



**SHELBY COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION  
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

**April 25, 2022**

The regular meeting of the Shelby County Election Commission was held on April 25, 2022, at the Shelby County Election Commission, O.C. Pleasant, Jr. Operations Center, 980 Nixon Drive, at 4pm. This meeting was recorded on Facebook live.

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** By Chairman Luttrell at 4:00pm.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Commissioners Smith, Kimbrow, Stamson, and Uhlhorn

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Linda Phillips, AOE	Barbara Williams
Jacob Swatley, Attorney	Rose Ann Bradley
Genine Taylor, Staff	Peggy Watkins
Pam Gentry, Staff	Sue Moresi
Ron Boozer, Staff	Rhonda O'Dell
Sherry Hewlett, Staff	Josh Whitehead
Michael Hewlett, Staff	Nancy Tapp
Lakeeda Johnson, Media	Michael Waddell
Bill Dries, Media	Lee Mills
Mike Wissman	Amber Mills
Gabby Salinas	Christopher Adair
George Boyington	Lani Lester

**Chairman's introduction and welcome to new Commissioner Vanecia Kimbrow.**

**Commissioner Kimbrow's comments on her work and interest in election law, voting, and fair, accessible elections.**

**APPROVAL OF March 28, 2022 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:**

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

**SECONDED BY:** Commissioner Uhlhorn

**VOTE:** Luttrell - Yea; Smith - Yea; Kimbrow – Abstention; Stamson – Yea; Uhlhorn – Yea

Note: Commissioner Kimbrow abstained as she was not present at the March 28, 2022 meeting.  
OUTCOME OF MOTION: Passed

**Special recognition by the Chairman to Genine Taylor and Pamela Gentry for their five years of service to the Shelby County Election Commission. The Chairman presented a proclamation from Mayor Lee Harris and flowers.**

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

Public Comment:

Nancy Tapp, Ask for parking expansion at the O.C. Pleasant Operation Center, 980 Nixon Dr.

Phillips, AOE, responded that building services is working on an expansion to the O.C. Pleasant, Jr. Operation Center parking lot.

**ATTORNEY'S REPORT:**

Attorney Swatley stated there are currently two active lawsuits. We are in litigation with Shelby County Commission re: purchase of new voting equipment, no update at this time. Second lawsuit was a recent suit by three voting rights organizations regarding Early Voting sites for the May Election. There was an injunctive relief hearing, the injunctive relief was not granted. The parties involved have agreed to a consent order of dismissal, both parties have signed and are currently waiting judge approval.

**RESOLUTION 2022-11: RESOLUTION TO CERTIFY CANDIDATES FOR THE AUGUST 4, 2022 PRIMARY AND GENERAL ELECTION:**

MOTION STATED: Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve.

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Stamson

OUTCOME OF MOTION: Passed Unanimously

Presentation by AOE Phillips, noted scrivener error, there are actually two challenges that affect candidates on the list to be certified. Outlined both residency challenges for candidates, Brooks and Mills.

Commissioner Smith asked Attorney Swatley to outline the options for the resolution to the outlined candidate challenges. Attorney Swatley stated that there are two options; option one is to file declaratory judgments in Chancery Court to ask the court to determine both candidate's residency claims, the second option is to hold an Election Commission hearing to decide the residency questions and then it will be subject to appeal to the Chancery Court. Swatley stated that candidate Brooks' challenge is straightforward residency, the question of does she reside in Shelby County, and candidate Mills residency challenge is more unique because it is not a question of where he lives, but is residence geographically in Shelby or Fayette County.

Commissioner Smith asked AOE Phillips about how these options will affect the election timeline. AOE Phillips replied that it is a very tight deadline. UOCAVA ballots must be mailed by June 20, so decision needs to be made by June 10 to be able to comply.

Commissioner Stamson asked Attorney Swatley his opinion on the court's response time. Attorney Swatley replied that if all parties are in agreement on the stipulations and the hearing is scheduled, then the Judge can make a decision more quickly if they are aware of the deadlines affected by the decision.

FLOOR MOTION AS STATED BY ATTORNEY SWATLEY: Commissioner Stamson made a motion to approve.

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Smith

OUTCOME OF MOTION: Passed Unanimously

Motion as stated by Attorney Swatley:

Motion to file two declaratory actions in Chancery Court. One declaratory judgement action asking for a ruling on whether Lee Mills is qualified to run in the TN State House District 99 race and the other action asking if Kenya Brooks is qualified to run in the Shelby County Criminal Court Judge Division VII race.

**CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS:**

Chairman Luttrell shared that he has visited voting locations across Shelby County and that turnout has been extremely low. We should continue to encourage voting and he thanked the Shelby County Transit Authority for providing free rides to the polls on April 28<sup>th</sup>, the last day of Early Voting. Staff morale is high and they are doing a great job. Morale is also high among campaign workers.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

AOE Phillips presented her report. Report is attached.

Additional report on Shelby County High Schools that won the TNSOS Anne Dallas Dudley Award:

100% Student Voter Registration:

Tipton-Rosemark Academy

Middle College High School @ Christian Brothers University

85% Student Voter Registration:

Millington Central High School

Central High School

White Station High School

Kipp Memphis Collegiate High School

East High School

**OLD BUSINESS:**

No old business brought to the floor.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion made to adjourn by Commissioner Stamson, seconded by Commissioner Uhlhorn.  
Meeting adjourned at 4:34pm.

  
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Mark Luttrell, Chairman                      Date

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Bennie Smith, Secretary                      Date



# Shelby County Election Commission

## Administrator of Elections Monthly Report April, 2022

### Voter and Candidate Services

- **Returned Cards** - Kudos to the Manager of Voter and Candidate Services, Genine Taylor and her staff for dealing with the thousands and thousands of returned precinct change cards. So far, there are about 61,000 returned cards and/or address changes. Under federal law, all changes need to be made by May 6<sup>th</sup> or we will have to hold them until after the November election.
- **Voter Hotline - (901) 222-1222** will operate on the following schedule:
  - Friday, April 29 - 8am until 7pm
  - Saturday, April 30 – 8am until 7pm
  - Sunday, May 1 – 11:00am until 7pm
  - Monday, May 2 – 8am until 7pm
  - Tuesday, May 3 - 7am until 7pm

### Operations Department

- **Ballot Bags** - The ballot bags are now equipped with AirFinder Tags, which allows us to know where they are at all times. When we get new equipment, we will place these tags on the machines. Among other things, this will allow us to know if equipment has been mis-delivered before election morning.
- **Officer Pick Up** - Officer's will pick up their supplies and ballot bags on Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>.
- **Election Night Drop-Off** - Plans have been finalized for the single zone turn-in. The officer will make two stops – they will drop off their bag with the memory cards at the Operations Center and then they will proceed to the parking lot of Building E at the East Administrative Complex at 1075 Mullins Station Drive, where the rest of the materials will be off loaded onto trucks. Special thanks to the Sheriff's Department, Support Services, and the Office of Preparedness for their help with logistics, traffic control, and lighting.

## Administrator

- **Outreach**
  - Trained 37 additional registrars, bringing the total to trained in 2022 to 116
  - Went to 2 high schools in April – Germantown HS and Ridgeway High School. This brings the total for the 2021 -2022 school year to 1,130 apps.
  - Attended the following events:
    - Germantown Neighborhood Summit
    - Avenida Watermarq – Voter registration event
    - Voter Registration at the Grizzlies game on April 1
    - Shelby County Library Adult Services Staff Meeting
    - Orange Mound Progressive Club Meeting
    - Farm to Tap Festival
  
- **Be Voter Ready Open Houses-** Were held on April 7<sup>th</sup>. We got a lot of good publicity from this event and we used it to collect data about travel times and to test the air finder tags.
  
- **Free Bus Day -** The Election Commission is partnering with MATA to provide free services on the last day of Early Voting, April 28<sup>th</sup>. All MATA services – fixed route, on demand, MATA Plus and the trolleys are free. Our partner, Shelby County Voter Alliance will be promoting this.
  
- **What Districts Am I In? Tool -** Our PR firm is shooting a short video to demonstrate how to use this; it will go up on our website and on social media as soon as Early Voting is over.
  
- **Early Voting -** Aside from issues with campaign workers and candidates – it has been very problem free. A total of 26,295 people early voted in 2014. As of April 23, 2022, 15,860 people had early voted.
  
- **Holidays -** The Juneteenth Holiday on the County Holiday calendar is the deadline to mail or email UOCAVA ballots for the August election and the first day for candidates in the municipalities to pick up petitions. So, we will be working that day and staff will get another paid day at Christmas. There will be a similar situation with Veterans Day; because that's just three days after the November election, we will work on November 11<sup>th</sup> and either take an additional day at Thanksgiving or Christmas.

- **Election Accuracy: Going on the Offensive** - I attended this presentation by the University of Minnesota Hubert Humphrey Center. It was a road map to combat election mis-information and had some good insights.
- **New Precincts** - We ran our database against the Comptroller's GIS files to make sure that all our voters are in the correct precinct. Out of 582,421 records, we had 305 that needed manual geocoding to place them in the correct county commission district. We are working on that and expect to get them all corrected this week. There are an additional roughly 600 that we need to look at because they may not be completely correct but they won't impact this election.
- **Days to Upcoming Events:**
  - Early Voting Ends – 3 Days
  - County Primary Election – 8 Days
  - County General Election - 101 Days