

**Minutes of the Richland County Board of Voter Registration and Elections  
Thursday, June 16, 2016  
County Council Chambers**

**Board Members in Attendance**

Ms. Marjorie Johnson, Chair- Via Conference Call

Ms. Adell Adams, Vice-Chair

Ms. Sylvia Holley

Ms. Jane Emerson

Mr. E. Peter Kennedy

**Staff in Attendance**

Mr. Samuel Selph, Director

Ms. Lillian McBride, Deputy Director

Staff Members – Elections & Voter Registration Department

**Others in Attendance**

Mr. Lawrence Flynn, Pope Flynn Group

Mr. Arik Bjorn, U.S. Congressman Candidate

Members of the Public

Media Representatives

**Call to Order**

- The meeting was called to order at 1:28 p.m.

**Adoption of Agenda**

- A motion was made to adopt the meeting's agenda. Seconded. Approved.

**Approval of Board Meeting Minutes**

- The Board Members reviewed the minutes from April 13, 2016
- A motion was made to approve the meeting minutes. Approved.

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**Board Comments – Discussion**

**Kennedy-** Would like to include and discuss posting the Director’s job and job description. After a brief conversation among fellow board members Mr. Kennedy, withdrew his request to discuss. This discussion was closed, but may be revisited at a later date. No other comments were given.

**Holley-** No comments at this time.

**Emerson-** One correction to be made to previous minutes, Ms. Emerson stated that she was present during the Board meeting on April 13, 2016. She voted against the motion, which was made to change the bylaws to read that the Board will meet every other month.

**Adams-** No comments at this time.

**Director’s Comments & Updates**

- **Recent Elections**

- A. June 14, 2016- The voters seemed to experience some confusion during the Primary Election and judging from the Call Center notes, voter comments, etc. it seems to be centered around the multiple Elections, which included the same candidates in County Council District 10.
- B. During this Election we had several instances in which voters cast their ballots, without first reviewing to ensure that the candidates were from their district.
- C. Encountered instances where, Candidates and/or candidates’ representatives were not respectful and questioning the authority of the Poll Clerks and Managers.
- D. Issues that escalated were mostly contributed to the overzealousness of candidates. In a concerted effort to decrease these actions in the future, our office has created a Standards and Procedures guideline for candidates. This guideline will be distributed during candidate filling.

- **Upcoming Elections**

- June 21, 2016      Richland County Upper Rocky Lake Special Tax

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District Referendum Election – 124 voters

June 28, 2016     Primary Run-Off -2 seats participating, County Council  
District 10 and House of Representative 79

- July 19, 2016     Richland County Council District 10 Special Election

**Special Tax District**

- The Chair recognized Mr. Lawrence Flynn, Pope Flynn Law Firm, regarding the remaining 3 Special Tax Districts Election. Mr. Flynn informed the board that the approval process was complete and proposed, Tuesday, August 23, 2016 as the combined Election date for Beaver Dam, Cary Lake and Rocky Ford Lake.
- A motion was made to approve the inclusion of a referendum for the Upper Rocky Lake Special District with a proposed election date of June 21, 2016. Seconded.

**FOR**

**AGAINST**

**ABSTAIN**

Kennedy

Johnson

Adams

Emerson

Holley

**Chairperson's Comments**

- **Staff Acknowledgements** - Gratitude was extended to the staff for their hard work and dedication during this busy Election season. Despite the intensity of the work the staff has remained diligent and the Board Members are appreciative.

**Confirmation of Consensus to Amend By-Laws**

- A motion was made to change the bylaws to read that the Board will meet every other month. Seconded by Sylvia Holley.

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- A brief discussion took place concerning the change from monthly to bi-monthly, which ended in a final vote with the results being recorded as follows:

<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
Johnson	Kennedy	
Adams	Emerson	
Holley		

**Public Questions & Comments**

- No comments

**Executive Session**

- There were no items to discuss, as a result an Executive Session was not held.

**Adjournment**

- There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:08 pm.

Submitted by: Yonita Simmons