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**ALABAMA FAIR BALLOT COMMISSION
OCTOBER 7, 2021
VIRTUAL MEETING**

Commissioners present were:

The Honorable John L. Carroll, Chairman

Mr. Will Parker, General Counsel for the Governor, and on behalf of Governor Ivey

Mr. Patrick Moody, Deputy Commissioner of Agriculture and Industries, and on behalf of
Commissioner Pate

Mr. David Brewer, Chief of Staff for the Secretary of State, and on behalf of Secretary of State Merrill

Mr. Jess Skaggs, Deputy Chief of Staff for the Lt. Governor, and on behalf of Lt. Governor Ainsworth

Mr. Andrew Westcott, Legal Counsel for the Speaker of the Alabama House of Representatives, and
on behalf of Speaker McCutcheon

Ms. Amy C. Marshall

Mr. Thomas J. Saunders

Ms. Renee Gentle Powers

Ms. Casey Gay Williams

Mr. Jordan Plaster

Ms. Katherine Robertson

Mr. Myles Mayberry

Commissioners absent were:

Mr. Steve Dunn

Ms. Caleigh M. Hart

Ms. Christy K. Truitt

The Honorable Wes Allen, Member, Alabama House of Representatives

The Honorable Bob Fincher, Member, Alabama House of Representatives

The Honorable Juandalynn Givan, Member, Alabama House of Representatives

The Honorable Jimmy Holley, Member, Alabama State Senate

The Honorable Chris Elliott, Member, Alabama State Senate

The Honorable Linda Coleman-Madison, Member, Alabama State Senate

In attendance, in the Secretary of State's Office, were:

Mr. Hugh Evans, General Counsel, Secretary of State

Mr. Jeff Elrod, Supervisor of Voter Registration, Secretary of State

Others in attendance, via the virtual meeting, were:

Mr. Stanley Gray, incoming member of the Commission

WELCOME

Chairman Carroll called to order the meeting at 2:30 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Moody gave the invocation and Commissioner Williams led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

ROLL CALL & ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF QUORUM

Chairman Carroll directed Commissioner Brewer to call the roll. Commissioner Brewer called the roll and advised Chairman Carroll that a quorum was present. With a quorum in attendance, the Commission transacted the following business, to-wit:

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF NOTIFICATION OF MEETING PURSUANT TO THE ALABAMA OPEN MEETINGS ACT & GOVERNOR'S STATE OF EMERGENCY, AS AMENDED

Commissioner Brewer informed the Commission that today's virtual meeting was posted on the Alabama Open Meetings Act website, compliant with applicable law, and was allowable under Governor Ivey's State of Emergency, as amended. Hugh Evans, General Counsel for the Secretary of State's Office, informed the Commission that the Governor's State of Emergency allows the Commission to meet virtually as long as it is complaint with certain processes.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE JULY 23, 2020 VIRTUAL MEETING

Chairman Carroll asked the members if they had any changes to the July 23, 2020 meeting minutes at which time no Commissioners voiced any revisions. Chairman Carroll asked for a motion to approve the minutes

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER POWERS, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS, TO APPROVE THE JULY 23, 2020 MINUTES OF THE ALABAMA FAIR BALLOT COMMISSION.

Ayes:	13	Commissioners:	Chairman John Carroll, Will Parker, Patrick Moody, Andrew Westcott, Jordan Plaster, David Brewer, Jess Skaggs, Amy C. Marshall, Renee Gentle Powers, Casey Gay Williams, Katherine Robertson, Myles Mayberry, and Thomas J. Saunders
No:	0	Commissioners:	(None)
Abstain:	0	Commissioners:	(None)
Absent:	3	Commissioners:	Steve Dunn, Caleigh M. Hart, and Christy K. Truitt

MOTION PASSED.

DISCUSSION AND PREPARATION OF THE BALLOT STATEMENT FOR THE 2022 PRIMARY ELECTION - STATEWIDE AMENDMENT NO. 1 – ACT. NO. 2021-326

Commissioner Brewer informed the Commission that the ballot statement would be shared virtually so members participating virtually could see it. Chairman Carroll opened the discussion by stating that members would revise the statement paragraph by paragraph. Commissioners discussed revisions. After discussion, a motion was made to approve the final ballot statement as follows:

FAIR BALLOT COMMISSION

STATEWIDE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

MAY 24, 2022 BALLOT

BALLOT STATEMENT

Approved Pursuant to Ala. Code 1975 §17-6-81

BALLOT STATEMENT FOR STATEWIDE AMENDMENT 1:

(1) The text of the statewide ballot measure, including sponsors, cosponsors, and the text of the question that will appear on the statewide ballot:

Proposed by Act No. 2021-326 (House Bill 565, 2021 Regular Legislative Session)

Bill Sponsor: Representative Ledbetter

Cosponsor: Representative Kitchens

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, authorizing the issuance and sale of general obligation bonds of the State of Alabama of up to \$85,000,000 for the purposes of the improvement, renovation, equipping, acquisition, provision, construction, and maintenance of Alabama state parks under the jurisdiction of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and public historical sites and public historical parks under the jurisdiction of the Alabama Historical Commission.

Proposed by Act 2021-326.

This description shall be followed by the following language: "Yes () No ()."

(2) A summary of and the text of any implementing legislation directly related to the statewide ballot measure:

The Alabama Legislature enacted Act 2021-409 which would implement this constitutional amendment if it is approved by the voters. Act 2021-409 will provide for the organization and powers of the Alabama State Parks Enhancement Authority and provide the necessary framework prescribing how the bonds, authorized by Act 2021-326, are sold.

(3) The placement of the statewide ballot measure on the statewide ballot:

This proposed Constitutional Amendment will appear on the Ballot after election of statewide and local offices and will be the first constitutional amendment for voter consideration. The proposed Constitutional Amendment will be listed as "Statewide Amendment 1."

(4) A plain language summary of the statewide ballot measure, which shall include, at a minimum, the legal or constitutional authority for its passage, the effect of the statewide ballot measure if it is passed, including its cost and source of funding, and the effect of the statewide ballot measure if it is defeated.

This amendment will authorize the State of Alabama to borrow money to improve, renovate, equip, acquire, provide, construct and maintain state parks, public historical sites and public historical parks.

The total amount the State may borrow will not exceed \$85,000,000.00.

Of this total amount:

- (1) \$80,000,000.00 shall be used to improve, renovate, equip, acquire, provide, construct and maintain state parks under the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.
- (2) \$5,000,000.00 shall be used to improve, renovate, equip, acquire, provide, construct and maintain public historical sites and public historical parks under the Alabama Historical Commission. The Alabama Historical Commission cannot use any part of the borrowed money at the Confederate Memorial Park in Marbury, Alabama.

Any additional funds will be given to the Alabama Forestry Commission for it to improve, renovate, acquire, provide, construct, equip and maintain state forests.

If the majority of the voter's vote "yes" on Amendment 1, the State of Alabama can borrow \$85,000,000.00 to benefit Alabama's state parks, public historical sites and public historical parks.

If the majority of the voter's vote "no" on Amendment 1, the State of Alabama cannot borrow \$85,000,000.00 to benefit Alabama's state parks, public historical sites and public historical parks.

There are no costs to Amendment 1.

The Constitutional authority for passage of Amendment 1 is set forth in accordance with Sections 284 and 285 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901. These sections outline the method a constitutional amendment may be put to the people of the State for a vote.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER SKAGGS, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER POWERS, TO APPROVE THE FINAL BALLOT STATEMENT FOR STATEWIDE AMENDMENT NO. 1 – ACT NO. 2021-326.

Ayes:	11	Commissioners:	Chairman John Carroll, Will Parker, Patrick Moody, Jordan Plaster, David Brewer, Amy C. Marshall, Renee Gentle Powers, Casey Gay Williams, Myles Mayberry, Thomas J. Saunders, and Jess Skaggs
No:	0	Commissioners:	(None)
Abstain:	0	Commissioners:	(None)
Absent:	5	Commissioners:	Steve Dunn, Caleigh M. Hart, Andrew Westcott, Katherine Robertson, and Christy K. Truitt

MOTION PASSED.

DISCUSSION ON VENUES TO INFORM THE PUBLIC OF THE BALLOT STATEMENT

Chairman Carroll directed Commissioner Brewer to provide an update on how the public will be informed of today's approved ballot statement. Commissioner Brewer stated that Secretary of State John Merrill will work with the state's ballot production vendor to place the approved ballot statement on all of Alabama's sample ballots which will be available in paper form throughout Alabama and online at the Alabama Secretary of State's website. Commissioner Brewer also informed the Commission that certain information on the approved ballot statement would be available on social media prior to the May 24, 2022, Primary Election.

COMMENTS FROM CHAIRMAN JOHN CARROLL & CONSIDERATION OF NEW CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

Chairman Carroll thanked the Commission for allowing him to serve as Chairman for almost five years and, thereafter, informed the commissioners that he believed it was best that the Commission to consider a new Chairman. Chairman Carroll also informed the Commission that the office of Vice Chairman has been vacant since Jason Isbell left and the position will need to be filled. After Chairman Carroll's statements he asked the Commission to consider nominations for a new chairman and vice chairman.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER BREWER, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER POWERS, TO APPOINT COMMISSIONER CASEY GAY WILLIAMS AS CHAIRMAN OF THE ALABAMA FAIR BALLOT COMMISSION.

Ayes:	11	Commissioners:	Chairman John Carroll, Will Parker, Patrick Moody, Jordan Plaster, David Brewer, Amy C. Marshall, Renee Gentle Powers, Casey Gay Williams, Myles Mayberry, Thomas J. Saunders, and Jess Skaggs
No:	0	Commissioners:	(None)
Abstain:	0	Commissioners:	(None)
Absent:	5	Commissioners:	Steve Dunn, Caleigh M. Hart, Andrew Westcott, Katherine Robertson, and Christy K. Truitt

MOTION PASSED.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SKAGGS, TO APPOINT COMMISSIONER PATRICK MOODY AS VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE ALABAMA FAIR BALLOT COMMISSION.

Ayes:	11	Commissioners:	Chairman John Carroll, Will Parker, Patrick Moody, Jordan Plaster, David Brewer, Amy C. Marshall, Renee Gentle Powers, Casey Gay Williams, Myles Mayberry, Thomas J. Saunders, and Jess Skaggs
No:	0	Commissioners:	(None)
Abstain:	0	Commissioners:	(None)
Absent:	5	Commissioners:	Steve Dunn, Caleigh M. Hart, Andrew

**Westcott, Katherine Robertson, and
Christy K. Truitt**

MOTION PASSED.

**DISCUSSION ON FUTURE MEETINGS REGARDING THE BALLOT STATEMENTS FOR
THE 2022 GENERAL ELECTION**

Chairman Carroll and Commissioner Brewer informed the Commission that there would be five statewide constitutional amendments on the November 2022 General Election Ballot and that a meeting is proposed on July 21, 2022 for the Commission to prepare the ballot statements.

OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Carroll acknowledged the invaluable service rendered by Commissioner Amy C. Marshall as this was her last meeting. Commissioner Marshall thanked the Commission. Incoming Commission member Stanley Gray was introduced to the Commission and he said he looked forward to serving.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other further business coming before the Commission, Chairman Carroll asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:22 p.m.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER WILLIAMS, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER POWERS, TO ADJOURN THE OCTOBER 7, 2021 MEETING OF THE ALABAMA FAIR BALLOT COMMISSION.

Ayes:	11	Commissioners:	Chairman John Carroll, Will Parker, Patrick Moody, Jordan Plaster, David Brewer, Amy C. Marshall, Renee Gentle Powers, Casey Gay Williams, Myles Mayberry, Thomas J. Saunders, and Jess Skaggs
No:	0	Commissioners:	(None)
Abstain:	0	Commissioners:	(None)
Absent:	5	Commissioners:	Steve Dunn, Caleigh M. Hart, Andrew Westcott, Katherine Robertson, and Christy K. Truitt

MOTION PASSED.

APPROVED:



Chairman Casey Gay Williams