

# North Augusta



*South Carolina's Riverfront*

## **MUNICIPAL ELECTION COMMISSION**

### **MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 14, 2025**

*Ben Watson, Chairperson*  
*Alpha Dunbar, Commissioner*

#### ***ORDER OF BUSINESS***

The Municipal Election Commission meeting of February 14, 2025, having been duly publicized, was called to order by Chairperson Ben Watson at 9:04am in the Conference Room on the third floor of the Municipal Center.

Per Section 30-4-80(e) notice of the meeting was posted on the outside doors of the Municipal Center, the main bulletin board of the Municipal Center located on the first floor, and the City of North Augusta website.

Present were Chairperson Ben Watson and Commissioner Alpha Dunbar. Also in attendance was Jamie Paul, City Clerk.

#### **ITEM 3. Approval of Minutes**

##### **a. February 5, 2025 meeting**

The minutes of the Municipal Election Commission of February 5, 2025 were approved as submitted by general consent.

#### **ITEM 4. Review Certified Candidates from Democratic and Republican Parties**

Commissioners reviewed the letters from the respective parties certifying candidates to be placed on the April 29, 2025 Partisan General and Special Election. (See **Attachment #4**)

Clerk Paul stated that there were no filings received by petition candidates which were due no later than Noon on February 12, 2025 to the City Clerk.

**ITEM 5. Approve and Sign Certification Letter to Council**

Commissioners reviewed the certification letter which verified the certified letters received from the respective parties in item 4. (See Attachment #5)

It was moved by Commissioner Dunbar, seconded by Chairman Watson, to approve the candidate certification by the Municipal Election Commission for the one seat of the Mayor, the three seats of Councilmembers, and an unexpired seat for one Councilmember. Unanimously Approved.

**ITEM 6. Review and Approve Publication for 2025 General Election & Special Election**

Commissioners and Clerk reviewed the Publication for 2025 General Election & Special Election. (See Attachment #6)

Clerk Paul clarified that there are new polling locations that will need to be ADA compliance approved. Clerk Paul added that an Aiken County Elections representative will be assisting with this and Commissioner Watson and Clerk Paul will meet with the Aiken County representative next week at each of the polling locations once the locations confirmed they are available and go over the required checklist. Clerk Paul noted that she is also confirming the Absentee information on the notice is correct and if any dates are needed. She stated she will update the Commissioners on all items when known.

**ITEM 7. Review General Election Timeline**

Commissioners and Clerk reviewed the General Election Timeline in detail. (See Attachment #7)

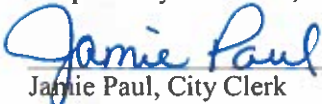
**ITEM 8. Next meeting date**

Next meeting date is tentatively scheduled for February 19, 2025 at 9:00am

**ITEM 9. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the commission adjourned the meeting at 9:30am.

Approved this 19<sup>th</sup> day of  
February, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,  
  
Jamie Paul, City Clerk



# Aiken County Democratic Party

Post Office Box 2432  
Aiken, South Carolina 29802  
803-648-6595  
[www.aikencountydemocrats.org](http://www.aikencountydemocrats.org)  
[aikendemocrats@gmail.com](mailto:aikendemocrats@gmail.com)

**CHAIR**  
Cherise d'Abadie

**1<sup>st</sup> VICE CHAIR**  
Eric Harper

**2<sup>nd</sup> VICE CHAIR**  
Ann Willbrand

**3<sup>rd</sup> VICE CHAIR**  
Ben McCord

**SECRETARY**  
Mary Potter

**TREASURER**  
Teresa Harper

**EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEEWOMAN**  
Bunni Crawford

**ALTERNATE EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEEWOMAN**  
Elizabeth Foy-Spivey

**EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEEMAN**  
James Horch

**ALTERNATE EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEEMAN**  
Alonzo Ingram

**RULES AND  
CREDENTIALS**  
Trina Mackie  
Everett K. Chandler, Esq.

**PLATFORM AND  
RESOLUTIONS**  
Peggy Franklin

Municipal Election Commission  
City of North Augusta  
100 Georgia Avenue  
PO Box 6400  
North Augusta, SC 29861-6400  
Attn: Jamie Paul, North Augusta City Clerk

February 12, 2025

Dear Ms. Paul:

The Aiken County Democratic Party has certified the following Democratic candidate to be placed on the ballot for the general election on April 29, 2025. The candidate has met the legal requirements for this position at the time of the election and his name is listed as it should appear on the ballot.

Dennis Briatico – North Augusta City Council


Thank you for your assistance and please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Best regards,

*Cherise d'Abadie*

dotloop verified  
02/08/25 5:27 AM EST  
2XYZ-DEKW-TYDX-D62L

Cherise d'Abadie  
Chair  
Aiken County Democratic Party

**From:** [Aiken County Democratic Party](#)  
**To:** [DBurden@aikencountysc.gov](mailto:DBurden@aikencountysc.gov); [Paul, Jamie](#)  
**Cc:** [cherise d'abadie](#); [Dennis Briatico](#)  
**Subject:** Filing for 4 year term North Augusta City Council  
**Date:** Friday, December 20, 2024 12:18:09 PM  
**Attachments:** 

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I've attached the filing form and fee check for Dennis Briatico to a 4 year term of the North Augusta City Council.

Please let me know if there is anything else we need to do.

Teresa Harper  
Treasurer

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Aiken County Democratic Party  
ACDP Phone 803-648-6595  
[www.aikencountydemocrats.org](http://www.aikencountydemocrats.org)



February 12, 2025

North Augusta Municipal Election Commission  
Attn: City Clerk Jamie Paul  
100 Georgia Avenue  
North Augusta, SC 29841

Dear Ms. Paul:

On behalf of the North Augusta Republican Party, I am pleased to report to you the results of the February 11, 2025 North Augusta Republican primary for Mayor and City Council. According to the Executive Director of Elections for the Aiken County Voter Registration and Elections Office, with whom our Party contracted to execute this primary, these results are true and accurate, and are reported for certification as follows:

*City Council At Large:*

Pat C. Carpenter (ELECTED)	790
Robert Freitas (ELECTED)	627
Jenafer McCauley (ELECTED)	681
David McGhee	515

*City Council At Large, Unexpired Term:*

John M. Felak (ELECTED)	727
Michael Ford	266

According to Section 7-17-610 of the SC Voter Registration and Election Laws, a majority vote for these races was reached, and no runoff will be necessary.

Additionally, Briton Williams was the sole candidate to file for the nomination for Mayor. Thus, he will be our Party's nominee for Mayor in the general election.

We look forward to these results being officially certified by the Municipal Election Commission so that our Party's nominees might begin preparing for the general election on April 29, 2025.

Sincerely,

B. David Brannon, Jr.  
Chairman, North Augusta Republican Party

Aiken County Voter Registration and Elections  
1930 University Pkwy, Suite 1200  
Aiken, SC 29801

North Augusta Republican Party  
David Brannon, Chair

February 12, 2025

This letter is to verify the totals from the City of North Augusta Republican Primary, held on February 11, 2025. The following results are the combined numbers of voters living in Aiken and Edgefield counties.

City Council At Large:

Pat C Carpenter	790
Robert Freitas	627
Jenafer McCauley	681
David McGhee	515

City Council At Large, Unexpired Term:

John M Felak	727
Michael Ford	266

According to Section 7-17-610 of the SC Voter Registration and Election Laws, a majority vote was reached and no runoff will be necessary.

Sincerely,



Dana Burden  
Executive Director of Elections, Aiken County



## ***Municipal Election Commission***

P. O. Box 6400, North Augusta, SC 29861

February 14, 2025

The Honorable Briton S. Williams, Mayor  
City of North Augusta  
P.O. Box 6400  
North Augusta, South Carolina 29861

Dear Mayor Williams,

The following candidate has been certified by the Municipal Election Commission for the Mayor's seat on City Council in the forthcoming General Election on April 29, 2025.

Republican Party: Briton S. Williams, Mayor

The following candidates have been certified by the Municipal Election Commission for the three seats on City Council in the forthcoming General Election on April 29, 2025.

Democratic Party: Dennis Briatico, Councilmember

Republican Party: Pat C. Carpenter, Councilmember  
Robert Freitas, Councilmember  
Jenafer McCauley, Councilmember

The following candidate has been certified by the Municipal Election Commission for the one seat on City Council for the unexpired term in the forthcoming General Election on April 29, 2025.

Republican Party: John M. Felak, Councilmember

No other candidates have qualified by nomination or petition.

Sincerely,

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Ben Watson – Chairman

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Alphia Dunbar

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Municipal Election Commission of the City of North Augusta announces the Municipal General and Special Election for the City of North Augusta will be **Tuesday, April 29, 2025**, for the **Election of the City Mayor, three City Councilmembers, and an unexpired term for one City Councilmember.**

The polls will open at **7:00 AM** on Election Day and close at **7:00 PM**.

Precincts involved in this Municipal Election and polling locations are as follows:

<u>Precinct</u>	<u>Polling Location</u>
Fox Creek 58 Merriwether 1	Grace Fellowship Church 507 W Five Notch Road, North Augusta 29860
Fox Creek 73 North Augusta 68	The Anglican Church of the Holy Trinity 160 Merovan Drive, North Augusta 29860
North Augusta 85	Public Safety Station #2 501 W Five Notch Road, North Augusta 29841
North Augusta 26	Fairview Presbyterian Church - <b>USE CAROLINA AVENUE ENTRANCE</b> 1101 Carolina Avenue, North Augusta 29841
North Augusta 80	Saint Bartholomew's Episcopal Church 471 W Martintown Road, North Augusta 29841
Carolina Heights 10	North Augusta Community Center ( <b>Ballroom Side 1</b> ) 495 Brookside Drive, North Augusta 29841
North Augusta 25	North Augusta Community Center ( <b>Ballroom Side 2</b> ) 495 Brookside Drive, North Augusta 29841
Belvedere 9 Belvedere 44 Belvedere 62 Belvedere 74	Nancy Carson Library 135 Edgefield Road, North Augusta 29841
Ascauga Lake 84 Misty Lakes 45	Crown Kingdom Cultural Center 720 Edgefield Road, North Augusta 29841
North Augusta 27	North Augusta High School ( <b>Auditorium Building</b> ) 2000 Knobcone Avenue, North Augusta 29841
North Augusta 29	Riverview Park Activities Center ( <b>Gym 1</b> ) 100 Riverview Park Drive, North Augusta 29841
North Augusta 67	Riverview Park Activities Center ( <b>Gym 2</b> ) 100 Riverview Park Drive, North Augusta 29841
North Augusta 28	Victory Baptist Church 620 W Martintown Road, North Augusta 29841
North Augusta 55	Holy Trinity Lutheran Church 1002 Carolina Avenue, North Augusta 29841
North Augusta 54	Second Providence Baptist Church 1202 Old Edgefield Road, North Augusta 29841
Absentee - Aiken County	Aiken County Registration & Elections Commission, 1930 University Parkway, Suite 1200, Aiken, SC 29801 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM (803-642-2028)
Absentee - Edgefield County	Edgefield County Voter Registration 129 Courthouse Square, Edgefield, SC 29824 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM (803-637-4072)
Early Voting - Aiken County	Aiken County Registration & Elections Commission, 1930 University Parkway, Suite 1200, Aiken, SC 29801 April 14 – April 25, 2025 803-642-2028 Monday – Friday 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM
Early Voting - Edgefield County	Edgefield County Voter Registration & Elections 210 Penn Street, Suite 1, Edgefield, SC 29824 April 14 – April 25, 2025 803-637-4072 Monday – Friday - 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM

**As allowed by State law, please note some precinct polling locations  
have been combined with other polling locations.**

Persons desiring to vote in the upcoming general election may register in person by 5:00 PM Friday, March 28, 2025; by online registration, fax, or email by Sunday, March 30, 2025 by Midnight. All mail in forms must be post marked by Monday, March 31, 2025. To register, contact the Aiken County Registration & Elections Commission in Aiken if you live in Aiken County; call 803-642-2028. If you live within the City limits of North Augusta in Edgefield County, contact the Edgefield County Voter Registration in Edgefield; call 803-637-4072.

On Thursday, May 1, 2025, at 11:00 AM, at the City of North Augusta Municipal Center, the Municipal Election Commission will hold a hearing to determine the validity of ballots challenged in this election.

Ben Watson, Chairperson and Alpha Dunbar – **Municipal Election Commission**

DRAFT

TIMELINE - GENERAL ELECTION - APRIL 29, 2025  
*(Last Tuesday in April)*

60 Days Prior to Primary Election - December 13, 2024, Friday (ORD = Dec. 16, 2024) - Partisan candidates filing by primary or convention method of nomination - certified to MEC by Political Parties - Official Date determined by Municipal Ordinance  
 90 Days January 29, 2025, Wednesday  
 75 Days February 13, 2025, Thursday - Filing by Petition deadline to MEC (ORD - Feb. 12, 2025)  
 60 Days February 28, 2025, Friday  
 45 Days March 15, 2025, Saturday - Allows for overseas military absentee ballots (Friday, March 14, 2025)  
 30 Days March 30, 2025, Sunday - Absentee Ballots available (Monday, April 1, 2025)  
 20 Days April 9, 2025, Wednesday - Candidates to File Campaign Disclosure form deadline

DATE	ACTION
Wed., Oct. 30, 2024	MEC Meeting - Oath of Office for new Commissioners; Elect Chairperson, Review New Laws, Update Ordinance to Partner w/ Aiken Co. for a portion of Election, Update Local Election Ordinance, Review Election Calendar
Mon., Nov. 4, 2024	Ordinance to Partner w/Aiken Co. for a portion of Election & Ordinance establishing Election dates, 1st readings
Wed. Nov. 13, 2024	MEC Meeting - Election Timeline and Finalize Election Public Notice - Deadlines
Mon., Nov. 18, 2024	Ordinance to Partner w/Aiken Co. for a portion of Election & Ordinance establishing Election dates, 2nd readings
Tues., Nov. 18, 2024	Mail copy of Ordinances to Republican Party and Democratic Party- the next day after meeting
Thurs., Nov. 21, 2024	MEC Meeting - Election Timeline; Finalize Election Filing Deadline notice; Review Election Public Notice - Polling Locations
Mon., Nov. 25, 2024	Send Notice of Filing Deadlines to Augusta Chronicle
Tues., Dec. 3, 2024	Publish Notice - Filing Deadlines - Not mandatory - Notices for Elections fall on the authority charged by law with conducting and election and must publish 2 notices.... S.C. Code Section 7-13-35. (Political Parties must publish notices for Primary Election or Convention)
Mon., Dec. 16, 2024 - Entry commences at 9am	Entry into Party Primaries/Conventions - Monday after the 60 days prior to Primary Election (60 days = Friday)
Mon., Dec. 23, 2024 - Entry ends at 12:00 NOON	Close of entry into Party Primaries/Conventions (1 week for filing) (at least 45 days prior to Primary to allow for overseas military absentee ballots)
Thurs., Jan. 23, 2025	MEC Meeting-Election Timeline; Finalize Election Public Notice - Polling Location, etc.; Review Election App with K. Whaley
Thurs., Jan. 23, 2025 OR Fri. Jan. 24, 2025 - moving date	Send 1st Publication of the Notice of Election Dates - Polling Locations to Augusta Chronicle to publish on Jan. 29 (4 days prior to Publication Date) - 90 days prior to Election - preferred
Wed., Jan. 29, 2025 - moving date	1st Notice of Election Dates - Polling Locations in Augusta Chronicle (4 days prior to Publication Date) - 90 days prior to Election - preferred
Wed., Feb. 5, 2025	MEC Meeting-Election Timeline; Finalize Election Public Notice - Polling Location, etc.; Review Election App with K. Whaley
Tues., Feb. 11, 2025	Party Convention deadline
Thurs., Feb. 6, 2025 - moving date	Send 2nd Publication of the Notice of Election Dates - Polling Locations to Augusta Chronicle, exactly 2 weeks after 1st Publication
Wed., Feb. 12, 2025 - moving date	2nd Notice of Election Dates - Polling Locations in Augusta Chronicle, exactly 2 weeks after 1st Publication
Wed., Feb. 12, 2025	Deadline for Nominating Petition to City Clerk - Noon (75 days or more before Election)
Fri., Feb. 14, 2025	MEC Meeting-Election Timeline; Finalize Election Public Notice - Polling Location, etc.; Party Certification - letter to Mayor
Mon., Feb. 24, 2025 OR Fri. Feb. 21, 2025	Send 1st Publication of the Notice of Election Dates - Polling Locations to Augusta Chronicle to publish (4 days prior to Publication Date) - 90 days prior to Election - preferred
Wed., Feb. 26, 2025	1st Notice of Election Dates - Polling Locations in Augusta Chronicle (4 days prior to Publication Date) - 90 days prior to Election - preferred
Tues., Feb. 25, 2025	Primary Election Run-Off : if needed (2 weeks after Primary/ 3 days before MEC Certification)
Fri., Feb. 28, 2025 - Received by both Parties prior to deadline	Deadline for Party Certification to MEC - Noon (no later than 60 days prior to Election)
Fri., Feb. 28, 2025 - Certifying at 2/14/15 MEC Mtg	MEC Meeting- Review Candidates/Sign Letter to Council @1:00pm (meet earlier if certification is received sooner)
Mon., Mar. 3, 2025 - on Meeting agenda	Deadline for MEC Certification to Council (Letter signed by MEC) - will deliver to City Clerk by Friday, 2/28
Wed., Mar. 5, 2025	MEC Meeting-Election Timeline; Finalize Election Public Notice with Polling Locations, Registration deadlines and Early Voting dates; Review Election App with K. Whaley
Tues. Mar. 11, 2025 - Social Media Posting ONLY	Election Public Notice - Polling Locations - Post on Social Media ONLY
Thurs., Mar.7, 2025	Send 2nd Publication of the Notice of Election Dates - Polling Locations to Augusta Chronicle to publish on Mar. 12, exactly 2 weeks after 1st Publication
Wed., Mar.12, 2025	2nd Notice of Election Dates - Polling Locations in Augusta Chronicle, exactly 2 weeks after 1st Publication
Wed., Apr. 9, 2025	Absolute date for candidates to file Campaign Disclosure form pre-election (20 days prior to Election) or State will disqualify candidates. (This is the candidates' responsibility.)
M-Fri, Apr. 14-25, 2025	Early Voting : 8:30 am-5:00 pm; Aiken & Edgefield County Municipal Buildings
Thurs., April 17, 2025	Send Extra Publication of the Notice of Election Dates - Polling Locations to Augusta Chronicle
Tues., Apr. 22, 2025 - POST ON SOCIAL MEDIA TOO	Publish Extra Election Notice - week prior to Election (Chronicle); Post on website & Social Media. ALSO - Contact Judge Murphy about swearing in candidates on May 5, 2025
Mon., Apr. 28, 2025	Post Election App on Social Media: "Deliver "Public Safety Pick-up Cards" to PS
Tues., Apr. 29, 2025	General Election & Special Election (with a run-off, if necessary, on May 13, 2025)
Thurs., May 1, 2025	MEC Hearing on contested ballots (11:00 am)
Fri., May 2, 2025	Official Results delivered to City Clerk (Letter signed by MEC)
Mon., May 5, 2025	Certification of Official Results at City Council Meeting; Council Acceptance by Motion; Swearing in of Candidates; Elect Mayor Pro Tempore (when applicable)
Mon., May 5, 2025	Email "Successful Candidates" form to State Ethics Commission (no later than 5 days after election)