



Wisconsin Elections Commission

212 East Washington Avenue | Third Floor | P.O. Box 7984 | Madison, WI 53707-7984
(608) 266-8005 | elections@wi.gov | elections.wi.gov

Wisconsin Elections Commission
Special Teleconference Meeting
212 E. Washington Avenue, Third Floor
Madison, Wisconsin
3:00 p.m. June 17, 2020

Open Session Minutes

Present: Commissioner Ann Jacobs, Commissioner Marge Bostelmann, Commissioner Julie Glancey, Commissioner Dean Knudson, Commissioner Robert Spindell Jr., and Commissioner Mark Thomsen, all by teleconference.

Staff present: Meagan Wolfe, Richard Rydecki, Sharrie Hauge, Robert Kehoe, and Nathan Judnic, all by teleconference

A. Call to Order

Commission Chair Ann Jacobs called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m. and called the roll. All Commissioners were present.

B. Administrator's Report of Appropriate Meeting Notice

Administrator Meagan Wolfe informed the Commission that proper notice was given for the meeting.

C. Discussion and Approval of Fall 2020 Voter Mailing

Administrator Wolfe presented a revised version of the voter informational mailer that was approved by the Commission earlier in 2020 and is scheduled to be mailed September 1, 2020. A previous version of the mailer was presented at the Commission's June 10, 2020 meeting and Administrator Wolfe reviewed the changes that were made in the week since that came from usability testing and commissioner feedback. Administrator Wolfe also mentioned staff's ongoing collaboration with DOA printing regarding mailing logistics and noted that this mailer is forwardable.

Discussion.

MOTION: With the changes discussed, agreed upon, and made today, the Commission approves the voter informational mailer's formatting and language and authorizes its mailing on September 1, 2020.

Moved by Commissioner Knudson. Seconded by Commissioner Thomsen.

FRIENDLY AMENDMENT: That this mailing shall not be forwarded.

Wisconsin Elections Commissioners

Ann Jacobs, chair | Marge Bostelmann | Julie M. Glancey | Dean Knudson | Robert Spindell | Mark L. Thomsen

Administrator
Meagan Wolfe

Proposed by Commissioner Spindell. Accepted by Commissioner Knudson.

Discussion.

Friendly amendment withdrawn by Commissioner Spindell.

Roll call vote:	Bostelmann:	Aye	Glancey:	Aye
	Jacobs:	Aye	Spindell:	Aye
	Knudson:	Aye	Thomsen:	Aye

Motion carried 6-0.

Administrator Wolfe informed the Commission of the staff's rationale for forwarding this mailer and emphasized that ultimately it is the Commission's prerogative to decide whether or not this mailer is to be forwarded.

Discussion.

MOTION: That this mailing shall not be forwarded.

Moved by Commissioner Thomsen. Seconded by Commissioner Knudson.

Roll call vote:	Bostelmann:	Aye	Glancey:	Aye
	Jacobs:	Aye	Spindell:	Aye
	Knudson:	Aye	Thomsen:	Aye

Motion carried 6-0.

D. Discussion of Petition for Rule Making

Staff Attorney Nathan Judnic summarized for the Commission a petition that was received from the Wisconsin Institute for Law and Liberty asking that the Commission pursue an emergency administrative rule prohibiting ballot harvesting. He outlined potential courses of action the Commission could take in response to this petition. Staff makes no explicit recommendations other than to ask that the Commission make its decision in a "reasonable period of time."

Discussion.

MOTION: In pursuance of promulgating an emergency administrative rule, the Wisconsin Elections Commission directs staff to draft a scope statement stating that no one but an elector may request an absentee ballot and that no individual or third party may possess, collect, or deliver an absentee ballot.

Moved by Commissioner Knudson. Seconded by Commissioner Spindell.

Discussion.

Roll call vote: Bostelmann: Aye Glancey: No
 Jacobs: No Spindell: Aye
 Knudson: Aye Thomsen: No

Motion failed 3-3.

MOTION: It is the position of the Wisconsin Election Commission that state law prohibits any individual or group from requesting an absentee ballot for a voter. It is also the position of the Wisconsin Elections Commission that no individual or third party, except the United States Postal Service or an immediate family member or caretaker, may possess, collect, or deliver an absentee ballot belonging to another voter. Finally, the petition from the Wisconsin Institute for Law and Liberty for promulgation of an emergency administrative rule on this matter is denied.

Moved by Commissioner Knudson. Seconded by Commissioner Spindell.

Discussion. Commissioner Glancey asked Commissioner Knudson to break his motion into smaller parts.

MOTION: It is the position of the Wisconsin Election Commission that state law prohibits any individual or group from requesting an absentee ballot for a voter.

Moved by Commissioner Knudson. Seconded by Commissioner Spindell.

Discussion.

Roll call vote: Bostelmann: Aye Glancey: Aye
 Jacobs: No Spindell: Aye
 Knudson: Aye Thomsen: No

Motion carried 4-2.

MOTION: It is the position of Wisconsin Elections Commission that no individual or third party, except the United States Postal Service or an immediate family member or caretaker, may possess, collect, or deliver an absentee ballot belonging to another voter.

Moved by Commissioner Knudson. Seconded by Commissioner Spindell.

Discussion.

Roll call vote: Bostelmann: Aye Glancey: No
 Jacobs: No Spindell: Aye
 Knudson: Aye Thomsen: No

Motion failed 3-3.

MOTION: The petition from the Wisconsin Institute for Law and Liberty for promulgation of an emergency administrative rule is denied.

Moved by Commissioner Knudson. Seconded by Commissioner Spindell.

Discussion.

Roll call vote:	Bostelmann:	Aye	Glancey:	Aye
	Jacobs:	Aye	Spindell:	Aye
	Knudson:	Aye	Thomsen:	Aye

Motion carried 6-0.

Discussion.

E. Closed Session

MOTION: Move to closed session for the purposes of conferring with legal counsel concerning litigation strategy as permitted by Wis. Stat. § 19.85(1)(g).

Moved by Commissioner Bostelmann. Seconded by Commissioner Glancey.

Roll call vote:	Bostelmann:	Aye	Glancey:	Aye
	Jacobs:	Aye	Spindell:	Aye
	Knudson:	Aye	Thomsen:	Aye

Motion carried 6-0.

The meeting recessed at 5:17 p.m.

The Commission adjourned in closed session.

####

June 17, 2020 Wisconsin Election Commission meeting minutes prepared by:



Jacob Walters, Operations Program Associate

May 6, 2021

June 17, 2020 Wisconsin Election Commission meeting minutes certified by:



Marge Bostelmann, Commission Secretary

June 2, 2021