

**Citizens Election Oversight Committee
February 14, 2018**

MINUTES

Members Present: Monica Tracey, Ellen Hansen, Emily Willoughby, Marilyn Knight, Frank Radford, Sven Kalve, Sheryl Moss (appeared by phone), and Bruce Huang (appeared by phone)

Elections Staff: Julie Wise and Nate Valderas

CEOC Staff: Erica Newman

Special Guest: Dave Wilson, Kendall LeVan-Hodson, Giselle Zapata- Garcia

1. Call to Order

Chair Hansen called the meeting to order at 11:38 a.m.

2. Meeting Minutes

Emily Willoughby moved approval of the January 10, 2018 minutes. Seeing no objections the minutes were approved.

3. Director's Report

Director Wise announced that she has appointed Nathan Valderas as Deputy Director of King County Elections and is awaiting the Council's approval. Nate introduced Giselle Zapata-Garcia as the Language Services and Community Engagement Supervisor for the Department of Elections. She joined the department at the end of 2017. Her group is responsible for translating election materials and administering the Voter Education Fund.

February Special Election Summary

Nate mentioned yesterday was Election Day and the department has been very busy. He noted the first page of materials includes a snapshot of ballot numbers, but doesn't include all incoming ballots. Elections is expecting about 227,000 ballots which is equal to a 31% turnout. Elections will be processing the rest of ballots today and will certify the election on 02/23/18. All 55 ballot boxes were open, and Seattle boxes were used even though it was not included in the election.

Department of Licensing Update

Nate updated the Committee on the Secretary of State's Office (SOS) discovery of an issue with records not being received, in particular, Department of Motor Vehicle (DMV) and Department of Licensing (DOL) name changes were not being transferred to SOS, which resulted in some citizens receiving duplicate ballots. Director Wise mentioned that the SOS is aware of the issue and a software glitch is to blame for the mistakes.

Legislative Updates

Director Wise will be in Olympia tomorrow. Ms. Levan-Hodson updated the Committee. She mentioned that the legislative session ends March 8, 2018, and the department is keeping a close track on Automatic Voter Registration, Washington Voting Rights Act, and Same Day Voter Registration bills. Sheryl Moss indicated there are over 25 bills concerning elections and she will continue to track the passage of such bills and report back to the Committee. She mentioned Ranked Choice Voting may be impossible.

2018 Project Timelines

1) Tabulation Update 1.4 Version

Mr. Valderas indicated they will be wrapping up this version by the summer. He just got news from the vendor and the updated version has been certified by the Elections Assistance Commission. The department will move towards implementing 1.4 after the April election and will be ready for use by the August primary election. Mr. Valderas indicated that the system will then be certified by the State of Washington, allowing Elections to utilize the new software to design the new ballots in time for the primary election in 2018.

2) Secretary of State's Election Modernization Project

The State of Washington is seeking an RFP for a new elections management system and King County will do the same. This project is a state level project that is managed by SOS and is designed to improve real time information. The state legislature has funded the project.

2018 Voter Education Fund

This is the third year Nate has helped launch the fund and Elections is looking to award over \$40k to community organizations for 2018. Director Wise mentioned how lucky elections is to have Ms. Zapata on their staff.

2018 Precinct Alterations

Mr. Wilson discussed the timeline of the project. The plan is to submit the final package to the King County Council tomorrow. Early submission helps to get everything done before April's ballot. This is an annual project to help precinct balancing. Director Wise and Mr. Wilson have met with party chairs to go over the process.

April Special Election Preview

Mr. Valderas mentioned there will be a small April election. Currently, only two jurisdictions have filed to participate, including the City of Kent and Puget Sound Regional Fire Authority. The filing deadline is next week.

4. CEOC Composition Proposal

Chair Hansen wanted members to review the subcommittee suggestions at the last meeting.

5. CEOC Work Plan

Mr. Radford indicated the work plan from the past is functional and he doesn't foresee any changes. He mentioned the work plan needs to be functional for the people that are going to be members of the CEOC. Ms. Tracey would like new members to come aboard and take time to listen before they are asked for input.

6. Review of CEOC Charter and Code of Conduct

Chair Hansen addressed the administrative procedures and noted that there is a big number of vacancies which effects the group's ability to agree on policy and procedures. Chair Hansen notified Mr. Huang and other members that there needs to be a new vote count for the CEOC Composition Proposal, due to lack of quorum. Director Wise suggests changing the charter, so rules are clearer regarding the voter language. Chair Hansen indicated she needs to reconvene with the subcommittee before any voting takes place and would like an attendance requirement to be added to the code of conduct. Her suggestion is to include a clause that require members to not have more than two unexcused absences.

7. Other Business/ Good of the Order

Chair Hansen will be at the Government Accountability and Oversight Committee meeting on February 27, 2018 to discuss the CEOC annual report and encouraged members to attend.

8. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 PM.