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**ALABAMA FAIR BALLOT COMMISSION
MARCH 1, 2018
ALABAMA STATE CAPITOL
600 DEXTER AVENUE
OLD ARCHIVES ROOM
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA**

Commissioners present were:

The Honorable John L. Carroll, Vice Chairman of the Alabama Fair Ballot Commission
Mr. Jason Paulk, Deputy General Counsel for the Governor, and on behalf of Governor Ivey
Mr. David A. Z. Brewer, Chief of Staff for the Secretary of State, and on behalf of the Secretary of State
Ms. Katherine Robertson
Ms. Amy C. Marshall
Mr. Jason Isbell
Mr. Steve Dunn
Ms. Renee Gentle Powers
Mr. Kenneth Lamar Freeman
Mr. Myles Mayberry

Commissioners absent were:

The Honorable John McMillan or his designee
The Honorable Mac McCutcheon or his designee
Mr. Thomas J. Saunders
Ms. Casey Gay Williams
The Honorable Randy Davis
The Honorable Paul Beckman
The Honorable Richard J. Lindsey
The Honorable Bill Hightower
The Honorable Rodger Smitherman

Staff members present for the Secretary of State, and as staff of the Alabama Fair Ballot Commission (Commisison), were:

Ms. Brittany Hamilton, Special Assistant
Mr. Calvin Boroughs, Law Clerk
Mr. John C. Bennett, Deputy Chief of Staff for the Secretary of State
Mr. Clay S. Helms, Assistant Elections Director
Mr. Edward Packard, Administrator of Elections

WELCOME

Vice Chairman Carroll called to order the meeting at 2:05 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF NOTIFICATION OF MEETING PURSUANT TO THE ALABAMA OPEN MEETINGS ACT

Commissioner Brewer informed Vice Chairman Carroll, and the Commission, that today's meeting was posted on the Alabama Open Meetings Act website, compliant with applicable law.

ROLL CALL & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF QUORUM

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

OVERVIEW OF ROLE OF ALABAMA FAIR BALLOT COMMISSION

Vice Chairman Carroll informed the Commissioners that a PowerPoint presentation was prepared to give an overview of the role of the Commission. Vice Chairman Carroll directed Mr. Boroughs to start the presentation. Mr. Boroughs commenced his presentation (see attached to these minutes).

CONSIDERATION OF THE INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Vice Chairman Carroll informed the Commissioners that the Commission had been without a Chairman since Justice William Sellers was appointed to the Alabama Supreme Court and the body needed to have both a Chairman and Vice Chairman as required by the state law which established the Commission.

Discussion ensued among the Commissioners as to the position of Chairman of the Commission.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MAYBERRY, SECONDED BY ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE BODY, TO APPOINT JOHN L. CARROLL AS CHAIRMAN OF THE ALABAMA FAIR BALLOT COMMISSION.

Ayes:	9	Commissioners:	Jason Paulk, David A. Z. Brewer, Katherine Robertson, Amy C. Marshall, Jason Isbell, Steve Dunn, Renee Gentle Powers, Kenneth Lamar Freeman & Myles Mayberry
No:	0	Commissioners:	(None)
Abstain:	1	Commissioners:	John L. Carroll
Absent:	4	Commissioners:	John McMillan, Mac McCutcheon, Thomas J. Saunders & Casey Gay Williams

MOTION PASSED.

Thereafter, discussion ensued among the Commissioners as to the position of Vice Chairman of the Commission.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MAYBERRY, SECONDED BY ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE BODY, TO APPOINT JASON ISBELL AS VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE ALABAMA FAIR BALLOT COMMISSION.

Ayes:	9	Commissioners:	Jason Paulk, David A. Z. Brewer, Katherine Robertson, Amy C. Marshall, John L. Carroll, Steve Dunn, Renee Gentle Powers, Kenneth Lamar Freeman & Myles Mayberry
No:	0	Commissioners:	(None)
Abstain:	1	Commissioners:	Jason Isbell
Absent:	4	Commissioners:	John McMillan, Mac McCutcheon, Thomas J. Saunders & Casey Gay Williams

MOTION PASSED.

DISCUSS NEW VENUES TO INFORM THE PUBLIC OF STATEWIDE BALLOT MEASURES

After the installation of officers, Chairman Carroll directed Mr. Boroughs to continue his presentation. During and after Mr. Boroughs' presentation discussion ensued among the Commissioners as to new methods the Commission may undertake to inform the public of upcoming statewide ballot measures. Once Commission statements are prepared, the new ideas debated to inform the public were as follows:

1. The Secretary of State's Office, or Commission, will ask all county probate court offices to link to the Commission website for citizens to obtain ballot statement information. The links will be requested to be placed on a prominent location of the county probate court websites, respectively.
2. The Secretary of State's Office, or Commission, will provide the ballot statement information to the county's paper ballot production vendor for it to place the ballot statement information on the backside of the paper sample ballots for citizens to obtain ballot statement information. The same sample ballots will also be available on the Secretary of State website under its Election Information webpage.
3. The Secretary of State's Office, or Commission, will request county Probate Judges to include in their respective poll worker trainings information on the Commission, as well as the ballot statement information, so poll workers can assist citizens when they have questions at the polls.
4. The Secretary of State will consider convening the Secretary of State's Probate Judges Advisory Task Force to request their assistance, respectively.
5. The Secretary of State's Office, or Commission, will request the Alabama Association of County Commissions, Alabama Association of Circuit Clerks and Alabama Probate Judges Association to allow members of the Commission to speak at their conferences and/or annual meetings in an effort to request their assistance.

6. Review the possibility of obtaining posters with the ballot statements with one poster being posted at each of the estimated 2,500 polling places throughout Alabama on an election day.
7. The Secretary of State's Office, or Commission, will request the county's paper ballot production vendor include on the Poll Worker Checklist the requirement for all the poll workers to place the poster up at the polling place on an election day and be informed of where to direct voters on information about statewide constitutional amendments.
8. Review the possibility of using social media venues to inform the public of upcoming statewide ballot measures.

Vice Chairman Isbell addressed the Commission on the pending statewide constitutional amendments approved by the Alabama Legislature during its 2017 Regular Session and to date for the 2018 Regular Session. Vice Chairman Isbell stated that there does not appear to be enough time for the Alabama Legislature to provide for anything other than proposed statewide amendments to fall on the November 6, 2018 General Election ballot.

Mr. Packard advised the Commission that there was one proposed statewide constitutional amendment approved during the 2017 Regular Session (Act No. 2017-188) and one proposed statewide constitutional amendment thus far approved during the 2018 Regular Session (Act No. 2018-132)

OTHER BUSINESS

Chairman Carroll asked the Commission if the body could reconvene on a date in July. The Commissioners agreed that another meeting would be necessary and July would be a good month to hold another meeting. Chairman Carroll directed Commissioner Brewer to propose a date in July and inform all the Commissioners.

Chairman Carroll asked the Commission if there was any other business to come before the body.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other further business coming before the Commission, Chairman Carroll adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

APPROVED:



Chairman John L. Carroll