

Pulaski County Election Commission Meeting Minutes November 5, 2021 5:00 p.m.

Members Present: Kristi M. Stahr

Susan Inman David G. Scott

Staff Present: Melinda Lemons

Amanda Dickens

Betty Green

Visitors Present:

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairwoman Stahr. A quorum was present, with all commissioners in attendance.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Inman moved to approve the minutes for the November 2, 2021 meeting as written. Motion passed by voice vote.

Business

Preliminary Review of Provisional Ballots for the November 2, 2021 Annual School Election

There are 21 provisional ballots, two were not able to be counted because they were returned in the ballot only envelope with no additional information provided. Of the remaining 19 provisional ballots, the clerk's office recommended for 10 to be counted. Of the remaining nine provisional ballots, six are for failure to provide photo I.D., voters have until noon on Monday, November 8, 2021 to present their I.D. Two of the provisional ballots are recommended to not be counted because the voter is not registered. One of the provisional ballots recommended not to be counted is because the vote was cast at the wrong precinct. Commissioner Inman moved to authorize

nine provisional ballots to be counted and to wait for clarification from the clerk's office on the explanation provided for voter I.D. number 1657536. Motion passed by voice vote.

Other Business

Electronic Poll Books Error

The poll workers at Highland Valley United Methodist Church and Greater Christ Temple Pentecostal Church accidently opened the electronic poll books for the November 9, 2021, Central Arkansas Library Special Election, but should have used the electronic poll books for the November 2, 2021, Annual School Election. There was a total of 29 voters that were checked in on the wrong electronic poll book, 16 were recorded at Highland Valley United Methodist Church and 13 were recorded at Greater Christ Temple Pentecostal Church. The poll workers realized their error the morning of November 2, 2021, notified the election department office and were told to switch to the correct electronic poll book. The voter credits were retrieved from the incorrect electronic poll books by a member of the election department staff and a list was provided to the clerk's office for the correction of voter credits to be made.

The clerk's office is requesting a formal request from the Pulaski County Board of Election Commissioners to correct the voting credit for the voters. This request does not fall under the statutory duties of the commissioners. The commissioners stated they will not honor this request.

The commissioners were notified that the election department staff has been uploading the data for the voter's not the clerk's office per an agreement that was made by the previous director of the election department. The electronic poll books are being stored at the warehouse with the other voting equipment. The verification of the voter's data is also being performed by the election department staff. The commissioners directed the staff to return the responsibility of the electronic poll books and the possession of the electronic poll books to the clerk's office.

Announcements

November 12, 2021 at 5:00 p.m., public meeting for questions regarding redistricting. This meeting will be held at the Pulaski County Regional Building, Jeffrey Hawkins Conference Room, 501 W. Markham, Little Rock, AR 72201.

November 13, 2021 at 10:30 a.m., public meeting for questions regarding redistricting. The meeting will be held at the Roosevelt Thompson Library, 38 Rahling Circle, Little Rock, AR 72223.

November 13, 2021 at 1:30 p.m., public meeting for questions regarding redistricting. This meeting will be held at the Bill Harmon Recreation Center, 51 Shelby Road, Sherwood, AR. 72120.

November 16, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., public meeting for questions regarding redistricting. This meeting will be held at Wrightsville City Hall, 10324 AR-HWY 365, Little Rock, AR 72206.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Public Comments via YouTube:

There were no public comments on YouTube.

Schedule of Upcoming Meeting

November 9, 2021 at 8:00 p.m. for the review of irregular and/or rejected absentee ballots for the November 9, 2021 Central Arkansas Library System Special Election; certification of unofficial election results for the November 9, 2021 Central Arkansas Library System.

November 12, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. for the preliminary review of provisional ballots for the November 9, 2021 Central Arkansas Library System Special Election. Also, provisional ballot hearing for the November 2, 2021 Annual School Election and certification of official results for the November 2, 2021 Annual School Election.

November 19, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. for the provisional ballot hearing for the November 9, 2021 Central Arkansas Library System Special Election and the certification of official election results for the November 9, 2021 Central Arkansas Library System.

Meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.