

**Citizens Election Oversight Committee
October 9, 2013**

MINUTES

Members Present: Ellen Hansen, Sven Kalve, Marilyn Knight, Sheryl Moss, James Rigby, Linh Thai, Emily Willoughby, Frank Radford, Paul Berry, Chuck Gerring, Bruce Huang, Monica Tracey

Members Excused:

Elections Staff: Sherril Huff, Julie Wise

CEOC Staff: Jay Vincent Parales, Mike Alvine

1. Chair Hansen called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.
2. The minutes of September 11, 2013 were amended and approved.
3. Members Observations of Elections
 - Elections staff were very effective at closing voter's boxes in a timely manner while ensuring all late voters were handing professionally.
 - Chair Hansen observed the University of Washington drop box. Voters were upset with the location of that box being too far from the street and difficult to find. Those voters that did not make the deadline attributed their tardiness to limited signage on the University of Washington campus to direct them where to go. Direct Huff stated that the University had the responsibility of putting up signs to direct voters and the location of the University of Washington drop box will remain where it is currently.
4. Director's Report:
 - Director Huff provided a handout related to the August 6, 2013 Primary and Special Election. The handout included several statistics. One in particular showed that the turnout for the primary election totaled 29 percent, with only 340,236 ballots out of 1,187,888 registered voters being counted. All the statistics were in the certification day Stakeholder Report that was sent out via email.
 - Ms. Julie Wise informed the CEOC that in preparing for general election, King County Elections is reminding citizens that September is Voters Registration month and by distributing posters for National Voter Registration Day. Additionally, KCE is launching a media campaign to raise awareness of the coming election. This includes a partnership with Clear Channel which is contributing a series of free public service announcement to support KCE efforts, as well as KCE updates to the "Be Informed" TV spots.
 - Director Huff reported that the new ballot sleeve has made a significant impact on the time it takes to open and count ballots. The handout provided illustrated that the new ballot sleeves reduced processing time in the 2013 Primary to 0.26 minute per packet, which is a 33.33% reduction from the 0.39 minute per ballot packet processing time found in the 2012 General.
 - Director Huff informed the CEOC that their Strategic Plan is moving forward, but was put on hold while the Primary election was being conducted. It is entering a phase of defining goals and strategies. According to the Director, King County Elections is in line to meet its year end goals.
 - With ballot vans being used more than expected, Director Huff plans to have a committee or survey to determine where the most ideal and desired drop box locations and van placements would be.

5. Refresher Course — Online Ballots. Elections staff provided CEOC members with information on how to do an electronic ballot. Clarification was given on the use of “online.” In this context, online ballots are an option for voters who would not be able to access their paper ballots at their listed residence (such as active-duty members of the Armed Forces); however, they are not submitted and counted in an online system. Rather, voters opting to use this method will register online, receive an electronic ballot, and then can return their ballot by mail, email, or fax. There are many checks and balances to ensure that ballots received electronically are secure and not part of an online database.
6. Meeting schedule for 2013 – Meeting dates for the balance of the year are: September 11th; October 9th; November 13.
7. Other Business—Chair Hansen organized a farewell luncheon for Mike Alvine who is retiring from King County.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jay Parales