

Davidson County Election Commission

April 16, 2026 4:00 p.m.

The Davidson County Election Commission (DCEC) met at 4:00 p.m. at the Davidson County Election Commission Office, 3rd Floor Conference Room, 1281 Murfreesboro Pike. Commissioners Butch Burns, Jenean Davis, Betty Lynn Duley, Dan Davis, and Kenny Byrd were present.

Nicki Eke of the Metropolitan Nashville Department of Law and Beth Henry-Robertson, Assistant Coordinator of Elections, State of Tennessee were also present.

DCEC staff members present included Administrator of Elections (AOE) John D. Richardson, Lisa Pierce, Elizabeth McPencow, Laurie Grafton, Rick Brown, Will French, Ruby Kinkel, Kourtney Clark, Jeremy Greene, and Kelley Harrison.

Chairman Burns convened the meeting.

Public Comments

Saul Solomon

Approve Minutes from March 24, 2026 Meeting

Motion stated: Commissioner Byrd moved to approve the minutes from March 24, 2026 as presented.

Seconded by: Commissioner Dan Davis

Outcome of motion: Passed unanimously

Review, Discuss, and Vote on Petition Signature Challenge filed by Candidate Jayla Thomas

Approve/Decline the Signatures for:

Leonard M. Favinger

Michael Robinson

Rodonna Robinson

Rebecca Weiser

Okele Gnanbi

Eric Jett

Chairman Burns established the procedures for how each signature would be reviewed, how evidence would be discussed, and the voting process. He administered the oath (under penalty of perjury) to the individuals who intended to testify regarding their signatures on Candidate Jayla Thomas's nominating petition.

Before the testimonies began, Candidate Jayla Thomas stated she no longer wished to challenge the signatures for Michael Robinson, Rodonna Robinson, and Eric Jett. This request was approved unanimously by the Commissioners without a formal vote.

Testimony and discussion ensued regarding the signature of Leonard M. Favinger.

Motion stated: Commissioner Dan Davis moved to accept Mr. Favinger's signature on Candidate Jayla Thomas's nominating petition.

Seconded by: Commissioner Duley

Outcome of motion: Passed unanimously

Commissioner Dan Davis noted for the record that there were similarities between Mr. Favinger's signature on his affidavit and his signature on Candidate Jayla Thomas's nominating petition.

Testimony and discussion ensued regarding the signature of Rebecca Weiser.

Motion stated: Commissioner Duley moved to accept Rebecca Weiser's signature on Candidate Jayla Thomas's nominating petition.

Seconded by: Commissioner Dan Davis

Outcome of motion: Passed unanimously

Testimony and discussion ensued regarding the signature of Okele Gnanbi.

Motion stated: Commissioner Duley moved to reject Okele Gnanbi's signature on Candidate Jayla Thomas's nominating petition.

Seconded by: Commissioner Jenean Davis

Outcome of motion: Failed 1-4 (1 For and 4 Against)

Testimony and discussion resumed regarding the signature of Okele Gnanbi.

Motion stated: Commissioner Jenean Davis moved to accept Okele Gnanbi's signature on Candidate Jayla Thomas's nominating petition.

Seconded by: Commissioner Byrd

Outcome of motion: Passed 3-1-1 (3 For, 1 Against, and 1 Abstention)

Approve Candidates for August 6, 2026 State and Federal Primary Election

Motion stated: Commissioner Byrd moved to approve the Candidates for August 6, 2026 State and Federal Primary Election as presented with the addition of Jayla Thomas's name.

Seconded by: Commissioner Jenean Davis

Outcome of motion: Passed unanimously

Confirm Next Meeting

Date/Time: Wednesday, May 13, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.

Location: 1281 Murfreesboro Pike, Third Floor Conference Room

Adjourn

Motion stated: With no further election business to discuss, Commissioner Byrd moved to adjourn.

Seconded by: Commissioner Jenean Davis

Outcome of motion: Passed unanimously

Jenean Davis, Secretary