

**Oglethorpe County Board of Elections and Registration**  
**Board Meeting**  
**February 5, 2024**  
**9:00 A.M.**

- Meeting was called to order by Chairman Beverly Nation, Pledge to the Flag was led by Vice-Chair George Gray, and minutes were read by Secretary Carla D. Houston.
- There was a motion to accept minutes as read, and there was a second.

**Report from Election Staff:**

- **Steve McCannon**

- Registration Stats for January, 2024: 10,855 Active voters, 885 Inactive voters, total of 11,740. Gain of 56 active voters, decrease of 14 inactive voters, for an increase of 42 voters overall. ( See HO)
- There were 123 applications for Absentee Ballots for Presidential Primary Election.
- Legislation Bills, if passed: HB 976 will add watermarks to paper ballots after May primary, and HB 355 is in opposition of rank choice voting.
- Voter registration was held at OCHS on Jan. 22, 2024.
- Lexington District precinct relocation signs are being posted throughout the Lexington District.

- **Marilyn Huff-Waller**

- Electrical work is completed at the Beaverdam Precinct.
- Logic and Accuracy Testing for PPE March 12, 2024 Election will be February 5, additional days will be added, if needed.
- Advanced/ Early Voting will start Monday, February 19, 2024 and end March 8, 2024, from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM daily, M-F. There will be Saturday voting of February 24, 2024, and March 2, 2024.
- Poll Worker training will be March 7, 2024 at 6:00 PM. Poll Workers will also be given photo IDs.
- A Future Voter Center will available at Elections Office with coloring sheets, stickers, and crayons.
- OCHS Student Ambassador Program had a recent visit to the Capitol on Jan. 25, 2024 and had lunch with the legislators. Oglethorpe County is leading the region, AGAIN!

- **Old Business:** Security lights will be installed by Feb. 8, 2024. Bars for windows were not a fit; will seek alternative plan, however, the building now meets requirements given. Panic Button for front office and window will be installed before Advanced/Early voting begins. Deputy Taft will do a security check and make a plan.
- **New Business:** None
- **Public Input:** Ray Channell expressed concern for poll workers in how to assure the voters that their votes are secure, concerned that machines may be flawed and accessible by cell phones, citizens need assurance that their votes are counted as cast, thanked the Board of Elections, and reminded workers that we work for the citizens and not the Secretary of State. Dave Gossage echoed Ray Channell in concerns. Christi Fordyce thanked Marilyn for her work in providing the Future Voters Center for children. Beverly Nation reassured that votes cast in Oglethorpe County were confirmed in three hand counts, and solidified that Oglethorpe County votes were valid. Carla Houston restated: as we cannot control voter issues in other counties, we strive, continuously and constantly as citizens and representatives of Oglethorpe County, to ensure our votes are correctly counted and valid, as reported.
- Those in attendance were Beverly Nation, George Gray, Carla Houston, Marilyn Huff-Waller, Steve McCannon, Ray Channell, Christi Fordyce, & Dave Gossage.
- **Next meeting:** March 18, 2024 at 9:00 A.M. and also will perform Election Certification.