

Grady County Office of Elections & Registration 250 North Broad Street, Suite 3 Cairo, Ga 39838

March 3, 2025

The Grady County Board of Elections and Registration (BOE&R) held their March monthly meeting at 5:30 PM at the Grady County Courthouse located at 250 North Broad Street, Cairo, Ga 39828 with the following board members present:

Renee' Gee-Theophille, Chair Sam Carnline: Vice-Chair Kathy Mills: Secretary Sandy Reagan: Board Member Bobby Gwaltney: Board Member

Staff present: Jason Tate, Melinda Butler

County Attorney: Gabriel A. Ridley, County Attorney

Cairo Messenger: Laura Cassels

The March 3, 2025 Board of Elections meeting was called to order by Renee' Gee-Theophille, Chair at 5:36, she opened the meeting with prayer

The agenda was approved with a motion by Bobby Gwaltney, 2nd by Sandy Reagan, all approved the agenda.

Reading of the February 3, 2025 minutes were postponed until later in the meeting when Sam Carnline, Vice Chair, arrives.

Renee' asked if there were any public comments, none were made.

Jason Tate, Supervisor of Elections, informed the Board of the outcome of the two cases that were in front of the state elections board.

Number 6 on the agenda:

So SEB 2022-259: There was somebody filed a report or a complaint with the state that, somebody was giving away \$100 gift cards to register people to vote, this had nothing to do with us as an office. It was literally just campaign type material they were given out that they ran out of those and started giving out like t shirts and stuff, but they collected no data and turned nothing in.

SEB 2021-182: There was also a complaint made by local voters for not being allowed to vote. The two cases discussed were dismissed with no findings against this office or individuals involved.

Kathy Mills added that the hearings are interesting but often delayed and involve a wide range of issues. The state board tends to get sidetracked during discussions. The hearings can be watched on



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YouTube. Jason added that the state board is behind on cases, but they are trying to catch up. They did 60 something cases recently. The next hearing is scheduled for May.

A motion was made by Sam Carnline, 2nd by Sandy Reagan to approve the February 3, 2025 minutes, all approved the minutes.

The meeting moved into an executive session to discuss potential legal issues with the attorney dialing-in remotely AT 5:45PM

The executive session adjourned, returning to the regular board meeting 6:35PM.

Jason reported that the website updates are ongoing, with improvements to interactivity and information accessibility. Jason gave each board member his and Melinda's business cards, bringing attention to the QR code on the back that links to the Elections website. Also, a living calendar has been integrated for public access.

Jason also brought to the attention of the board members that further communication is needed with the county to address budget shortfalls. A white paper was sent out, but responses were minimal.

Jason added that efforts to engage high school students as poll workers are in progress. Sam agreed that involving high school students as poll workers is important. Jason also mentioned that discussions with local organizations like the VFW and American Legion are ongoing.

Board members were required to sign the official (in the binder) copy of the minutes, which will then be stored securely.

Renee' reminded board members that we shall remain non-biased and apolitical despite personal connections. It's important to pray if maintaining non-bias is challenging.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 7th, 2025, at 4:30 PM.

A motion for adjournment was made by Sandy Reagan, 2nd by Bobby Gwaltney, all approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.