

HABERSHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SUBJECT: Conducting a Special Election for Commission District 5 Seat

DATE: May 11, 2021

(X) RECOMMENDATION

() POLICY DISCUSSION

BUDGET INFORMATION:

() STATUS REPORT

ANNUAL-

() OTHER

CAPITAL-

COMMISSION ACTION REQUESTED ON: May 17, 2021

PURPOSE: To conduct a Special Election for the open County Commission District 5 Seat, formerly held by Tim Stamey.

BACKGROUND / HISTORY: During the April 19, 2021 commissioner's meeting, Commissioner Tim Stamey announced his resignation from the Commission District 5 seat. Due to the timing of the resignation, there is not enough time to get the Special Election on a ballot for June 15, 2021. The next possible dates would be September 21, 2021 or November 2, 2021.

FACTS AND ISSUES:

- Due to time constraints of getting a Call & Qualifying Period done in time to get the information for the ballot to the Secretary of State by their deadline of April 30, 2021, we could not conduct the Special Election on June 15, 2021.
 - If we conduct the Special Election by itself on September 21, 2021, it will cost the county an estimated \$32,000. (Please see attached updated estimated election cost) The time between the September 21, 2021 Special Election date and the November 2, 2021 General Election date is only six (6) weeks.
 - To conduct the Special Election in conjunction with the November 2, 2021 Municipal General Election would save some cost to the county, due to the fact that some of the cost will be shared with any municipality that has an election on the ballot along with the Board of Education E-SPLOST Special Election. Plus, there should be a larger voter turnout if held on November 2, 2021 with the other elections.
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OPTIONS:

- 1.) Approve the recommendation and authorize the Habersham County Board of Elections & Registration to conduct a Special Election for County Commission District 5 Seat on November 2, 2021.
- 2.) Deny recommendation to authorize the Habersham County Board of Elections & Registration to conduct a Special Election for County Commission District 5 Seat on November 2, 2021.
- 3.) Commission defined alternative of September 21, 2021 Special Election Date.

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- 4.) **RECOMMENDED SAMPLE MOTION:** Move to approve the authorization of the Habersham County Board of Elections & Registration to conduct a Special Election for the County Commission District 5 Seat on November 2, 2021.

DEPARTMENT: Elections & Voter Registration

Prepared by: Laurel Ellison

Director: Laurel Ellison

**ADMINISTRATIVE
COMMENTS:** _____

_____ **DATE:** _____

County Manager



Office of Elections & Registration
555 Monroe Street, Unit 45, Clarkesville, GA 30523
706-839-0170 Fax: 706-754-5836
www.habershamga.com

Laurel Ellison – Election Supervisor

Izac Martin – Elections Assistant

April 28, 2021

**TO: Dustin Meador, County Commission Chairperson
Phil Sutton, County Manager**

FROM: Laurel Ellison, Election Supervisor

RE: Cost Estimate for Special Election September 21, 2021

Newspaper Ads:

Call & Qualifying Period of Special Election -	\$ 180.00
Call & Qualifying Period of Special Election -	\$ 180.00
Notice of Special Election -	\$ 180.00
AB/Early/Advance Voting Ads -	\$ 525.00

Advance Voting Poll Workers:

Habersham North Poll Workers

(1) Poll Manager (\$12/hr. x 12 hrs. x 17 days) -	\$ 2448.00
(1) Assistant Poll Manager – (\$11/hr. x 12hr x 17 days) -	\$ 2244.00
(6) Poll Workers (\$10/hr. x 11hrs x 17 days) -	\$11220.00

Habersham South Poll Workers

(1) Poll Manager (\$12/hr. x 12 hrs. x 12 days) -	\$ 1728.00
(1) Assistant Poll Manager – (\$11/hr. x 12hr x 12 days) -	\$ 1584.00
(6) Poll Workers (\$10/hr. x 11hrs x 12 days) -	\$ 7920.00

<u>In-Office Poll Worker</u> (3 weeks x 40 hours/week @ \$10/hour -	\$ 1200.00
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Election Day Poll Workers:

(7) Poll Manager (\$150 each) -	\$ 1050.00
(7) Assistant Poll Manager (\$130 each) -	\$ 910.00
(26) Poll Workers (\$120/each) -	\$ 3120.00

<u>Training</u> (\$30/each x 40) -	\$ 1200.00
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Database & Ballots:

Setup Fee (Ballot Style Setup) -	\$ 250.00
Absentee Ballots (7500 ballots x .40) -	\$ 3000.00
Test Ballots - 50 x \$1 =	\$ 50.00
Shipping & Handling -	\$ 68.00

TOTAL (not including postage, supplies, Temp Election Techs to help set-up Precincts) –	\$ 38,995.00
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