

KING CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Board of Supervisors

Meeting Minutes

03/22/2019

1 **Supervisors Present:** Dick Ryon, Jim Haack, Bill Knutsen

2 **Associate Supervisors Present:** None

3 **Guests Present:** Kirstin Haugen, Chris Porter, Bill Eller, Mark Sollitto, Rachel Malloy, Shana
4 Joy, Julie Ann Kempf, Eric Frimodt, Charlotte Archer

5 **Staff Present:** Bea Covington, Ava Souza, Makayla Banks

6 **Preliminary Matter:**

7 Meeting called to order at 5:30 pm by Dick Ryon. All Attendees introduced themselves. Ryon
8 asked for additions or corrections to the current agenda.

9 **Consent Agenda:** None

10 **Public Comment:** None

11 **New Business:**

12 2019 Board of Supervisors Elections Update

13 Covington explains why this meeting was called today, which is to go over what has been
14 happening with the Election. On March 15th ballot request button went live on KCDs website. Lots
15 of issues occurred from the first day. Election Trust had 50 help desks related to the ballot request
16 button and the security of the site. All issues were said to be resolved by Sunday March 18th.

17 In addition to ballot request issues, there are discrepancies in information regarding the duration
18 of the voting period. KCD's website has, since January, stated that ballots may be requested
19 through Friday March 29th. This was also printed on ballots which were requested from March 13th
20 through March 19th. The information on the web site was corrected by Tuesday March 19th and on
21 ballots by Wednesday March 20th. Election Trust estimates that there may be as many as 1,500
22 ballots that went out with incorrect information.

23 On Monday March 22nd, Election Trust will email all who requested ballots reminding voters that
24 ballots must be postmarked Friday March 29th. Covington spoke with staff members about getting
25 blast emails out to the public regarding the last week of voting.

26 KCD will keep the poll site at the office open from 9am-5pm all next week and is exploring the
27 idea of opening with extra voting booths being in various locations for people who would like to
28 vote in person.

- 29 As of today, 3,969 ballots currently in the mail stream, 470 ballots that are in queue going out on
30 Monday, 50 by-mail ballots returned, with 15 ballots cast at poll site.
- 31 As of Wednesday, all ballots will be presorted as first class.
- 32 For practical purposes ballots need to be requested by Monday at noon. Which is why additional
33 poll sites are being added and blast emails will be sent out all weekend.
- 34 KCD will continue to accept requests after 12pm and plan to have the ballots sent overnight.
- 35 Once a ballot is requested there is a two-day turnover. And Covington will speak with Bodin about
36 making the turnover time less.
- 37 Covington spoke with candidates if Wednesday is the best day to stop ballot request online.
- 38 Porter expresses his concern about voters not being able to request ballots through the 29th.
- 39 State Statue the election must be completed by the end of March, If a ballot was accepted after the
40 end of March, KCD would not in compliance and the election count would not be valid.
- 41 KCD already reached out to the Conservation Commission to review the 2019 election.
- 42 KCD has used Election Trust for several years, and since KCD hasn't had a very complex election
43 in the past years, and they were prepared for an election of this nature, with six candidates.
- 44 Covington & candidates discussed the numerous issues there have been since the Ballot Request
45 Button has been put on KCDs website including: 1) error read messages for zip code even when
46 correct, 2) birthday entry address entry, and 3) unregistered voters being able to receive ballots.
- 47 Sollitto would like to know the number of people who've submitted a ballot, but vote will not
48 count because of the deadline.
- 49 Covington explains the Conservation Commission has the power to certify or not certify based on
50 and number of factors and that if an election is not certified within the first quarter of the year, the
51 Commission has the authority to call for a new election as well as the ability to terminate an
52 election, After the first quarter the Commission is not allowed, by statute, to call for a new election.
53 That must be done through Superior Court.
- 54 Sollitto spoke of the 2009 elections where KCD allowed voting to occur at 13 libraries and the
55 Election was finished in one day, instead of a span of two weeks.
- 56 Candidates brought the idea of having the election extended a week to allow those who wish to
57 vote the ability to do so. Covington explains that if the Election was to pass the 29th it would be a
58 problem for KCDs compliance for the elections.
- 59 Covington will reach out to KCD's Attorney and see about calling a new election.

60 Candidates agreed that canceling the election was not preferable, citing voter fatigue, considerable
61 effort and expense already exerted by candidates, and uncertainty as to when new election could
62 be held.

63 The consensus was that the election should move forward, and people should be allowed to
64 continue to vote until the next step is figured out.

65 The meeting was paused for a break at 6:40pm

66 Frimodt and Archer of Inslee Best reviewed the events and issues to date (as summarized above).
67 Options for continuing or terminating the election were evaluated.

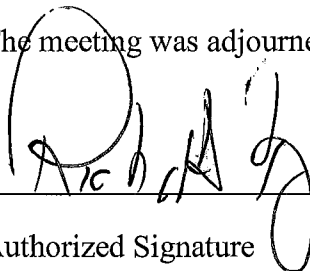
68 Kempf recommended that KCD consider a motion in King County Superior Court to allow for
69 ballots to be accepted through April 4th as originally implied by the language on the website and
70 on the original ballots.

71 Archer and Frimodt agreed that options and alternatives should be explored and that voting, and
72 the election should continue until such time as all options were reviewed.

73 The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

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Authorized Signature



Date

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Summary of Motions

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