

**Qualified Candidates for the March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026 Special Election**

| <b>Name</b>    | <b>Office Sought</b>    | <b>Incumbent (Y/N)</b> | <b>Party (or Non-Partisan)</b> |
|----------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Vince Thompson | County Commission Chair | N                      | Republican                     |
| Maurice Lake   | County Commission Chair | N                      | Democrat                       |

All persons who are not registered to vote and who desire to register to vote in the special election may register to vote through the close of business on February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

Advance Voting will be held at the Irwin County Elections Office at 225 E 4<sup>th</sup> St, Ocilla, GA 31774, from 8a.m. until 5p.m. on these days:

- Monday February 23<sup>rd</sup> – Saturday February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026
- Monday March 2<sup>nd</sup> – Saturday March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026
- Monday March 9<sup>th</sup> – Friday March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Absentee by Mail ballot applications may be requested from our office or online at [securemyabsenteeballot.sos.ga.gov](https://securemyabsenteeballot.sos.ga.gov) from Monday, December 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025 until Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

Absentee by Mail ballots may be returned to our office at 225 E 4<sup>th</sup> St, Ocilla, GA 31774 where a ballot drop box is available during the days and times of Advance Voting, our staff are also available to accept returned ballots during the Advance Voting period, as well as during regular office hours of 8a.m. until 5p.m. Monday through Friday until Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 5p.m. The final opportunity to return Absentee by Mail ballots is from 7a.m. until 7p.m. on Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026 when polls close.

Should a runoff election be required due to a tie, such runoff will be held on April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

Ethan Compton – Elections Supervisor  
Irwin County Board of Elections & Registrations