on the name badges should be. Mr. Smith stated that when he arrived at one of the Liberty precincts, he was "assaulted" with rules and regulations on the restrictions of the name badges. He feels that the size of the font should be addressed in the candidate meetings as well as the size of the badge itself. Secondly, Mr. Smith had issues with some of the poll watchers for another candidate. As soon as a voter would arrive and open their car door, the poll watchers would loudly greet the voter and walk them all the way to the door, not allowing them to be greeted by the other candidates. He suggests that candidates and poll watchers be asked to conduct themselves similar to the candidates in Pickens, by just standing in a line and greeting

and shaking hands. Finally, Mr. Smith suggested giving the public more information on what candidates can and can not do, as many of them are unaware of what is allowed. Again he thanked the commission and staff for all of their help.

The Commission discussed the request by the Democratic Party for Director Allen to attend a Democratic Party meeting to discuss election laws and voting machines. After several minutes of discussion, Mr. Herb Thompson made a motion that the Commission discourages the Registration and Elections Director from participating in any partisan political function with the exception of voting in the primaries. Ms. Geneva Robinson seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. Mrs. Gretchen Campbell stated that it would be a great idea to invite the political parties to the regular commission meetings so they can obtain information and ask any questions that they might have.

Chairperson Bowers asked if there was any other business. There being none, Chairperson Bowers asked for a motion to adjourn from the regular meeting. Mr. Thompson motioned and Mrs. Chapman seconded, and the motion passed.

Chairperson Bowers then asked for a motion to reconvene as the County Board of Canvassers. Mrs. Chapman made the motion and was seconded by Ms. Robinson. At this time Director Allen administered the Oath of Canvassers to the Board.

Director Allen presented the first set of 9 provisional ballots for review. These ballots were from people that presented themselves at the polls, but their names were not on the registration list. The voters said they reside in the city limits and after verification through the County GIS mapping system, it was determined that the voters did indeed live within the city limits but due to a computer error they were marked as being outside the city limits. Chairperson Bowers stated that she saw no reason not to count the ballots. Mrs. Campbell made a motion to count the ballots, and Mr. Thompson seconded. The motion passed and the ballots would be counted.

Director Allen presented the second set of 2 provisional ballots for review. These ballots were from a husband and wife, who when they arrived at the polls their names were not on the registration list. They Poll Clerk called the office and it was discovered that the couple were marked as inactive due to having left the state. In April of this year a new registration card was mailed to them because their voting location had been changed. It was returned to the office with a forwarding address sticker indicating that they now lived in Oklahoma. When asked at the polls, the couple indicated that it was a temporary move and that they had kept their residence in Liberty. After a brief discussion, Mrs. Campbell made the motion to count the ballots, and Mr. Thompson seconded. The motion passed and the ballots would be counted.

Director Allen presented the final provisional ballot for review. This ballot was from a young gentleman who is registered in Easley, but he stated that he has been living in Pickens since 2009. When asked if he had any proof such as a utility bill, he told the elections office staff that all of the utilities were in his mother's name, and that he resided

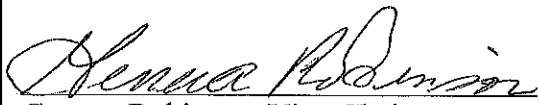
with her. Mr. Anderson made the motion not to count the ballot, and Ms. Goolsby seconded the motion. The motion passed and the ballot was not counted.

There being no other provisional ballots, Director Allen scanned in the ballots and then read off the results of the provisional ballots. He then stepped out of the room to add those totals to the unofficial results and brought them back to the commission. After review of the final totals, Chairperson Bowers stated that there will be no recounts, but that a run-off election for the City of Liberty At-Large Council Seat between Lavant Padgett and Brian Petersen would be necessary. Mr. Thompson made the motion to order the run-off and Ms. Robinson seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously. The run-off election will be held on Tuesday November 22, 2011 with the certification of the runoff election to be held at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday November 23, 2011

Chairperson Bowers called for a motion to certify the election. Mrs. Campbell made the motion and Ms. Robinson seconded. The motion passed and the election was certified.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned.

Approved by the Commission on this 23 day of November, in the year 2011.


Geneva Robinson, Vice-Chairperson


Rodney Allen, Executive Director