

**SHELBY COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION**

**COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

**April 13, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Shelby County Election Commission was held electronically on April 13, 2021.

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** By Chairman Stamson at 12:03pm

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Commissioners Uhlhorn, Taylor and Smith.

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Linda Phillips, AOE	Carol Collinsworth, staff
Joe Young, DAOE	Stacey Scott, staff
John Ryder, attorney	Ron Boozer, staff
Pablo Varela, attorney	Richard Roberson, staff
Monice Hagler, attorney	Suzanne Thompson
Jacob Swatley, attorney	

**APPROVAL OF February 16, 2021 MINUTES:**

MOTION STATED: Commissioner Taylor made a motion to approve the minutes.

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Uhlhorn

ROLL CALL VOTE: Uhlhorn – yes, Taylor – yes, Smith – yes, Stamson – yes,

OUTCOME OF MOTION: Passed unanimously

**COMMISSION ORGANIZATION:**

MOTION STATED: Commissioner Stamson nominated Commissioner Taylor as the new chairman.

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Uhlhorn

ROLL CALL VOTE: Uhlhorn – yes, Smith – yes, Stamson –yes, Taylor – yes

OUTCOME OF MOTION: Passed unanimously

Chairman Taylor thanked Commissioner Stamson for his leadership during a trying year.

MOTION STATED: Commissioner Stamson nominated Commissioner Smith for secretary.

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Smith

ROLL CALL VOTE: Stamson – yes, Uhlhorn – yes, Smith – yes, Taylor - yes

OUTCOME OF MOTION: Passed unanimously

Chairman Taylor thanked Commissioner Tate for his years of service on the commission and that a new commissioner will be finalized on Monday.

Commissioner Smith introduced Kendra Lee as the new Democratic commissioner.

**RESOLUTION OF THE SHELBY COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION APPROVING FOR PURCHASE BY SHELBY COUNTY THE VOTING EQUIPMENT, RELATED SOFTWARE, AND SERVICES IN THE BID RESPONSE FOR RFP NO. 2-008-09 SUBMITTED BY ELECTIONS SYSTEM AND SOFTWARE, LLC, FOR USE BY THE SHELBY COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION.**

Commissioner Smith asked for clarification.

Chairman Taylor explained the history of the RFP process for the new equipment. Shelby County Legal and Purchasing both consider the second resolution to be valid but the Chairman of the Shelby County Commission would not put it on the agenda because he thought it died with the first vote. This resolution is an attempt to get approval for the equipment SCEC approved last year and to avoid a lawsuit. This resolution is designed to spell out why we need the equipment (the vendor of our 15 year old equipment is no longer servicing our current equipment) and to move forward with funding of the equipment and signing the contract.

Commissioner Smith asked if SCEC could fulfill their statutory duties without going with ES&S. AOE Phillips stated that TN law requires that counties of certain size use voting machines. Commissioner Smith stated his solution would be not to sue but to open the process again. Chairman Taylor stated that the fact that Purchasing and Legal allowed our second “skinny” resolution to make it to the County Commission for them to consider and that this is proof that the RFP is still valid and our actions were appropriate.

Chairman Taylor stated that the SCEC voted in November 2020 and the majority voted that the RFP is valid. We need new equipment for the 2022 elections. If we sent it out for bid again it will be the same bidders and the only thing that would change is the prices would go up. Since this RFP is still valid and time constraints are tight, SCEC re-adopts the resolution and sends it back to the County Commission.

AOE Phillips stated that this resolution includes the accessories because we now have the high speed scanners.

**Public Comments:**

Joseph Weinberg  
Sarah Wilkerson Freeman  
Emily Fulmer  
Erika Sugarmon  
Janet Kimbrough

**MOTION STATED:** Commissioner Stamson moved to approve the resolution.

**SECONDED BY:** Commissioner Uhlhorn

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** Stamson – yes, Uhlhorn – yes, Smith – no, Taylor - yes

**OUTCOME OF MOTION:** Passed

**VOTER REGISTRATION APPEALS:**

Charles D. Robertson, Giles Damron, Denise Silva, and Juan Bautista-Flores appealed the rejection of their voter registrations. They had marked their applications incorrectly, marking that they were felons. After researching them, they are not felons and Administrator Phillips recommended approval.

MOTION: Commissioner Smith moved to approve the four new voter registrations

SECOND: Commission Stamson

ROLL CALL VOTE: Stamson – yes, Uhlhorn – yes, Smith – yes, Taylor - yes

OUTCOME OF MOTION: Passed

**ATTORNEY REPORT:**

Nothing to report

**ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:**

- We had hoped to be able to begin working on training materials for new voting equipment
- Looking for new polling locations and reviewing current ones
- Update on many new election/voting bills in legislation

**OLD BUSINESS:** none

**NEW BUSINESS:** none

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

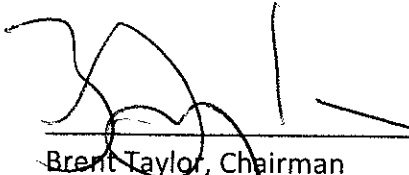
Charlotte Wheeler

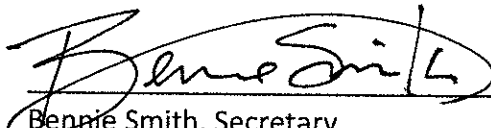
Emily Fulmer

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion made to adjourn by Commission Stamson, seconded by Commissioner Uhlhorn.

Meeting adjourned at 1:01PM.

  
Brent Taylor, Chairman  
5/25/21  
Date

  
Bennie Smith, Secretary  
5/25/21  
Date

Meeting Recording:

[https://shelbycountyttn.gov.zoom.us/rec/share/zku\\_fyw6hGS8WH\\_b7KForZ6mJr7z1nnigP9j39r4trIMYM8aIRLi9PRiX2Ad0MhK.AV-PxomlO-Ca9BdF](https://shelbycountyttn.gov.zoom.us/rec/share/zku_fyw6hGS8WH_b7KForZ6mJr7z1nnigP9j39r4trIMYM8aIRLi9PRiX2Ad0MhK.AV-PxomlO-Ca9BdF)

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