

ALABAMA VOTER REGISTRATION ADVISORY BOARD

6/29/2023

Regions Boardroom

Alabama Department of Archives and History

Members present were Don Milligan, Kristie Pinyan, Adonis Whitlow, Eugenia Stone, Bob Sanders, Debbie Page, and John Lackey. Absent members were Benjamin Jones. Jeff Elrod and Candace Payne were present to represent the Secretary of State's Office. Members of the press present were Alexander Willis from the *Alabama Daily News* and Ralph Chopoco from the *Alabama Reflector*.

Call to Order/Roll Call/Acknowledgement of Quorum/Review of Minutes from 3/16/2023

Chairman Milligan called the meeting to order. Member John Lackey led the board in the invocation. Chairman Milligan led the introductions of members/roll call. The attendance of seven members was noticed and a quorum was present. Chairman Milligan discussed the purpose of the meetings are to serve as a bridge between the Registrars and the Secretary of State's Office. Jeff Elrod, Director of Elections 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. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Member Bob Sanders.

Old Business

The board discussed some counties having issues with accepting various forms of identification at the polls that cannot be scanned. Mr. Elrod said the Secretary of state's office is in the process of updating the "Poll Worker Guide" and hopefully this will continue to help poll workers in their training to know about how to accept different forms of identification at the polls.

The new Election Systems & Software's (ES&S) PowerProfile 15 system was discussed. Members voiced concerns and praise for different aspects of the new system and Mr. Elrod mentioned there will be some training at the Board of Registrars Meeting on July 14th with ES&S. He said by July 10th all county registrar offices will be on the PowerProfile 15 system. He encourages registrars to come with their questions to the meeting.

There was some discussion about the timing of the different trainings happening this year and the appointment of new registrars and reappointment of current registrars. The Secretary of State's office will be meeting with the appointing officials on getting lists of who will be appointed that way registrars will be able to obtain the training they need this year.

GIS was discussed and the Secretary of State's office will be aiding all 67 counties to bring GIS to their county through HAVA funds. The funding and facilitation will go through the Secretary of State. There was discussion of is there a way an agreement can be made with the county departments that use GIS to share resources.

New Business

Chairman Milligan mentioned the board drafting a mission statement and Member Eugenia Stone, Education Committee Chair shared her creation of a Board of Registrar Fact Sheet. The board agreed to table the mission statement discussion until the next meeting and said Mrs. Stone could ask for assistance on the forming the mission statement from someone.

There was a discussion about whether or not the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA) could grant the registrars access to the source documents to help provide citizenship information and also if the registrars could get access to AlaCourt on their computers to help with criminal code verification. The discussion turned back to questions of how the driver's license divisions in the various counties could coordinate with the registrars offices to ensure citizens who register to vote when applying for driver's licenses and non-driver's identification are able to get their registration handled even if they are unable to get their driver's license and was there also any type of hardship identification that citizens can obtain if they are financially unable to obtain identification through the driver's license offices.

There was discussion about this year's legislative session and Mr. Elrod said once the Legislature meets for their special session from July 17th-21st, the registrars will be notified about the redrawn congressional lines. Counties affected by the redistricting will take priority with the GIS. Ms. Pinyan asked about being able to go over street files.

Next Meeting Date/Adjournment

The next meeting is set for Thursday, September 14, 2023, at 2pm in the Archives Regions Room.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Chairman Milligan, seconded by Mr. Lackey, approved by all board members.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15P.M.

Bob Landrum

Bob Landrum

Eugene Ore

Kristie Pinyan

John Lackey