

WISCONSIN GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD
Legislative Council Conference Room
Fourth Floor, 1 East Main Street
Madison, Wisconsin
December 10, 2007
9:00 a.m.

Meeting Minutes

<u>Summary of Significant Actions Taken</u>	page
A. Delegate Authority to GAB Legal Counsel	2
B. Allow staff to pursue campaign finance software development	2
C. Designate GAB Legal Counsel as Chief Election Official	3
D. Approve hiring of Ethics and Accountability Division Administrator	3
E. Approve hiring of Elections Division Administrator	3
F. Approve GAB 2008 meeting calendar	4

Present: Judge Michael Brennan, Judge Thomas Cane, Judge David Deininger, Judge William Eich, Judge James Mohr, Judge Gerald Nichol

Absent: None

Staff present: Kevin Kennedy **Elections Board staff present:** George Dunst, Barbara Hansen, Sharrie Hauge, Nathan Judnic, Molly Koranda, Diane Lowe, Reid Pederson, Kyle Richmond **Ethics Board staff present:** Jonathan Becker, Helena Huddleston, Bart Jacque, Roth Judd, Tommy Winkler

9:03 a.m. Chairman Cane called the meeting to order.

I. Introduction of Selected Agency Staff

Kennedy asked staff members of the Elections and Ethics Boards to introduce themselves to the Board members.

Judge Brennan requested a staff organization chart and list of Web addresses for the current agencies.

II. Personal Appearances and Public Comment

There were no personal appearances or comments from the public.

III. Delegation of Certain Authority to Legal Counsel

MOTION: Delegate the following authority to its Legal Counsel: 1) to intervene in actions under the provisions of section 5.05(9), Wis. Stats.; 2) to issue compliance review orders under the provisions of section 5.06, Wis. Stats.; 3) to exempt municipalities from polling place accessibility requirements pursuant to the provisions of section 5.25(4)(a), stats.; 4) to exempt municipalities from the requirements for the use of voting machines or electronic voting systems pursuant to the provisions of section 5.40(5m), Wis. Stats.; and 5) to authorize the non-appointment of an individual who is nominated to serve as an election official under the provisions of section 7.30(4)(e), Wis. Stats. The Legal Counsel shall consult with the Board Chair to determine whether board members should be polled or a special meeting conducted before action is taken. Legal Counsel does not need to consult with the board chair with respect to decisions to permit a municipality to use paper ballots instead of electronic voting equipment, to exempt municipalities from polling place accessibility requirements or to authorize the non-appointment of an individual who is nominated to serve as an election official. The Legal Counsel shall also report, at the board meeting immediately following action on the delegated authority, the specifics of the action taken, the basis for taking the action and the outcome of that action. Moved by Nichol, seconded by Eich. Motion carried.

IV. Report on Campaign Finance Software Application

MOTION: Allow staff to move forward with campaign finance software application and sign contract with vendor (PPC). Moved by Nichol, seconded by Eich. Motion carried.

V. Demonstration of Statewide Voter Registration System (SVRS)

The demonstration was tabled until after item X. The report was received for information purposes only. The Board took no action.

VI. Report on Agency Actions to Respond to Legislative Audit Bureau Report on Election Law Compliance (Oral Report)

The report was received for information purposes only. The Board took no action.

VII. Legislation (distributed at the meeting)

The report was received for information purposes only. The Board took no action.

10:47 a.m. The chair called a recess.

10:58 a.m. The chair reconvened the meeting.

VIII. Appointment of Chief Election Official

MOTION: Designate its Legal Counsel, Kevin J. Kennedy, as the chief election officer for the State of Wisconsin pursuant to section 5.05 (3g), Wis. Stats. Moved by Deininger, seconded by Nichol. Motion carried.

IX. Proposed 2008 Meeting Dates

The discussion about 2008 meeting dates was tabled until after item X.

11:03 a.m.

X. Closed Session Pursuant to Sections 19.85 (c) and (g), Wis. Stats., to Consider Employment of Public Employees over which the Board Exercises Responsibility (Election Division Administrator and Ethics/Accountability Division Administrator) and to Confer with Legal Counsel Concerning Strategy with Respect to Litigation in which the Board is, or is Likely to Become, Involved.

MOTION: Enter into closed session. Moved by Eich, seconded by Nichol.

Roll call:	Brennan:	Aye	Cane:	Aye
	Deininger:	Aye	Eich:	Aye
	Mohr:	Aye	Nichol:	Aye

Motion carried, 6-0.

The Board went into closed session with the Legal Counsel.

1:20 p.m. The Board reconvened in open session

MOTION: Approve the recommendation of the Legal Counsel to hire Jonathan Becker as the Administrator for the Ethics and Accountability Division at a starting salary of \$110,000. Moved by Nichol, seconded by Eich.

Roll call:	Brennan:	Aye	Cane:	Aye
	Deininger:	Aye	Eich:	Aye
	Mohr:	Aye	Nichol:	Aye

Motion carried, 6-0.

MOTION: Approve the recommendation of the Legal Counsel to hire Nathaniel E. Robinson as the Administrator for the Elections Division at a starting salary of \$100,000. Moved by Mohr, seconded by Deininger.

Roll call:	Brennan:	Aye	Cane:	Aye
	Deininger:	Aye	Eich:	Aye

Mohr: Aye Nichol: Aye

Motion carried, 6-0.

The chair returned to item V. and the SVRS demonstration proceeded.

XI. Discussion of Agency Administration Issues

MOTION: Set the 2008 GAB meeting schedule as follows: January 28, February 25, March 26, May 5, June 9, July 16, August 28, October 6, November 10 and December 17, all at 9:30 a.m. Moved by Cane, seconded by Eich. Motion carried.

Judge Nichol suggested that the GAB schedule a meeting at the State Capitol at some point and invite governmental leaders to comment at the beginning of the meeting about the charge and course of the new board, or schedule a public hearing for the same reason.

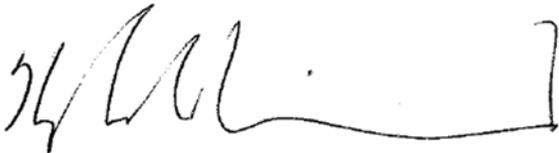
MOTION: Adjourn the meeting. Moved by Nichol, seconded by Eich. Motion carried.

3:25 p.m. The meeting was adjourned.

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The next meeting of the Government Accountability Board is scheduled for 9:30 a.m., Monday, January 28, 2008, in the GAR Room, 417 South, the State Capitol building, Madison, Wisconsin.

GAB minutes were prepared by:



Kyle R. Richmond, Public Information Officer

January 9, 2008

Date