

**SHELBY COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION**

**COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

**July 26, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Shelby County Election Commission was held on July 26, 2021 at the Sheriff's Training Center at 4pm.

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** By Commissioner Stamson at 4:00pm.

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Commissioners Stamson, Smith, Uhlhorn and Lee.

Chairman Taylor and AOE Phillips were attending the County Commission meeting.

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Joe Young, DAOE  
John Ryder, attorney  
Jacob Swatley, attorney  
Carol Collinsworth, staff  
Ron Boozer, staff

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**APPROVAL OF June 28, 2021 MINUTES:**

MOTION STATED: Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the minutes.  
SECONDED BY: Commissioner Lee  
OUTCOME OF MOTION: Passed unanimously

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:**

James Pruettt  
Linda Harris  
Marsha Bradford

**VOTER REGISTRATION APPEALS:**

Appeals requested by Shantel Harris and Bernard Williams were researched by staff and sent for approval due to the felon grace period and a mismarked application.  
MOTION STATED: Commissioner Smith  
SECONDED BY: Commissioner Lee  
OUTCOME OF MOTION: Passed unanimously

**RESOLUTION TO APPOINT REDISTRICTING LIAISON TO THE COUNTY COMMISSION AND CITY COUNCIL**

Commissioner Smith explained  
Commissioner Stamson read the resolution.

Attorney Ryder commented that the wording should be redistricting instead of reapportionment.

MOTION STATED: Commissioner Smith

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Lee

OUTCOME OF MOTION: Passed unanimously

**ATTORNEY'S REPORT:**

No active litigation currently.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

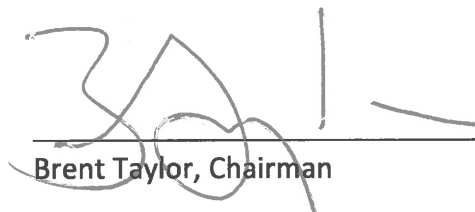
Delivered by DAOE Joe Young. Attached.

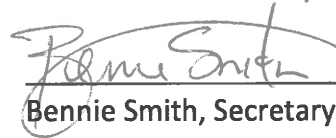
**OLD BUSINESS:**

Commissioner Lee requested an update on the State process for felons. Deferred to the August meeting for AOE to answer.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion made to adjourn by Commission Smith, seconded by Commissioner Uhlhorn.  
Meeting adjourned at 4:30pm.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Brent Taylor, Chairman Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bennie Smith, Secretary Date

This meeting was recorded on facebook live.



# Shelby County Election Commission

## Administrator of Elections Monthly Report July 2021

### Voter and Candidate Services

- **List Maintenance** - We are continuing to do the list maintenance required under TCA§ 2-2-106. I do not expect this project to be finished until early August. I'll give final numbers when we are finished.

### Operations Department

- **Polling Places** - We continue to work on locating polling places that might be used depending upon where the various legislative bodies draw their district lines. We are also looking at early voting sites to make sure that the current locations are still the best in the area. Since the Opera Memphis building is for sale, we will

### Administrator

- **Vacation** – I will be on vacation from August 9<sup>th</sup> through August 16<sup>th</sup>. I will not be responding to email or phone calls during that time. In an emergency, please call Joe Young or Deborah Upchurch. They have my personal cell phone number and can get me a message.
- **ElectionsShelbyTN.gov** - ShelbyVote.com has not yet migrated to ElectionsShelbyTN.gov; our liaison with IT is on vacation, so I'm uncertain when this is going to occur.
- **Audio and Livestream** – is archived at [xfer.shelbycountyttn.gov](http://xfer.shelbycountyttn.gov) The login, which appears on the splash page, is public and the password is public. The livestream can be found on our Facebook page – Shelby County, TN Election Commission.
- **Redistricting** - The Comptroller's office still anticipates that they will receive the census population detail on August 16<sup>th</sup>. It will take them about a month to

process the data into a form that can be used by the County Commissions, so we expect the data to be available no later than September 20, 2021. Redistricting must be completed by December 31, 2021. Our VR vendor needs about four weeks to get the new shape files loaded and tested in the UAT environment and then move to production and we need a few weeks to update all our materials. There are holidays in that time frame, so the County Commission needs to have made their decisions as close to the first of November as possible.

- **May 2022 Primary** – Both parties have been notified of the August 23, 2021 deadline to call a primary election. As of this morning, neither party has notified us that they want to have a primary. Please remind your respective parties that there is no flexibility in that deadline.
  
- **Section 203 Determination** – The Census Bureau plans to release the new Section 203 determinations in December. Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act requires a jurisdiction to provide ballots and all other public election materials in covered minority languages if certain thresholds are met. To be required to do so, the number of limited English proficient United States citizens of voting age in a single language group is:
  - Is more than 10,000, or
  - Is more than five percent of all voting age citizens, or
  - On an Indian reservation, exceeds five percent of all reservation residents; and
  - The illiteracy rate of the group is higher than the national illiteracy rate

In the last determination in December, 2016, Shelby County had no minority language groups enough to trigger the requirement. However, we do have bilingual workers at the Operations Center on Election Day. Each polling place has a sign in Spanish advising voters that if they need assistance, they and the officer can call the center and translation will be provided. We also offer VR forms in Spanish and our website is built on a Google platform that automatically translates the base information into multiple languages. (This does not work with documents that are on the site in .pdf. We have worked with Latino Memphis and they have translated documents for us and posted them on their website. All county employees and visitors have access to the Language Line service.

- **Days to Upcoming Events:**
  - First Day to Issue Petitions for the May Primary – 147 Days
  - Deadline for Redistricting – 158 Days
  - Voter Registration Deadline for the May Primary – 252 Days
  - Primary Election – 281 Days