



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
4:15 p.m. March 27, 2020

Open Session Minutes

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

Staff present: Meagan Wolfe, Richard Rydecki, Sharrie Hauge, Robert Kehoe, Michael Haas, Nathan Judnic and Reid Magney, all by teleconference.

A. Call to Order

Commission Chair Dean Knudson called the meeting to order at 4:15 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 this meeting under emergency meeting provisions outlined in state statute.

C. 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 Thomsen. Seconded by Commissioner Glancey.

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

The Commission moved to closed session at 4:18 p.m.

D. Return to Open Session

The Commission reconvened in open session at 7:15 p.m.

Wisconsin Elections Commissioners

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

Administrator
Meagan Wolfe

E. Discussion of Election Day Procedures, Supplies and Poll Workers

MOTION: Approve an additional \$200,000 in administrator spending authority for the purchase of COVID-19 supplies using the 2020 HAVA election security grant funds.

Moved by Commissioner Knudson. Seconded by Commissioner Glancey.

Administrator Wolfe informed the Commission of supplies that have already been purchased and of supplies that may still be needed in order to conduct the April 7, 2020 Spring Election as safely as possible. Corresponding WEC staff memorandum begins on page 3 of the meeting materials packet.

Questions and discussion.

Voice vote:	Bostelmann:	Aye	Glancey:	Aye
	Jacobs:	Aye	Spindell:	Aye
	Knudson:	Aye	Thomsen:	Aye

Motion carried 6-0.

Administrator Wolfe continued by reviewing the election day checklist, poll worker screener questions, and polling place signs that were developed in consultation with the Department of Health Services. These materials begin on page 5 of the meeting materials packet. She also referenced a PowerPoint presentation that had been sent to Commissioners that will be part of an upcoming training webinar for clerks.

Questions and discussion.

MOTION: The Commission adopts the election day checklist, polling place signage, and poll worker screener questions, contained on pages 5 through 16 of the Commission meeting materials packet.

Moved by Commissioner Knudson. Seconded by Commissioner Bostelmann.

Discussion.

MOTION TO AMEND: That the phrase “very strongly suggested” replace “suggested” on the election day checklist when it recommends that those over 65 or those with underlying health conditions not serve as poll workers.

Moved by Commissioner Spindell. Seconded by Commissioner Jacobs.

Voice vote taken on the motion to amend. Motion carried.

Voice vote taken on the original motion. Motion carried.

Discussion.

Administrator Wolfe went on to review the election day procedures memo beginning on page 17 of the materials packet, which includes guidance for curbside voting, drive-thru voting, and outdoor polling places.

MOTION: The Commission adopts the policy guidance on curbside voting, drive-thru voting, and outdoor polling places.

Moved by Commissioner Knudson. Seconded by Commissioner Jacobs.

Discussion.

Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

Administrator Wolfe briefly outlined a public outreach campaign designed by KW2, the agency's contracted advertising firm, about absentee balloting, and then went over the memo related to guidance regarding indefinitely confined voters.

MOTION: The Commission adopts recommended guidance #1 and #2 on page 27 of the Commission meeting materials packet regarding indefinitely confined voters.

Moved by Commissioner Knudson. Seconded by Commissioner Bostelmann.

Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

MOTION: The Commission adopts recommended guidance #3 on page 27 of the Commission meeting materials packet regarding indefinitely confined voters.

Moved by Commissioner Jacobs. Seconded by Commissioner Thomsen.

Discussion.

Motion withdrawn by Commissioner Jacobs.

MOTION: The Commission adopts the recommended guidance related to the use of the indefinitely confined status as outlined above.

Voice vote:	Bostelmann:	Aye	Glancey:	Aye
	Jacobs:	Aye	Spindell:	Aye
	Knudson:	Aye	Thomsen:	Aye

Motion carried 6-0.

Discussion on county clerk guidance regarding indefinitely confined voters.

MOTION: To commence an investigation into Milwaukee and Dane County clerks based on their actions related to indefinitely confined voter classifications.

Discussion.

Motion withdrawn by Commissioner Spindell.

F. Discussion of Hospitalized Electors and Absentee Ballot Procedures

Administrator Wolfe presented information that was requested by the Commission at its March 18 meeting on the impact of expanding the definition of “hospitalized elector” to include those who are quarantined. Corresponding staff memorandum begins on page 29 of the meeting materials packet.

MOTION: It is the policy of the Wisconsin Elections Commission that voters who are quarantined by order of a public health official or by order of another official, whether in a facility or in their home, may use the hospitalized voter policy.

Moved by Commissioner Knudson. Seconded by Commissioner Jacobs.

Discussion.

Voice vote:	Bostelmann:	Aye	Glancey:	Aye
	Jacobs:	Aye	Spindell:	Aye
	Knudson:	Aye	Thomsen:	Aye

Motion carried 6-0.

Administrator Wolfe made a presentation on the numerous inquiries Commission staff have been receiving concerning the requirement for absentee ballots to have a witness signature. Corresponding staff memorandum can be found on pages 33 and 34 of the Commission meeting materials packet.

MOTION: All voters are required to meet the absentee ballot witness requirement. There are options to conduct a safe witness transaction using a physical barrier, such as a door, or an electronic witness by using technology such as video chat.

Moved by Commissioner Spindell. Seconded by Commissioner Knudson.

Discussion.

Voice vote:	Bostelmann:	Aye	Glancey:	Aye
	Jacobs:	Aye	Spindell:	Aye
	Knudson:	Aye	Thomsen:	Aye

Motion carried 6-0.

G. Adjourn

MOTION: To adjourn.

Moved by Commissioner Knudson, seconded by Commissioner Bostelmann.

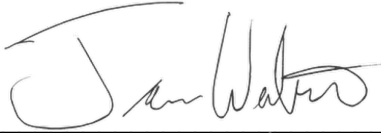
Voice vote:	Bostelmann:	Aye	Glancey:	Aye
	Jacobs:	Aye	Spindell:	Aye
	Knudson:	Aye	Thomsen:	Aye

Motion carried 6-0.

The meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

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March 27, 2020 Wisconsin Election Commission meeting minutes prepared by:



Jacob Walters, Operations Program Associate

March 18, 2021

March 27, 2020 Wisconsin Election Commission meeting minutes certified by:



Marge Bostelmann, Commission Secretary

June 2, 2021