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## VILLAGE OF KRONENWETTER

Bobbi Birk-LaBarge Village Clerk bbirklabarge@kronenwetter.org

Lisa Kerstner
Finance Director
Ikerstner@kronenwetter.org

Jennifer Poyer Administrative Assistant jpoyer@kronenwetter.org

July 2, 2024

## Via email

Angela Sharpe, Staff Attorney
Wisconsin Elections Commission ("WEC")
201 West Washington Avenue
Second Floor
P.O. Box 7984
Madison, WI 53707-7984
angela.sharpe@wisconsin.gov
elections@wi.gov

## Re: Complaint EL 24-68, David Baker v. Bobbi Birk-LaBarge et al.

Dear Ms. Sharpe:

Please accept this document on behalf of the Village and all named respondents to Complaint EL 24-68 made by David Baker. Please let me know if I can provide anything more. Thank you.

STATE OF WISCONSIN	)
	) ss.
MARATHON COUNTY	)

- 1. The Village uses one polling place location, the Village Hall, 1582 Kronenwetter Drive Kronenwetter, WI 54455, although some elections utilize a single room and others may utilize multiple rooms for voting.
- 2. At every election we use the following voting machines: two DS-200s, two Express Votes, and six to twelve Badger Books.
- 3. The Village's Spring 2024 election had approximately 1,748 voters and turnout of 34%.
- 4. We have three election ordinances: Village Code §§ 41-1, 41-2, and 41-3. In addition, currently in effect are two Board Resolutions, No. 2021-026 on election wards and a single polling place and No. 2023-016 appointing election inspectors.
- 5. We do utilize the party lists that are submitted to us from the two largest parties in our area, the Republican and the Democratic.

- 6. The party lists submitted to the Village do not indicate any "first-choice" nominees.
- 7. All party list submissions were appointed as election inspectors, except for those who indicated upon being personally contacted that they did not in fact want to be an election inspector. The Republicans submitted 21 names and three declined. The Democrats sent 5 names. This is a total of 23 affiliated election inspectors.
- 8. For the current term 32 election inspectors were appointed by Board Resolution No. 2023-016: 23 affiliated and 9 unaffiliated.
- 9. Although Board Resolution No. 2023-016 does not itself list the party or unaffiliated status of election inspectors, we do keep such information in lists and do release such information for a public records request.
- 10. From our pool of 32 election inspectors, only a portion are actually available to work at each election.
- 11. We assess election inspector availability by sending emails to all of them.
- 12. We do not turn down any election inspector that wants to work at an election since that number is still significantly less than the total pool of 32.
- 13. This past year the Democratic party supplemented their list February 29, 2024 to add Faye Buchberger as an election inspector. Due to the timing, she does not appear on Board Resolution No. 2023-016 adopted on December 11, 2023. There have also been no resignations to create permanent vacancies from the existing inspectors.
- 14. I have appointed additional unaffiliated election inspectors from time to time and within my legal capacity. Since no inspectors have resigned, these are temporary vacancy appointments. They also do not appear on Board Resolution No. 2023-016 adopted on December 11, 2023, due to occurring after that was enacted.
- 15. All utilized election inspectors are trained and qualified.
- 16. The chief election inspectors typically rotate election inspectors through the various tasks during an election as it allows for cross-training and experience on those different tasks.
- 17. At our single polling place, the Republican party is dominant.
- 18. The 2024 spring primary had eight republicans, three democrats, and eight unaffiliated election inspectors for a total of 19.
- 19. The 2024 spring election had twelve republicans, four democrats, and nine unaffiliated election inspectors for a total of 25.
- 20. I have included relevant supporting documents.
- 21. Please also see the additional letter response by the Village Attorney as he addresses the Complainant's legal arguments.
- 22. I have followed the law to the best of my ability.

## Sincerely, VILLAGE OF KRONENWETTER

Bobbi J. Birk-LaBarge, Clerk

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of July 2024.

Diano E Dour

Notary Public for State of Wisconsin,

My commission expires: 12/4/202.7