

Anderson County Election Commission Minutes

**Thursday, April 9, 2026
4:00 p.m. ET, Room 118A, Courthouse**

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chair Jane Miller. In addition, to Miller, Commissioners David Bradshaw, Bill Gallaher, Marion Stanford and Bear Stephenson were present along with Administrator Stephens, Deputy Rivers Rogers, Deputy Shawn Rogers and Part-Time Deputy Archie Liggett. Also attending were members of the public.

Commissioner Stanford questioned the order of the current agenda and stated that she preferred public comments to be at the beginning of the meeting. A motion was made by Gallaher to approve the agenda. Stephenson seconded the motion with all voting in favor.

Commissioner Bradshaw made a motion to approve the March minutes with a second from Stephenson with all voting in favor.

The Commission conducted the quarterly inspection of voter registration forms. Sixty-five forms were inspected with no deficiencies found.

Administrator Stephens informed the Commission that on April 9, 2026, the voting machines were set for the May Primary Election and that all four machine technicians: Parker Shannon, Ed Landers, Martin Bauer and Jake Jacobs, attended this session with Harp Enterprises. Stephens shared that the office has received 103 applications for absentee ballots and is still in need of election workers for May 5, 2026 election day.

Administrator Stephens gave a legislative update on SB 777 – HB 886 (Exhibit A), the companion bills that propose closing the state's primary elections. These bills have been passed through committee and are alive but are being held up due to fiscal concern. However, this legislation will not affect the May 5, 2026 election.

Administrator Stephens also mentioned the Presidential Executive Order, "Ensuring Citizenship Verification and Integrity in Federal Elections" (Exhibit B), that was issued March 31, 2026, and stated that Anderson County is waiting on direction from the State of Tennessee.

Administrator Stephens distributed the ADA report on County property, including precincts, and told the Commission that a meeting with Louise McKown and Anne Childs had taken place the previous Tuesday. Commissioner Gallaher inquired as to who was the party responsible for any ADA recommended expenses. Stephens responded that Anderson County would incur those costs. Commissioner Stanford stated that there are \$12,000 worth of recommended changes to the Rosedale precinct and asked who would be responsible for this expense since it is on private property. Stephens said the Rosedale precinct was not the most expensive and the county had already addressed the accessibility ramp. Commissioner Stephenson asked for clarification on the deadline to make the recommended ADA changes. Stephens responded that Anderson County has 20 years to make corrections.

Commissioner Bradshaw expressed appreciation to Administrator Stephens for a detailed agenda.

Commissioner Stanford made a motion to have the agenda packet available seven days prior to the meeting. Gallaher reminded the Commission that the public has five business days prior to the meeting to request an item be added to the agenda. Stanford amended the motion to have the agenda packet available and published on the ACEC website by Monday, prior to the scheduled meeting. Bradshaw seconded the motion with all voting in favor.

Anderson County resident, Karen McKamey, addressed the Commission regarding retaining the Rosedale precinct. Rosedale has 111 voters that vote at the New River General Store, owned by Scotty Phillips. Ms. McKamey shared that the precinct has been at this establishment for 30 years and she has personally worked there for 19 consecutive election years. To her knowledge, during past election days: the General Store's 10 parking places have never been full at one time, access into the building has not been an issue, business at the store has not inhibited voter participation, all political signs & paraphernalia have been removed and there have been no complaints filed from Rosedale voters. She said that voters in that area are very grateful

to have the precinct, especially since every other amenity has been taken from them, and that the community members would do whatever is necessary to keep it.

There were public comments made by Marsha Livingston, Chase Lindsey, Martin May, Nancy Manning, Stephen Verran, Cathy Scarbrough, Robert Walker, Savannah Patterson, and Ann Miller.

The next order of business was locking the Provisional Ballot Boxes for the May election. All Commissioners participated in placing the respective locks and numbered seals on each box.

The special election day meeting for the purpose of counting ballots was set for Tuesday, May 5, 2026 at 5:00pm. The next regular meeting was set for Monday, May 18, 2026 at 4:00pm.

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Bradshaw with a second by Stanford. All voted in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Attachments:

Exhibit A: SB 777 - HB 886 Fiscal Memorandum

Exhibit B: Ensuring Citizenship Verification and Integrity in Federal Elections


D. Jane Miller, Chair


William "Bear" Stephenson, Secretary


David Bradshaw, Commissioner


William T. Gallaher, Commissioner


Marion Stanford, Commissioner