

State of Wisconsin\Government Accountability Board

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JUDGE MICHAEL BRENNAN
Chair

KEVIN J. KENNEDY
Director and General Counsel

DATE: March 10, 2009

TO: Kimberly Bushey, President
Wisconsin County Clerks Association

Members, Wisconsin County Clerks Association

FROM: Kevin J. Kennedy, Director and General Counsel
Nathaniel E. Robinson Elections Division Administrator
GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTBILITY BOARD

SUBJECT: Follow-up: Wisconsin County Clerks Association 2009 Spring Conference

President Kimberly Bushey and honorable members of the Wisconsin County Clerks Association, thank you for your kind invitation to participate in your 2009 Spring Conference. Your helpful comments and constructive feedback were, as always, appreciated.

Our Election Division staff shared quite a bit of information with you so I thought it might be beneficial to summarize key points of our presentation. We covered:

Wisconsin Election Data Collection Systems (WEDCS)

- For the April 7, 2009 Spring Election, information required on the Election Voting and Registration Statistics Report (also known as the GAB-190 Form) are to be reported online using the new WEDCS.
- Counties and Municipalities will need to work out an arrangement for entering the GAB-190 data that works best for all parties. Municipalities with high-speed internet have the capability of entering the GAB-190's themselves. However, Counties will need to enter the GAB-190 data for municipalities without high-speed internet and may choose to also enter GAB-190 data for municipalities with high-speed capabilities.
- Reimbursements up to \$100 per reporting unit will be available for the Spring Election for County Clerks who complete GAB-190's on behalf of their respective Municipal Clerks.
- Training will focus on filling-out the GAB-190 questionnaire correctly.

Updated: Polling Place Accessibility Survey

- Discussed the updated polling place accessibility survey and supporting documents.

- The accessibility survey needs to be completed for the April 7, 2009 Spring Election.
- The accessibility survey is due to the G.A.B. by May 8, 2009

Voting Equipment

- Protocol for conducting on-site monitoring of Administrative Code Chapter 5: Ballot and Electronic Voting System Security
- Length of time for EAC accreditation affecting voting equipment approval in Wisconsin
- Clarification of §7.23 (1) (g), Wis. Stats. maintenance of electronic voting records.

Four-Year Voter Record Maintenance Process / Retroactive HAVA Checks Process

- After the Spring Election, the G.A.B. will be performing the retroactive HAVA checks and will be sending out the DMV Ping Notification letters.
- The G.A.B. will notify the county/municipality when the HAVA checks are being conducted and will provide detailed instructions on the procedures at that time.
- Top three major reasons for SVRS data mismatch: DL# not matching EB-131 with the DOT; typographical errors when the data is entered; and, name not matching due to variation of spelling/formatting.

Communications / Wrap-up

- Clerks who volunteered to participate on an Ad-hoc committee for communication include: Lisa Weiner (Administrator, Milwaukee County Election Commission), Denise Wetzel (Rusk County Clerk), Darlene Marcelle (Brown County Clerk), Lori Stottler (Rock County Clerk), Cindy Cephress (Wood County Clerk), Sue Ertmer (Winnebago County Clerk), Nancy Christensen (Outagamie County Clerk), Paul Syverson (Trempealeau County Clerk), Beth Hauser (Calumet County Clerk).
- Information on the website is constantly being moved and it is very difficult to find documents. Need to alert Clerks whenever the location of information on the G.A.B. Website changes.
- We have to get school boards involved in the election process. School boards should be required to be trained and certified to conduct elections, just like municipal clerks.
- The Election Administration Council made-up of local and county clerks and interested G.A.B.'s community partner representatives, needs to reconvene.

Our Continuing Thanks and Appreciation

The service and expertise that all of you bring to making elections open, fair and transparent provides an invaluable resource to the Government Accountability Board and the State of Wisconsin. We very much appreciate your contributions, and thank you for your dedication, commitment and hard work. We owe you our gratitude and a heartfelt thank-you.