PUTNAM COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATION
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
COURTHOUSE – BER CONFERENCE ROOM, SUITE 217
September 3, 2013
5:00 PM

I. Call to order: 5:00 PM.
II. Roll Call
   a) Mr. Frank Ford: present
   b) Mr. Kelvin Irvin: present
   c) Ms. Annie Parker, Vice-Chairperson: present
   d) Mr. Emory Walden: present
   e) Ms. Janet Pearson, Chairperson: present
   f) Mr. Gary Sanders, Supervisor of Elections and Registration: present
III. Public Comments
   a) None.
IV. Approval of Agenda
   a) Mr. Irvin moved to approve the agenda.
   b) Mr. Ford seconded the motion.
   c) Vote: all in favor.
V. Recommended Consent Agenda
   a) Approval of Minutes – August 6, 2013
      i) Mr. Irvin moved to approve the minutes as presented.
      ii) Mr. Walden seconded the motion.
      iii) Vote: all in favor.
VI. Discussion Items
   a) 2013 budget
      i) Mr. Sanders provided the Board an update on the 2013 budget, including year-to-date expenditures.
      ii) Mr. Sanders reviewed with the Board the 2014 proposed budget and said that he will provide comments to the Commissioners and county manager regarding the proposed cuts.
   b) City of Eatonton qualifying and redistricting
      i) Mr. Sanders informed the Board that only the incumbents qualified for office in the City of Eatonton's election and, with no write-in candidates expected, the election will likely be cancelled.
      ii) Mr. Sanders informed the Board that the redistricting process is complete and that he is reviewing the results to ensure its accuracy.
      iii) Mr. Sanders informed the Board that only those voters who were affected by the redistricting process will receive new precinct cards.
   c) Amended 2014 federal election calendar
      i) Mr. Sanders informed the Board that the court order changing the federal election calendar for 2014 to remedy issues related to absentee balloting for runoff elections has been amended at the request of the Secretary of State.
      ii) Mr. Sanders reminded the Board that the state legislature must still take action to align the state and federal election calendars.
   d) Correspondence with county attorney
      i) Mr. Sanders provided the Board a summary of his conversation with the county attorney regarding the issues about Section 5 preclearance and the county attorney/BER relationship.
      ii) By consensus, the Board decided to set in writing its understanding of the county attorney's responses, reiterating the expectation of privacy in his dealings with BER business.
   e) Possible relocation of polling places

i) Mr. Sanders reviewed with the Board a proposed schedule for the polling place project.
ii) Mr. Sanders discussed with the Board responses he has received to date from the Commissioners.
iii) By consensus, the Board decided not to alter precinct lines to change the polling place assignments of voters.
iv) Ms. Pearson encouraged the Board to continue the process of identifying potential polling places.

VII. Action Items

a) Voter registration challenge hearings
   i) Pursuant to O.C.G.A. §21-2-228, a hearing was held by the Board to determine the eligibility of the individuals named below to remain on the electors list. Prior legal notice for said hearing has been provided to each individual.
      (1) Carlos Villafuerte – Reg. No. 5448660
   ii) Based on the evidence presented by Mr. Sanders, Mr. Ford moved to remove the name of said voter from the electors list.
   iii) Mr. Irvin seconded the motion.
   iv) Vote: all in favor.

VIII. Business and Information from Board Members and Staff

a) Mr. Ford: none.
b) Mr. Irvin: none.
c) Ms. Parker: none.
d) Mr. Walden: none.
e) Ms. Pearson:
   i) Reminded the Board that the next meeting will be held on October 1 at 5:00 PM.
f) Mr. Sanders:
   i) Informed the Board that he sent the announcement regarding the election cycles of the State Court Judge and Solicitor-General to the Commissioners, the County Clerk, the County Manager, and *The Eatonton Messenger*.
      (1) By consensus, the Board decided to send the announcement to the State Court Judge and Solicitor-General.

IX. Adjournment – 6:01 PM.

a) Mr. Ford moved to adjourn.
b) Mr. Irvin seconded the motion.
c) Vote: all in favor.

ATTEST:

Gary Sanders
Supervisor of Elections & Registration

Janet C. Pearson
Chairperson