

ALABAMA VOTER REGISTRATION ADVISORY BOARD

-Meeting Minutes-

June 20, 2024

2:00 PM

624 Washington Ave., Montgomery, AL 36104

Members present were Adonis B. Whitlow, Debbie Page, James Taylor, John Lackey, Kristie Pinyan, and Dr. Benjamin Jones. Absent members were Don Milligan and Eugenia Stone. Jeff Elrod and Candace Payne were present to represent the Secretary of State's Office.

Call to Order/Roll Call/Acknowledgement of Quorum/Review of Minutes from 2/1/2024

Jeff Elrod, Director of Elections welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. Member John Lackey led the board in the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Member James Taylor. The attendance of five members was acknowledged and a quorum was present. Jeff Elrod 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.

Old Business

There was no old business discussed.

New Business

Jeff Elrod updated the board on the Executive Order from the white House about voting rights for illegal citizens. In Alabama the boards of registrars are our voter registration governance. Medicaid and other agencies like this send out forms without checking the person's citizenship or if they should be disqualified. James Taylor made mention of people worried they will not get their benefits. Jeff said the Secretary of State's office is working with Alabama Law Enforcement Agency on helping the DMV's to stop trying to submit registrations without the citizens request. Jeff Elrod expounded on some efforts the Secretary of State and Registrars are doing to verify voter's information such as their social security number and/or driver's license number. Social Security numbers checked with the Social Security Administration.

John Lackey mentioned asking for an Attorney General Opinion on making the Board of Registrars have the following 1. Making them judicial bodies 2. Giving them subpoena power 3. Having an opinion that the registrars are the sole people responsible for registering voters. Adonis Whitlow believed the request for the AG Opinion should come from the Secretary of State. Jeff Elrod suggested the board write a letter to the Secretary of State requesting the AG Opinion. It was motioned and seconded that John Lackey will draft a letter on behalf of the board to work on together to submit to the Secretary of State for the AG Opinion.

James Taylor asked about the future meetings possibly being via Zoom call. Jeff Elrod said the Secretary of State will check on this because it may be something that has to go through the Governor or legislature.

Next Meeting Date/Adjournment

The next meeting is set for Thursday, August 1, 2024 at 11:00 AM in the Archives Regions Room.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Dr. Ben Jones, seconded by James Taylor, approved by all board members.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 P.M.

DRAFT