

Ricky Waring, Mayor

Council Members:

Bob Jackson

Walter Bailey

Aaron Brown

Terry Jenkins

Kima Garten-Schmidt

William McIntosh



Town Administrator

Rebecca Vance

Town Clerk

Beth Messervy

Town Attorney

G.W. Parker

**Town of Summerville
MUNICIPAL ELECTION COMMISSION MEETING
May 6, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER

In the absence of the current Chairman, Gerald Byrnes, commission member Tammy Williams called the meeting to order at 10:13am on May 6, 2021.

ATTENDANCE:

Present at the meeting were commission members Tammy Williams and Dean Riegel. Chairman Gerald Byrnes was absent. Also in attendance were Todd Billman, the Executive Director of the Dorchester County Elections and Voter Registration, as well as Beth Messervy, Town Clerk.

OATH OF OFFICE:

Ms. Messervy gave the Oath of Office to commission members Tammy Williams and Dean Riegel.

CHAIRMAN ELECTION:

Mr. Riegel made a motion, seconded by Ms. Williams, to table the election of the commission's Chairman until Mr. Byrnes was able to attend. The motion carried unanimously.

OVERVIEW OF 2021 ELECTION:

Mr. Billman went over the contents of the binder that the commissioners would receive 15 days before the election on November 2, 2021. He stated that all members had completed their required training, and that the commission's sole responsibilities are to be "the law" and to certify the election.

Mr. Billman handed out the poll manager handbook, which every poll manager will have on Election Day. He explained that he will have some additional pages for their election notebooks once the election is closer.

Mr. Riegel asked what elections are coming up for 2021, and Ms. Messervy stated that the election was for Council Districts 1, 3, and 5. Mr. Riegel added that there is a seat on the CPW up for election as well.

Mr. Billman showed everyone the poll watcher and candidate guide, which will be used on Election Day. Once the Chairman of the commission is determined, Ms. Messervy will print the guides. Mr. Billman asked the commission to read the handbook and guide before the next meeting.

DISCUSSION OF POLLING LOCATIONS:

Mr. Billman stated that the Dorchester County Office of Elections and Voter Registration recommends using the polling locations used in the 2019 election, with the exception of combining locations that touch each other. An example used is Flowertown Elementary and Newington Elementary. Mr. Billman stated that the proposed consolidation of polling locations brings the total count to 19, but that he will wait to see how many registered voters there are for this election before the commission approves the polling locations.

ABSENTEE VOTING:

Mr. Billman stated that the Town of Summerville will have absentee voting for 1-2 weeks, depending on funding Town of Summerville permission.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Mr. Billman stated that Protest Training is available for the commission members to complete. Mr. Riegel asked if there were term limits on the commission members. Ms. Messervy stated that she would find out. Mr. Riegel asked if there are any constraints being on the commission while being an advocate of a particular candidate. Mr. Billman stated that he would check on that, but he did state that commission members should be careful of taking leadership positions in any political party. The Municipal Election Commissioners are to remain unbiased.

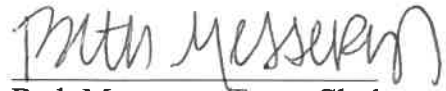
Mr. Riegel made a motion, seconded by Ms. Williams, to hold the next Municipal Election Commission meeting on Tuesday, June 29th at 10:00am in the Training Room. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Billman stated that he would have more conversation about polling locations at the June meeting, and that the Town of Summerville would have to pay for consolidation of polling locations.

ADJOURN

Mr. Riegel made a motion, seconded by Ms. Williams, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 10:42am.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Beth Messervy". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Beth Messervy, Town Clerk