

State of Wisconsin\Government Accountability Board

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JUDGE THOMAS H. BARLAND
Chair

KEVIN J. KENNEDY
Director and General Counsel

MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 2, 2011

TO: County Clerks in Senate Districts:
#2 (Cowles),
#8 (Darling),
#10 (Harsdorf),
#14 (Olsen),
#18 (Hopper) and
#32 (Kapanke)

County Clerks in Senate Districts:
#12 (Holperin),
#22 (Wirch) and
#30 (Hansen)

FROM: Nathaniel E. Robinson
Elections Division Administrator
Government Accountability Board

SUBJECT: Status of Recall Elections

At two separate meetings, May 23 and May 31, 2011, the Government Accountability Board addressed the recall petitions for Senators Cowles, Darling, Harsdorf, Olsen, Hopper and Kapanke. After hearing staff's legal analysis and hearing challenges to the petitions, the Board directed staff to file the recall petitions and attach certificates of sufficiency on May 31, 2011, but no later than June 3, 2011.

On June 1, the Board filed a motion for an extension of the time to consider the remaining three recall petitions for Senators Holperin, Wirch and Hansen (Senate Districts 12, 22 and 30, respectively). A hearing to determine if an extension will be granted is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. on Friday, June 3, before Judge Markson in Dane County Circuit Court. Pending Judge Markson's approval for an extension, the Board is scheduled to consider the Holperin, Wirch and Hansen petitions on Wednesday, June 8. If those petitions are found to be sufficient, the next possible election date would be July 19.

As a part of the June 3 hearing, it is possible that an argument to schedule all nine recall elections for the same day may be presented by attorneys for either the recall petitioners or the incumbents. Therefore, G.A.B. staff will await further instruction from Judge Markson on June 3 before issuing Type A Notices for Recall Election for Senate Districts 2, 8, 10, 14, 18 and 32. In the event the Judge's decision affects the recall elections which the Board has already directed to be called, you will be informed by email late Friday afternoon. Otherwise, the Type A Notice will be sent to you via email and will also be placed on the G.A.B. website.

Thank you for your patience during this process. I realize your ability to timely publish notices and prepare for these elections hinges on proceedings and processes over which you have no control. I continue to admire your dedication and sense of duty in the face of these additional challenges.

If you have questions or comments, please our Help Desk at (608) 261-2028, or via email at GABhelpdesk@wi.gov.

Thank you.