

**WILLIAMSON COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION
(WCEC)**

MARCH 7, 2025

**APPROVED & SIGNED MINUTES WITH
ATTACHMENTS**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Wanda Bruce Graham", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

WANDA BRUCE GRAHAM

SECRETARY, WCEC

**WILLIAMSON COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION
MINUTES – March 7, 2025**

The Williamson County Election Commission (WCEC) met in person on Friday, March 7, 2025, at the Williamson County Election Commission Office located at 405 Downs Boulevard, Franklin, Tennessee.

I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Jonathan Duda called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. The Agenda is Attachment 1. A roll call of members was taken, and all five Commissioners were present: Chair Jonathan Duda, Commissioner Donna Choate; Commissioner E. Doug Grindstaff; Commissioner Rodney “Rod” Williamson; and Secretary, Wanda Bruce Graham. Administrator of Elections, Chad Gray was present.

II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Commissioner E. Doug Grindstaff led the WCEC in the pledge.

III. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Chair Duda reviewed the meeting Public Comment sign-in sheet, with 14 guests present and eight guests signed in to make public comments. The sign-in sheet is Attachment 2.

Prior to the start of Public Comment portion of the meeting, Chair Duda provided a recap of the Republican Commissioners and WCEC staff’s participation at the Williamson County Republican Party (WCRP) Reorganization conducted on Tuesday, March 4, 2025. He remarked that 1,555 voters were processed in approximately an hour and 20 minutes. Chair Duda advised that the WCEC was there to process the ballots of which more than 130 were not processed mainly because those voters did not follow the instruction to fill in the circles. He remarked that the WCRP was responsible for the conduct of the Reorganization.

- Frank Limpus, Franklin resident addressed the Commission about the WCRP Reorganization machine count versus the hand count.
- Brian Floyd, Franklin resident addressed the Commission about the WCRP Reorganization and thanked the Commission for their professionalism.
- Michael Kortebein, Franklin resident addressed the Commission about poll watcher versus poll official clarification.
- Sharon Spigel, Franklin resident addressed the Commission about her opinion that the county should remove electronic voting machines and vote on a counterfeit-proof hand marked paper ballot counted by hand in precincts, not vote centers. She provided two handouts to Commissioners for information regarding her remarks and a press release from Congressman Pete Sessions, Texas 17th dated March 4, 2025.
- Christopher Richards, County Commissioner District 7, Brentwood resident addressed the Commission about the WCRP Reorganization process and thanked the Commission for a job well-done.

- Steve Hickey, Chair, Williamson County Republican Party, Franklin resident addressed the Commission about the WCRP Reorganization and thanked Chair Duda and Administrator Gray for their work at the Reorganization.
- Aaron Gulbransen, Guest, addressed the Commission about the WCRP Reorganization process and complimented the Commission; however, he had concerns about the WCRP's process related to a voter losing his wristband.
- Kilynn Schueler, Franklin resident, addressed the Commission about the WCRP Reorganization and questioned how it was handled but remarked the Commission did an excellent job.

Following the Public Comment portion of the meeting, Chair Duda remarked that he could only speak to the election process and that the WCRP handled the Reorganization process and provided the ballots to those eligible to vote. He repeated his comments regarding the over 130 spoiled ballots which was about a 9% error rate which wasn't good because the instructions to fill in the circles were not followed. Chair Duda commented that counting by hand was the worse method but rejected claims that it was more accurate than our current system. He remarked he's against hand-marked ballots and hand counts as the primary method but as Chair of the WCEC, he and the WCEC staff will administer elections according to state legislation. He remarked the Williamson County was the first county to have a verifiable paper trail results and WCEC has an excellent staff to process our elections in accordance with current laws. Commissioner Choate thanked Chair Duda for the excellent job that he does. Chair Duda restated that the WCEC's policy regarding poll watchers being eligible to serve as poll officials will allow any selected poll official to decide to serve as one or the other. Poll officials are appointed by WCEC weeks prior to Early Voting and the Election Day.

Commissioner Grindstaff asked if the Williamson County Democratic Party and other groups are offered WCEC services to conduct elections; Chair Duda remarked yes.

IV. OLD BUSINESS:

- (1) Approve the minutes of the February 28, 2025, Election Commission Meeting.

Commissioner Grindstaff made a motion to approve the Minutes of the February 28, 2025, Election Commission meeting; Chair Duda seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously by 5-0 vote.

- (2) Lock the Absentee/Early Voting & Election Day Ballot Boxes for the May 6, 2025, City of Brentwood Municipal Election. Chair Duda advised Commissioners that this action will be deferred until the next WCEC meeting.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

- (1) Approve Early Voting Locations and Hours for the upcoming May 6, 2025, City of Brentwood Municipal Election; information is at Attachment 3. Administrator Gray remarked that City of Brentwood requested one week of Early Voting to be conducted from April 24, 2025, through May 1, 2025, with one Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (Weekdays) and 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (Saturday) at the John P. Holt Brentwood Library. In addition,

Administrator Gray remarked that by law since it is a contested race, the WCEC Office would be conducting Early Voting for the entire two-week period from April 16, 2025, through May 1, 2025, with two Saturdays; special note that WCEC Office will be closed on Good Friday, April 18, 2025. Voting will be conducted from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Weekdays) and 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Noon (Saturdays). Secretary Graham made a motion to approve the Early Voting Locations and Hours for the upcoming May 6, 2025, City of Brentwood Municipal Election; Commissioner Grindstaff seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by 5-0 vote.

(2) Approve Election Day Locations and Hours for the upcoming May 6, 2025, City of Brentwood Municipal Election. Administrator Gray advised Commissioners that City of Brentwood requested two Vote Center Locations for the upcoming May 6, 2025, City of Brentwood Municipal Election. The two Vote Center locations are the John P. Holt Brentwood Library, 8109 Concord Road and the Brenthaven Cumberland Presbyterian Church, 516 Franklin Road; hours of the election will be from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. Chair Duda made a motion to approve the two Vote Center Locations of the John P. Holt Brentwood Library, and the Brenthaven Cumberland Presbyterian Church and Hours of the Election will be from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. for the upcoming May 6, 2025, City of Brentwood Municipal Election; Secretary Graham seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by 5-0 vote.

Administrator Gray advised that each Brentwood household will be notified by WCEC of the Election Day information.

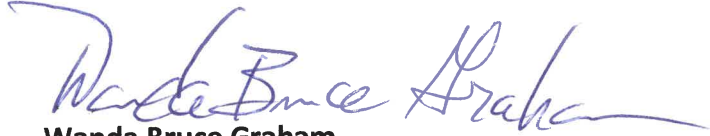
(3) Discuss the process for replacing Tony Clifford as the Republican Voting Machine Technician Appointee. Administrator Gray advised Commissioners that Mr. Tony Clifford, Republican Voting Machine Technician had resigned after approximately 26 years of service to WCEC. In accordance with T.C.A. 2-9-103, it is the duty of the Republican members of the Commission to appoint a replacement. Administrator Gray provided a duty synopsis to the three Republican Commissioners for review. After discussion among the three Republican Commissioners, Chair Duda requested that Administrator Gray post the duty synopsis and advised that those interested may provide a statement of interest and qualifications. He also remarked that the Republican Commissioners may also reach out to any potential candidates with the Machine Technician duty information.

(4) Discuss/Approve the Election Commission Budget for fiscal year 2025-2026. Administrator Gray provided an overview of the WCEC 2025-2026 Budget to Commissioners and included a separate 2025-2026 Capital Request. Chair Duda advised Commissioners that all WCEC personnel data was provided by the Williamson County Mayor's office which included a requested 4% raise across the County. Chair Duda explained that due to Tennessee's Maintenance of Effort (MOE) laws, the County must maintain a certain level of spending for elections so the budget approved would be no less than the previous year's budget. Administrator Gray advised that the Capital Request items included new laptops, a box truck, and voting location backup systems. The proposed budget provided for no new positions. Commissioner Choate commented that the WCEC budget needs to take care of the staff and community voters. After no further discussion, Commissioner Grindstaff made a motion to

approve the WCEC 2025-2026 Budget for submission to the County; Commissioner Williamson seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by 5-0 vote.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS (No Action to be Taken): Administrator Gray advised Commissioners that Williamson County was third in voter turnout for the 2024 November Election with a turnout rate of 73.95% only Loudon County @ 74.99% and Wilson County @ 74.71% surpassed Williamson County. He further remarked that Williamson County's Early Voting and Absentee Voters turnout rate was 83.61% of the overall turnout with 117,449 ballots cast.

VI. ADJOURNMENT: The WCEC meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.



Wanda Bruce Graham
Secretary, WCEC

Attachments:

- Attachment 1 - WCEC 3-7-2025 Meeting Agenda
- Attachment 2 - WCEC 3-7-2025 Public Comment Sign-in Sheet
- Attachment 3 – Early Voting Locations/Hours for City of Brentwood Municipal Election May 6, 2025

Williamson County Election Commission
405 Downs Blvd
Franklin, Tennessee 37064
(615) 790-5711
Fax (615) 790-5617
www.williamsonvotes.net



Jonathan Duda, Chairman
Wanda Bruce Graham, Secretary
Donna Choate, Member
E. Douglas Grindstaff, Member
Rod Williamson, Member
Chad Gray, Administrator of Elections

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Williamson County Election Commission will convene in person on Friday, March 7, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. at the Williamson County Election Commission Office located at 405 Downs Blvd, Franklin. **Time for Public Comment is provided during the meeting.**

For more information, please email Chad Gray, Administrator of Elections at chad.gray@williamsoncounty-tn.gov

- I. Call to Order
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Public Comment (Pursuant to Public Chapter 300)
(Attendees will sign up prior to the start of the meeting)
- IV. Old Business
 - (1) Approve the minutes from the February 28, 2025 Meeting
 - (2) Lock the Absentee/Early Voting & Election Day Ballot Boxes for the May 6, 2025 City of Brentwood Municipal Election
- V. New Business
 - (1) Approve Early Voting Locations and Hours for the upcoming May 6, 2025 City of Brentwood Municipal Election
 - (2) Approve Election Day Locations and Hours for the upcoming May 6, 2025 City of Brentwood Municipal Election
 - (3) Discuss the process for replacing Tony Clifford as the Republican Voting Machine Technician Appointee

Attachment 1

(4) Discuss/Approve the Election Commission Budget for fiscal year
2025-2026

VI. Other Business (No Action to be Taken)

VII. Adjournment

WILLIAMSON COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION (WCEC) PUBLIC COMMENT SIGN-UP SHEET			
EVENT:	WCEC MEETING	EVENT DATE:	3/7/2025
CHAIR:	JONATHAN DUDA	LOCATION:	WCEC, 405 Downs Blvd., Franklin, TN. 37064

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION BELOW - THANK YOU.

FIRST AND LAST NAME (PRINT PLEASE)	CITY OF RESIDENCE	AGENDA ITEM OR GENERAL TOPIC	FIRST -TIME (X)
FRANK LIMPKS	FRANKLIN	ELECTION DAY MACHINES	
BRIAN FLOYD	Franklin	ELECTION Commission for TN	
Michael Kortebein	Franklin	Poll Worker Criteria	X
Sharon Spiegel	Franklin	Make Elections Secure Act	
Erinn Watkins	Franklin		
→ Christopher Rickards	Brentwood	Convention	X
Steve Hickey	Franklin	GOP Platform	
Kyle Schueber	Franklin		
Arion Gubert	Guest	Election Comm Performance	X
Laren Paritree	Franklin		X
Kelynn Schueber	Franklin	Election	
Nothing Follows			

Spring Hill Municipal Election*

Thursday, April 10, 2025

Offices to be Elected:

*Mayor & Four (4) Ward
Alderman
Four (4) Year Terms*

Voter Registration Deadline:
Tuesday, March 11, 2025

Early Voting Dates, Locations & Hours:

March 21 - April 5, 2025

Spring Hill Community Building
563 Maury Hill St
Spring Hill TN 37174
Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Monday-Friday
8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Noon
Saturdays

Election Day Voting:
Longview Recreation Center
2909 Commonwealth Drive
Spring Hill TN 37174
Polls open 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

*conducted by Maury County Election
Commission

Brentwood Municipal Election

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

Offices to be Elected:

*Three City Commissioners
Four (4) Year Terms*

Voter Registration Deadline:
Monday, April 7, 2025

Early Voting Information: Locations, Dates & Hours

**The John P. Holt
Brentwood Library**
8109 Concord Road
Brentwood, TN 37027
Dates: April 24-May 1, 2025
Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Monday-Friday
Saturday: 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Election Commission Office
405 Downs Blvd
Franklin TN 37064
Dates: April 16-May 1, 2025*
Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Monday-Friday
Saturdays: 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
NOON
*Office closed April 18th, Good Friday

Franklin Municipal Election

Tuesday, October 28, 2025

Offices to be Elected:

*Four (4) Ward Alderman
Wards 1, 2, 3, & 4
Four (4) Year Terms*

**Vote for One (1) Candidate in your
Ward of Residence**

Petitions May be Issued:
Monday, May 19, 2025

Candidate Qualifying Deadline:
Thursday, July 17, 2025,
12:00 p.m. Noon

Voter Registration Deadline:
Monday, September 29, 2025

Early Voting Information:
October 8-October 23, 2025



Attachment 3