

Staff Report

Subject: 2026 Qualifying Fees

Author: Stephanie Johnson, County Clerk

Department: Administration

Meeting Date: 01/20/2025

Item Description: Consideration to approve Resolution# 026-002 setting and publishing the 2026 Qualification Fees

Summary Recommendation:

The establishment of qualifying fees is a requirement in accordance with the Official Code of Georgia **Title 21, Part 1, Section 21-2-131** *Fixing and publishing of qualification fees; manner of payment; distribution of fees paid*

Executive Summary:

1. The following local offices will be open for election: Solicitor General, members of the Board of Commissioners (2nd, 3rd and 5th districts) and Board of Education (1st and 4th districts)
2. The fee calculations have been verified by the Office of Human Resources and the Board of Education.

Background:

State law pertaining to qualifying fees, requires each county governing authority to fix and publish qualifying fees for county offices not later than February 1 of any year in which a general primary, nonpartisan election, or general election is to be held and at least 35 days prior to the special primary or election in the case of a special primary or special election, shall fix and publish a qualifying fee for each county or municipal office to be filled in the upcoming primary or election. Except as otherwise provided in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph, such fee shall be 3 percent of the total gross salary of the office paid in the preceding calendar year including all supplements authorized by law if a salaried office.

Alternatives for Commission to Consider:

1. Approve the resolution to set qualifying fees as presented.
2. To not approve the amended resolution.

Recommended Alternative: Staff recommend Alternative 1

Other Alternatives: N/A

Department Review: Administration

Funding Source: Funding for advertising of the elections shall be allocated from the Elections Office budget.

Attachments:

1. Resolution