

## ALABAMA VOTER REGISTRATION ADVISORY BOARD NOTES

-Meeting Minutes-

March 20, 2025

2:00 PM

624 Washington Ave., Montgomery, AL 36104

Members present were Chairman John Lackey, Leigh Reed, James Taylor, Debbie Page, and Dr. Benjamin Jones. Absent members were Kristie Pinyan, Adonis B. Whitlow, and Eugenia Stone. Candace Payne, Supervisor of Voter Registration was present to represent the Secretary of State's Office.

### Call to Order/Roll Call/Acknowledgement of Quorum/Review of Minutes from 12/3/2024

Chairman John Lackey welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. Member James Taylor led the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman John Lackey acknowledged the attendance of five members and affirmed that a quorum was present. Chairman John Lackey acknowledged the notification of the meeting on Open Meetings was posted two weeks in advance. The minutes from the December 3, 2024 meeting were reviewed and typos were found; board members moved to approve the amendments and sign off on them at the next board meeting.

### Old Business

No old business to address.

### Updates

Candace Payne discussed the February 2025 Monthly Voter Registration Statistics; these are the post-purge statistics. Member James Taylor asked what did the "Not Identified" section on the document mean to which Candace Payne explained that if a voter does not mark anything on their voter registration application, this would be left blank.

Candace Payne said that the breakdown of voters by race is in the works to be uploaded on the Secretary of State's website. Candace Payne mentioned that the Secretary of State's Office is continuing the efforts of voter roll maintenance.

### New Business

Chairman John Lackey reviewed the law about the Voter Registration Advisory Board and found information on the Secretary of State's website that members could use as a resource. He did bring up wanting to re-address having a mission statement and purpose.

Chairman John Lackey noted that the processes conducted by state agencies – the Medicaid Agency, the Department of Human Resources, the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency, and Rehabilitation Services – be reviewed and for clarification on the steps they take to getting forms and sending them to be processed.

Chairman Lackey called for a motion on the floor to invite agency directors to ask how they process voter registration applications, stating that they would be a special speaker who would go on the record about their processes, beginning with the Department of Human Resources and the Medicaid Agency. Member Debbie Page moved the motion forward; member Leigh Reed seconded, but suggested that more research be done by board members before an invitation is sent. Dr. Benjamin Jones suggested

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that the invitation and their presence at the meeting be about a discussion on how these agencies go through their process. A vote was called to move the motion forward; 2 yeas, 1 nay, and 2 abstained – therefore, the motion carried.

Chairman John Lackey brought forward a discussion about lower postal rates available for registrars and election officials, reading a section of the Code of Alabama. The Chairman said that the aim is to save money on mailers. Candace Payne said that she will get contact the Secretary of State's USPS point of contact for more information. Chairman Lackey asked to have a motion to move this to new business for the next meeting and that he would work on doing further research on the matter; motion carried unanimously.

**Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting is set for Monday, May 5, 2025 at 2:00 PM in the Archives Regions Room.

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by James Taylor, seconded by Dr. Benjamin Jones; approved by all board members.

**Meeting Adjourned at 2:47 PM**

*Darrell Page*  
*John Lackey*  
*James Taylor*  
*Kristie Pinjan*  
*Paul Reed*  
*Eugenia Stone*  
*Benjamin Jones*