



## BEAUFORT COUNTY COUNCIL

### Board of Elections & Registration

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### Minutes from the February 23, 2011 meeting of the Beaufort County Board of Elections and Registration 102 Industrial Village Rd. Bldg #2, Beaufort, SC

Ron Clifford  
Chairman

Scott M. Marshall  
Executive Director

**Board Members:**

Ellen Bray

Beverly Dore

Dean Hewitt

Hugh O'Kane

James Rowe

Norma Stewart

Rupert Williams

Meeting was called to order by Mr. Ron Clifford at 2:05 p.m. Mr. Clifford introduced those in attendance.

The pledge of allegiance was led by Mr. Scott Marshall, Executive Director.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Ron Clifford, Chairman

Ellen Bray

Jim Rowe

Dean Hewitt

Norma Stewart

Rupert Williams

Hugh O'Kane

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Morris Campbell, Executive Director, Community Services Division

Scott Marshall, Executive Director

Marie Smalls, Dep. Director

Eric Montgomery, Programmer

Kristina Weitz, Board Secretary

**PUBLIC PRESENT:**

Paul Sommerville, County Council District 7 Representative and Board Liaison

**REVIEW OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 26, 2011 BOARD MEETING:**

The minutes of the January 23, 2011 board meeting were presented. Mr. O'Kane motioned, with a seconded from Mr. Williams, that the minutes be approved. The January 26<sup>th</sup> minutes were voted upon and approved unanimously.

*It's a privilege to live where voting is a right.  
Honor your privilege by exercising your right.  
Vote.*

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- *Board Member Stipend* – Mr. Rowe suggested re-raising the issue of what the board wanted to do for the meeting with the County Council. He further suggested drafting a formal letter to the appropriate County Council committee instead of discussing the issue with various County Council members.

Mr. Hewitt thought there was a letter drafted already addressed to County Council. Mr. Clifford said the letter was addressed to SC House District 118 Representative William “Bill” Herbkersman; however, the letter could easily be revised to address County Council.

Mr. Hewitt expressed that the board was not being given consideration by County Council and suggested that the action should be a formal request. He further reminded the board there were no official documents in response to the board’s discussion with various county council members.

Mrs. Bray asked if the board could address Mr. Gary Kubic, Beaufort County Administrator, concerning the board’s stipend. Mr. Clifford replied Mr. Kubic was already approached and had advised discussing the issue with County Council.

Mrs. Bray suggested inviting Mr. Kubic to a board meeting to hear the board’s concerns.

Mr. Williams said Mr. Kubic is always welcome to attend the published board meetings; however Mr. Williams felt if Mr. Kubic was interested, he would attend.

Mrs. Norma Stewart asked when the next County Council Finance Committee meeting is and thought the board should attend the Finance Committee’s meeting, and if there is no resolution, proceed to county council.

Mr. Clifford said there appeared to be two options on the table:

1. Wait two weeks to see if county councilman Stu Rodman responds.
2. Attend the Finance Committee meeting; then, if necessary, send County Council a letter.

Mr. Clifford recommended waiting two more weeks (March 9, 2011). Then, if necessary, go to the Finance Committee meeting.

Mr. Campbell reminded the board to carbon copy any information to Ms. Sue Rainey, Clerk to Council, to get on the county council agenda.

After being provided a copy of the schedule, Mr. Clifford announced the next Finance Committee meeting would be on March 21, 2011.

Mr. Sommerville said the agenda is usually set a week prior to the meeting.

Mrs. Bray asked Mr. Sommerville if the issue could go to the Finance Committee then die. Mr. Sommerville said the issue could be tabled or voted on before reaching county council as a whole.

Mr. Clifford recommended scheduling a meeting with Mr. Rodman before the Finance Committee meeting. Mr. Hewitt said Mr. Rodman should get all the information before the meeting and Mr. Clifford replied that he already has all the information.

Mr. Clifford asked Mr. Rowe to draft a letter and have the board's letter writing committee review the letter. Members of the committee: Mr. Rowe, Mr. Clifford, Mrs. Stewart and Mr. Williams.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- *Pending Legislation* – Mr. Marshall updated the board on the photo id bill (H. 3003). The bill still reads as having only one absentee precinct and one to two early voting centers. Mr. Marshall said if the bill passed, the Bluffton office could become an early voting center and the feasibility of a second location on Hilton Head Island should be explored.

Mr. Montgomery said current filing closing dates cause him to have the absentee machines ready two weeks prior (time still valid by current law) and he rarely had machines ready thirty days prior. He also expressed concern the early voting centers would create an even shorter supply of iVotronics for distribution on election day.

- *Budget* – Mr. Clifford said the Budget committee met an hour ago and the budget needs to be reviewed, voted on and approved by the board before it could be submitted.

Mr. Marshall summarized the proposed budget for Fiscal Years 2012-2016.

Mr. Williams motioned, and Mr. O'Kane seconded, to approve the proposed budget. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Clifford reminded the board the next board meeting would be on March 23, 2011 at 2:00 p.m. in the Finance Department's conference room, 102 Industrial Village Road, Building #2.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.