

**Washington State Election Administration
And Certification Board
Meeting Minutes
Regular Meeting of Board
May 16, 2008**

Attendance

Members:

Vicky Dalton, Chairman, Spokane County Auditor
Kris Swanson, Cowlitz County Auditor
Karen Martin, Walla Walla County Auditor
Shirley Forslof, Whatcom County Auditor
Mike Garvison, Skamania County Auditor
Mike Armstrong, State Representative, Republican Party
Sam Hunt, State Representative, State Democratic Party

Nonmembers:

Katie Blinn, Office of the Secretary of State, in place of Nick Handy
Sheryl Moss, Certification and Training Program Manager, OSOS, in place of Sam Reed
Miriam Campbell, Certification and Training Program Specialist, OSOS
Kay Ramsay, Certification and Training Program Specialist, OSOS

Members Absent:

Corky Mattingly, Yakima County Auditor, alternate
Pamela Roach, State Senator, Republican Party
Rosa Franklin, State Senator, Democratic Party
Mike Snyder, State Democratic Party
Thomas Crowson, State Republican Party

Opening Remarks and Introductions:

Sheryl introduced three new members to the Board: Representative Sam Hunt, Karen Martin, Walla Walla County Auditor and Miriam Campbell, Certification and Training Program Specialist. The remaining Board members and nonmembers in attendance introduced themselves.

New Chair Elected:

The former chair of the Board, Karen Flynn, Kitsap County Auditor, retired in April leaving the chair position open. Kris Swanson, Cowlitz County Auditor, nominated Vicky Dalton, Spokane County Auditor, and Rep. Mike Armstrong second the nomination and Vicky was voted unanimously to chair the Board.

Certification and Training (C&T): Sheryl Moss

The Certification & Training Program has completed ten county reviews, with Clark County currently being reviewed during its Spring Election. The program will meet its goal of thirteen county reviews this year.

As each review is concluded, counties are now asked to complete an evaluation of the C & T staff member that conducted their review.

C&T has begun tracking incidents that occur in the counties. This will assist C&T in determining which areas would benefit from training. One area that stands out is ballot proofing.

Attendance at the trainings continues to increase. Trainings for the new Top 2 Primary served approximately 200 attendees.

Fewer trainings than they had hoped will be offered because of the budget.

County requests, new procedures/laws, training evaluations and reoccurring incidents by the counties are all taken in consideration when determining the training topics.

Update on Election Issues: Katie

Online voter registration has been very popular. A few bugs have been encountered and are worked through as they appear. Approximately 30% of new registrations have been online. The Secretary of State will be promoting online registration.

Implementation of the Top 2 Primary has been challenging. The ballots will look very different. The Secretary of State's Office will continue to work very hard to educate the voters, political parties, candidates and media of the changes. The Secretary of State's Office believes the voter's will be very happy with this primary.

Action Item: Sheryl

C&T has had difficulty obtaining requested documents from some of the counties during the review process. C&T has been patient and understanding in these situations but it appears to be happening more and more. A response from the Auditor and County Canvass Board is required to finalize the review report. On a number of occasions, it has been very difficult to obtain the response in a timely manner.

Motion:

Should a policy be put in place for these situations? If so, what steps should be taken to implement and enforce the policy?

Vicky suggested working with other Auditors on the Election Administration & Certification Board to develop a policy. The Washington State Association of County Auditors (WASACA) would then be asked for input.

After much discussion, it was agreed to move this item to the agenda of the next Board meeting.

Elections Conference:

Invitations to attend the Elections Conference were extended to the State Representatives. The conference takes place the week of June 16 at the Richland Red Lion in the Tri Cities.

Closing:

Vicky thanked Representative Armstrong for his regular attendance at the Board meetings.

The Election Administration and Certification Board meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.