

Government Accountability Board

State of Wisconsin

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Candidates File to Run for Office

MADISON, WI – More than 360 candidates filed nomination papers with the Government Accountability Board to get on the ballot in November.

The G.A.B. staff will be working into the night reviewing nomination papers from 362 candidates who filed by the deadline at 5 p.m. today in preparation for the Government Accountability Board to finalize the ballot on June 10, said Elections Division Administrator Michael Haas. More than 100 candidates filed nomination papers on the last two days before the deadline, requiring staff to work late hours to complete its review.

The G.A.B. will meet Friday, June 10 at the State Capitol to consider challenges to candidates' nominating papers, as well as appeals of the staff's recommendations. The Board will also meet on the afternoon of Thursday, June 9 to take up other business.

Most candidates certified on June 10 will appear on the ballot for the August 9 Partisan Primary. The primary winners and independent candidates will appear on the ballot for the November 8 General Election. State offices up for election in November include 16 State Senators and 99 Representatives to the Assembly. Federal offices on the ballot are President and Vice President, one U.S. Senator and eight U.S. Representatives.

When candidates file nomination papers, the Board's staff reviews them and makes an initial determination of whether the petition is sufficient – that it contains enough valid signatures and meets other requirements. Candidates have the ability to fix technical problems with their nomination papers, but cannot add additional signatures after the deadline. Candidates who disagree with the staff's recommendations can appeal them to the six former judges on the Government Accountability Board.

Also, anyone may file a challenge to a candidates nomination papers by 4:30 p.m. Monday, June 6 after which the candidate has three days to respond. The Board will decide those challenges at its meeting June 10. The meeting starts at 9 a.m. and will be carried live on Wisconsin Eye (www.wiseye.org).

A list of all candidates who filed by the deadline and the number of valid signatures determined by the staff are available on the Board's web site: <http://gab.wi.gov/elections-voting/2016/fall>. The list will be updated as staff completes its review. The Board's agenda will be posted here early next week: <http://gab.wi.gov/about/meetings/2016/june>. Because staff cannot finalize recommendations until after the deadline for candidate responses on Thursday, June 9, those recommendations are not expected to be posted until the morning of Friday, June 10.

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The Government Accountability Board (G.A.B.) is responsible for administration and enforcement of campaign finance, elections, ethics and lobbying laws in Wisconsin. The G.A.B. is made up of six non-partisan, former judges and is supported by an agency of non-partisan staff members.