

Appendix A
State of Wisconsin \ Government Accountability Board

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KEVIN J. KENNEDY
Director and General Counsel

DATE: July 24, 2013

TO: Electronic Poll Book Team Members

FROM: Michael Haas
Elections Division Administrator

CC: Kevin J. Kennedy
Director and General Counsel

SUBJECT: Electronic Poll Book Research Charge

Thank you for agreeing to take on the task of researching and preparing for the potential use of electronic poll books in Wisconsin. As you know, Director Kennedy has asked that the Elections Division analyze how electronic poll books could be used at Wisconsin voting locations, and to recommend standards for their approval. Division staff that have agreed to participate in this task are:

Brian Bell	David Buerger	Jason Fischer
Sherri Ann Charleston	Allison Coakley	Sarah Whitt
Ross Hein	Diane Lowe	Ann Oberle

All of you bring valuable knowledge and experience to this team. I have asked David to take responsibility for serving as the team lead on this project. I have also left it up to Sherri's discretion as to the level and timing of her participation, given other voting equipment projects she is completing. Please include me on meeting invitations and I will provide any legal support that may be needed, at least for the time being.

Several vendors have approached the G.A.B. and municipal clerks seeking to introduce electronic poll book technology into the election process. The use of electronic poll books in Wisconsin is governed by Wis. Stat. §6.79, which states:

6.79 Recording electors.

(1m) Separate poll lists. Two election officials at each election ward shall be in charge of and shall maintain 2 separate poll lists containing information relating to all persons voting. The municipal clerk may elect to maintain the information on the lists manually or electronically. If the lists are maintained electronically, the board shall prescribe a supplemental list that contains the full name, address, and space for the entry of the signature of each elector, or if the elector is exempt from the signature requirement under s. 6.36 (2) (a), the word "exempt". If the lists are maintained

electronically, the officials shall enter the information into an electronic data recording system that enables retrieval of printed copies of the lists at the polling place. The system employed is subject to the approval of the board.

Electronic poll books have not been used previously in Wisconsin, and several factors must be addressed prior to the Government Accountability Board providing approval for their use. Please use the following questions as a starting point and guide for your analysis and final product:

1. How are electronic poll books used at a polling place?
2. What are the features of electronic poll books currently being offered by vendors? What features do they have in common and what features are different?
3. What are the benefits and disadvantages of using electronic poll books?
4. What is required to ensure that the data entered into electronic poll books may be transferred into the Statewide Voter Registration System?
5. What, if any, statutory or administrative rule changes would be necessary to accommodate the use of electronic poll books?
6. What standards should the Board establish for the approval of electronic poll books, and what process should be used to request and obtain that approval?
7. What should the Board establish as its initial and long-term approaches to requests by vendors and clerks to permit the purchase and use of electronic poll books?

The team may develop other questions or issues which warrant analysis during this project. We can discuss what form the final work product should take, but the ultimate goal is to recommend standards and a process that the Board may consider for approving the use of electronic poll books in Wisconsin. Director Kennedy has identified several states that the team may wish to consult about the use of electronic poll books. One vendor has also offered to forward contact information for staff at the State of Indiana responsible for overseeing the use of electronic poll books there. The team may also wish to accept the offer of vendors to demonstrate their versions of electronic poll books and to discuss issues surrounding them.

The team should feel free to start on this project immediately. I expect that Director Kennedy will want to attend one of your early meetings, but it is not necessary to wait until confirming meeting times with his schedule before beginning your work. I would like to discuss with the team what a reasonable timeline would be for completion of this assignment so that we can be on the same page regarding expectations, and that may also require some initial research and further refinement of the issues to be explored.

Thank you again for your willingness to take on this task. I look forward to working with this group and to the results of your efforts. Please let me know if you have any questions.