

# State of Wisconsin\Government Accountability Board

212 East Washington Avenue, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Post Office Box 7984  
Madison, WI 53707-7984  
Voice (608) 266-8005  
Fax (608) 267-0500  
E-mail: [gab@wisconsin.gov](mailto:gab@wisconsin.gov)  
<http://gab.wi.gov>



JUDGE MICHAEL BRENNAN  
Chair

KEVIN J. KENNEDY  
Director and General Counsel

## MEMORANDUM

**Scheduled within memo has been revised 7/29/09**

**DATE:** July 25, 2009

**TO:** County Clerks and the Milwaukee County Board of Election Commissioners  
Municipal Clerks and the City of Milwaukee Board of Election Commissioners

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

**SUBJECT:** Listening Sessions for Effective Communications  
(Between the Government Accountability Board and County and Municipal Clerks)

Many clerks have voiced repeated concern about the large amount of election related information sent to them by the Government Accountability Board (Board) during peak work periods, especially during election seasons. Clerks have told us they feel inundated by the "information overload," and want to be able to separate urgent information from important but *less urgent* communications. Although all of the Board's communications are meant to keep clerks apprised of need-to-know information such as new legislation, policies and procedures that are intended to benefit and assist clerks, we understand the need for clerks to be able to prioritize these communications. The Board's staff has drafted communication protocols that we hope will address this problem, and we want, need and welcome your input and suggestions.

Staff will solicit input from local election officials in the form of a series of "listening sessions." Attendees will be asked to review the protocols drafted by staff, and offer comments and suggestions for fleshing out methods that will enable the Board to provide important information to clerks in a less overwhelming manner. All comments and suggestions gleaned from the listening sessions will be compiled and presented to the County and Municipal Clerks' ad-hoc Communications Advisory Committee. The Committee and staff will review all feedback and decide on a standard communication procedure. A list of Committee members is attached for your information.

To demonstrate our seriousness, seven (7) listening sessions are scheduled throughout the state. We invite all county and municipal clerks to attend the meeting site closest to your location. This schedule is posted to the Board's website (<http://gab.wi.gov>) in the Clerk Information Section, and is also set-out below:

Date	Facility	Address	Time
August 17, 2009	Monroe Public Library	925 16 <sup>th</sup> Avenue, Monroe, 53566	1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
August 18, 2009	Courthouse Annex, Conference Room 5	1462 Strongs Avenue, Stevens Point, 54481	9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
August 18, 2009	Town of Washington Hall	5750 Old Town Hall Road, Eau Claire, 54701	4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
August 21, 2009	Wyndham Milwaukee Airport Hotel & Convention Center, Mardi Gras Ballroom	4747 S. Howell Avenue, Milwaukee, 53207	1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
August 25, 2009	Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center	29270 City Highway G, Ashland, 54806	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
August 25, 2009	Oneida County Courthouse Courtroom	One Courthouse Square Rhinelander, 54501	4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
August 26, 2009	Neville Public Museum	210 Museum Place, Green Bay, 54303	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
August 27, 2009	Kenosha County Center, Room	19600 75 <sup>th</sup> Street, Bristol, 53104	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

For questions, please contact **Diane Lowe** at 608-266-3276, or [diane.lowe@wi.gov](mailto:diane.lowe@wi.gov). Thank you.

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

Attach.