**Minutes of the Richland County Board of Elections & Voter Registration**

**Council Chambers, 2020 Hampton St. Columbia, SC 29204**

**May 8, 2019**

**4:00 PM**

**In Attendance**

**Board Members**

* Charles P. Austin, Sr.
* Crank Plank
* Duncan A. Buell
* Anjanette D. President
* Yolanda Y. Taylor

**Elections & Voter Registration**

* Director, Rokey W. Suleman II
* Administrative Assistant, Michelle D. Harrington

**Call to Order**

A meeting of the Richland County Board of Elections & Voter Registration was called to order in the Council Chambers on Wednesday 5/13/19 at 4:00 PM, Commissioner Austin presiding.

**Adoption of Agenda**

Commissioner Austin mentioned adding a Moment of Silent Reflection to the Agenda. Commissioner Plank moved that the Moment of Silent Reflection be added. Commissioner Taylor moved to second. All were in favor.

Commissioner Austin moved that we adopt the agenda as outlined with the addition. The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Board Chair Comments**

Mr. Austin opened the floor for nomination of Chair of the Election Commission. Mr. Plank nominated Mr. Austin for Chair. Ms. Taylor made a motion to second the nomination. The votes in favor were unanimous. Chair Austin nominated Mr. Plank for Vice Chair. Mr. Buell made a motion to second. All were in favor. Chair Austin gave remarks, stating the Board would work with staff to ensure that duties were carried out properly.

**Director’s Comments**

Mr. Suleman welcomed the Board. He discussed the May 14th Elections and explained the duties of the Board in regards to the Election. He then explained the election process and advised there would be a Provisional Ballot Hearing May 17th at 10am. Once the hearing is complete, the Board will certify the Election. Mr. Suleman further explained the role of the staff on Election Day. It was established that the Board would be meeting with the Staff each week for educational purposes to get everyone prepared for the Fall. Staff introductions were made.

**Board Comments**

Chair Austin gave remarks, stating his enthusiasm with getting together with staff soon. He also stated he wants the Board to get the staff certified as quickly as possible. Vice Chair Plank, and then Dr. Buell and Ms. Taylor made remarks. All stated they wanted to earn the County’s trust in our Agency.

Vice Chair suggested adding a standard executive session and future event section to the Agenda. It was accepted.

**Citizen/Public Input**

Mr. Robin White stated he was looking forward to attending Board meetings and getting to know the Board.

**Adjournment**

Chair Austin moved to adjourn the meeting, it was moved and properly seconded. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:18pm.

**Next Scheduled Meeting**

The next scheduled Board of Elections & Voter Registration meeting has yet to be determined.

**Submitted by:** Michelle D. Harrington, Administrative Assistant