

# Ware County BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATION

DANNY BARTLETT  
Chairman

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CARLOS J. NELSON  
Supervisor of Elections

DR. RODNEY BROWN – Vice Chair  
VERNON CHAMBLESS  
MARIAN SOLOMON-GAINES  
LUDEANE WHITFIELD

LORIE WILLIAMS  
Elections Clerk



## MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND REGISTRATION WARE COUNTY, GEORGIA March 11, 2025

The Ware County Board of Elections and Registration convened to conduct a regular monthly meeting, with Chairman Bartlett, presiding.

Start Time: 10:00 a.m.  
End Time: 10:33 a.m.

1. **PRAYER AND PLEDGE**

Ludeane Whitfield led with prayer and Dr. Rodney Brown led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. **ROLL CALL AND RECOGNITION OF GUESTS**

Election Supervisor, Carlos Nelson conducted roll call.

Board Attendees: Chairman Danny Bartlett  
Dr. Rodney Brown  
Vernon Chambliss  
Ludeane Whitfield  
Marian Solomon-Gaines

Guests: Debra Giddens  
Dr. Earl Martin  
Larry Lockey

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chairman Bartlett asked for changes to the agenda. Without objection, the agenda was accepted.

4. **ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION**: N/A

5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**: N/A

6. **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**:

- Regular Meeting, February 11, 2025

Chairman Bartlett asked for corrections to the Meeting Minutes presented. The minutes were accepted, without objection.

7. **PUBLIC HEARING**: N/A

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### Mission Statement:

The Ware County Board of Elections and Registration is committed to maintaining accurate and current voter files, maximizing voter registration and voter turnout efforts, educating the voting public, providing the best possible services and conducting efficient, fair, honest, transparent and impartial elections.

8. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** N/A

9. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- June 17, 2025, PSC Special Primary – Setting Early Voting Hours  
Supervisor Nelson informed the Board that the June 17<sup>th</sup> Special Primary will be a low turnout election. With that being said, he recommends a 9am to 5pm Early Voting time period. Vernon Chambless moved to accept staff's recommendation for Early Voting hours. Marian Solomon-Gaines seconded. The motion passed without objection.

10. **SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**

- City of Waycross – Resolution to Call for Election (District 4)  
Supervisor Nelson informed the Board that the City Commission passed a resolution to call for the Special Election to fill the District 4 seat for November 4, 2025. He stressed that the City of Waycross is responsible for determining the election date and the City contracts with the Board of Elections to conduct the election.
- City of Waycross – Resolution to adopt the Waycross 2011 Map  
Supervisor Nelson reported that the City Commission “re-adopted” the 2011 City of Waycross District Map. The Resolution was needed because of the Georgia Supreme Court ruling on the appeal by Commissioner Alvin Nelson. City Attorney said they would immediately file the map with the SOS office and Clerk of Court.
- City of Waycross – District 1 Polling Place  
Supervisor Nelson reported that the City Commission approved a resolution moving the District 1 polling precinct from the Ware BOE Central Office on Bailey Street to the C.C. McCray City Auditorium on Pendleton St. He stated that the move is effective immediately and new precinct cards are ordered.
- GIS Mapping  
Supervisor Nelson informed the Board that he is working with Planning and Codes, (GIS Dept.), to geocode all of the voters to create a quality assurance tool to check that each voter is assigned to their correct precinct and voting district within the State voter registration system.
- SEB Hearings - Supervisor Nelson informed the Board that the State Election Board met to hear the statewide election violations. Ware County had three cases:
  - SEB2022-285 – Ware County – Double Voting. Supervisor Nelson informed the Board that the SEB found that the Poll Manager violated OCGA and they issued a Letter of Instruction to her. This is in essence a letter of reprimand. They also referred the case to the Attorney General to see if the voter violated OCGA for double voting.
  - SEB2023-083 – Ware County – City of Waycross Districting Issue. Supervisor Nelson informed the Board that this case was dismissed because of the Georgia Supreme Court ruling.
  - SEB2024-067 – Ware County – Use of Cell Phones in the Polling Place. Supervisor Nelson informed the Board that the SEB issued a Letter of Instruction to the voter for violating OCGA banning use of cell phone in the polling place.
- SOS 3-4 Day Election Training – April 28 to May 2 in Dallas, Georgia  
Supervisor Nelson informed the Board that SOS would host a statewide training in Dallas, Georgia. He and Lorie will attend.

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- GAVREO Conference – August 10 thru 13 in Savannah (Westin Savannah Hotel)  
Supervisor Nelson informed the Board that the conference is scheduled for August and we have slots available for the entire Board. He said the planners are working on a session just for board members and more details will be forthcoming. He informed the Board that he is expecting cost to be approximately \$2,000 per person. He would pay for the conference registration from the FY25 budget and pay for travel, per diem and hotel rooms from FY26. All Board Members said they are interested in attending.

#### **11. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT AND LAST CALL**

**ADJOURNMENT** – There being no further business, Chairman Bartlett asked for a motion to adjourn. Ludeane Whitfield moved for adjournment. Dr. Rodney Brown seconded. Motion passed without objection.

  
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**Danny Bartlett, Chairman**  
**Ware County Board of Elections**

  
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**Carlos J. Nelson, Supervisor/Board Secretary**  
**Ware County Board of Election**

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