

ALABAMA VOTER REGISTRATION ADVISORY BOARD

9/14/2023

Regions Boardroom

Alabama Department of Archives and History

Members present were Kristie Pinyan, Dr. Benjamin Jones, Eugenia Stone, Bob Sanders, and John Lackey. Absent members were Don Milligan and Adonis Whitlow. Jeff Elrod and Candace Payne were present to represent the Secretary of State's Office. Members of the press present was Caleb Taylor from the *1819 News*. Other guests included Nicky Watkins from the Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program

Call to Order/Roll Call/Acknowledgement of Quorum/Review of Minutes from 6/29/2023

Jeff Elrod, Director of Elections called the meeting to order. Member Bob Sanders led the board in the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Member John Lackey. The attendance of five members was noticed and a quorum was present. Jeff Elrod led the acknowledgment of the notification of the meeting on Open Meetings was posted two weeks in advance. The Agenda was reviewed and approved by all members of the board.

Old Business

The topic about whether or not the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA) could grant the registrars access to the source documents to help provide citizenship information was discussed. Mr. Elrod updated the board that right now there is no definite answer yet on this. In July the Secretary of State sent registrars lists from ALEA about voters who may have moved out of state so the registrars could send out the NVRA-96 cards.

New Business

The Statewide Voter Registration Statistics as of August 31, 2023 were discussed and there was a reminder by Mr. Elrod that the numbers will increase as we near the election time.

He also updated the members that the Alabama Law Institute (ALI) Training is coming up in October and they will be passing out Election Handbooks. The Secretary of State's office will try to get Election Handbooks for all members of the Voter Registration Advisory Board.

Reappointment letters for registrars was discussed and so was redistricting. There was a discussion about there will be a short time period after the new maps have been approved for redistricting for registrars to get their information updated before qualifying ends and ballots are printed.

Mr. Elrod updated the board about the new PowerProfile system's newest update going live this week. The Secretary of State's goal is to make sure the registrars have everything they need to be able to successfully run the election tasks they need to before the election.

Nicky Watkins from ADAP spoke about some issues facing citizens when they go to the polls to use the handicap machines and how the poll workers need to be better trained on this. Mr. Elrod let her know the Probate Judges will be the main source to assist with this.

Member Eugenia Stone discussed the Mission Statement and handed and information regarding registrars making sure to have two board members sign off to make a new applicant active when

registering new voters. Mr. Elrod mentioned this is the law to have quorum for each new registrant to be able to make them active.

Next Meeting Date/Adjournment

The next meeting is set for Thursday, November 30, 2023, at 2pm in the Archives Regions Room.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Member John Lackey, seconded by Member Eugenia Stone, approved by all board members.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 P.M.

DRAFT