

State of Wisconsin\Government Accountability Board

Post Office Box 2973
17 West Main Street, Suite 310
Madison, WI 53701-2973
Voice (608) 266-8005
Fax (608) 267-0500
E-mail: gab@wisconsin.gov
<http://gab.wi.gov>



JUDGE THOMAS CANE
Chair

KEVIN J. KENNEDY
Director and General Counsel

DATE: January 2, 2009

TO: Wisconsin County Clerks
Wisconsin Municipal Clerks
City of Milwaukee Election Commission
Milwaukee County Election Commission
Community Partners and Other Interested Parties

FROM: Nathaniel E. Robinson
Elections Division Administrator
Government Accountability Board

SUBJECT: Government Accountability Board's December 17, 2008, Meeting
Actions Taken Pertaining to Elections Administration

To bring you up-to-date on actions of the Government Accountability Board's actions taken at their December 17, 2008, pertaining to the Elections Administration, I am pleased to summarize them in this memo.

1. Four-Year Voter Records Maintenance: The Board authorized the G.A.B. staff to perform the four-year voter records maintenance function on behalf of all municipalities, in accordance with the standards and procedures summarized in a recommended protocol presented to the Board and previously sent to local election officials for their review and comment on November 28. Information reviewed and approved by the Board includes a timeline that specifies February 2, 2009, as the deadline for mailing notice of suspension letters to voters. (Refer to the Elections Division homepage (Date: 11/28/08, titled, "Memo to Clerks.")
2. Interim Report on Retroactive "HAVA Checks": The Board accepted an interim report on the retroactive "HAVA Check" protocol proposed for 2009. This report includes a May 1 to December 1, 2009, timeline for completing the retroactive checking procedure. The formal recommendation will be reviewed by the Board at its January 15, 2009, meeting, during which time, the Board will rule on staff's recommendation. This draft protocol was also sent to local election officials on November 28, 2008, and remains posted to the Elections Division homepage (Date: 11/28/08, titled, "Memo to Clerks.")
3. Guidance for Clerks on Maintaining Elections Data: The Board approved guidance for Clerks to maintain elections data and directed Elections Division staff to promulgate its decision to local election officials the provided four options the for Clerks to review that will satisfy requirements outlined in Wis. Stats. 7.23 (1) (g). This information was posted to the Elections Division homepage (Date: 12/18/08, titled, "Retention of Electronic Election Data.")

4. Procedure for Conducting On-site Monitoring of Voting System Security: The Board adopted a procedure for conducting on-site monitoring of voting system security, which will be carried out in conjunction with on-site polling place accessibility visits on Election Day. G.A.B. staff will verify memory devices and tamper-evident seals and check the Inspector's Statement (GAB-104) with the Chief Election Inspector. This document is posted on the Elections Division homepage. (Date: 01/02/09, titled, "Protocol, for Conducting On-site Monitoring of Electronic Voting System Security.")
5. Update on Revisions of the Recount Manual: The Board also received an update on revisions of the Recount Manual that had been vetted through an ad-hoc advisory committee comprised of Clerks and representatives from political parties. This document is posted on the Elections Division homepage. (Date: 01/02/09, titled, "Report of the Recount Manual.")

Please let me know if we can provide additional information or assistance. I may be contacted at 608/ 267-0715, or at Nat.Robinson@wi.gov. Thank you!

cc: Kevin J. Kennedy
Director and General Counsel
Government Accountability Board

Members, Elections Division Staff Members