



From: Knudson, Dean - ELECTIONS <Dean.Knudson@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, May 13, 2020 4:41 PM
To: AO Records <records@americanoversight.org>; Magney, Reid - ELECTIONS <Reid.Magney@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: [Ext]Response to your request for records dated May 8, 2020

Mr. Evers - Attached are documents in response to your request of May 8th.

Thank You,

Dean Knudson
Commissioner
Wisconsin Elections Commission

Commission Meeting

Haas, Michael R - ELECTIONS <Michael.Haas@wisconsin.gov>

Fri 3/27/2020 2:34 PM

To: EL DL Elections Comm <ELECdlelectionscommision@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Wolfe, Meagan - ELECTIONS <Meagan.Wolfe@wisconsin.gov>; Judnic, Nathan - ELECTIONS <Nathan.Judnic@wisconsin.gov>

Dear Commissioners,

I have two items to pass along for this afternoon's meeting.

1. The Commission's outside counsel has received numerous pleadings and briefs in the four pending lawsuits they are handling. Many of the submissions are either from parties that wish to intervene or organizations that are filing amicus briefs in support of one of the named parties. Also, some of the submissions of the named parties will relate to procedural issues such as legal standing and arguments regarding intervention by outside parties. Attorney Gahnz has asked whether the Commission wishes to receive everything that is filed or a more limited subset such as only submissions by the actual named parties that relate to the merits of the cases. We are glad to pass along everything that is filed but if it is only clogging up your inbox and you do not care to read all about the technical and procedural arguments, we can use more discretion and forward any significant submissions. Please give this some thought and we can discuss your preferences at the meeting.
2. Attorney Joe Olson asked that I forward his email below regarding the issue of indefinitely confined status which is on the agenda.

Mike

Michael Haas
Staff Counsel
Wisconsin Elections Commission
608-266-0136
michael.haas@wi.gov

From: Olson, Joseph L (13465) <JLOLSON@michaelbest.com>
Sent: Friday, March 27, 2020 1:37 PM
To: Haas, Michael R - ELECTIONS <Michael.Haas@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Commission Meeting

Mike

Here is my analysis. I would ask that the Commission issues some clarifying guidance reflecting this analysis as various Clerks (Milwaukee County) for example are encouraging other clerks to, in turn, encourage voters to self-declare.

I do not believe the "indefinite confinement: designation is a universal exception to the photo id requirement or that the Safe at Home (Emergency Order #12) qualifies otherwise non-confined people as suddenly confined.

First, it must be remembered that the laws regulating absentee balloting are to be strictly construed in an effort to prevent the unique opportunity for fraud that absentee voting allows. Wis. Stat. sec. 6.84(1) makes this clear:

The legislature finds that voting is a constitutional right, the vigorous exercise of which should be strongly encouraged. In contrast, voting by absentee ballot is a privilege exercised wholly outside the traditional safeguards of the polling place. The legislature finds that the privilege of voting by absentee ballot must be carefully regulated to prevent the potential for fraud or abuse ...

Moreover, Section 6.84 declares that the requirements of the absentee balloting process, including the process for requesting an absentee ballot, are “mandatory” and must be strictly complied with. Indeed, any absentee ballot obtain in violation of the requirements of Section 6.86 “**may not be counted.**” Wis. Stat. sec. 6.84(2).

Section 6.86 makes it clear that an elector is required to provide his or her proof of identification (i.e. photo id.) regardless of how the elector requests an absentee ballot. Wis. Stat. sec. 6.86(1)(ac) &(ar). This statute clearly states that the only exceptions to the photo identification requirement are overseas electors or an elector that is on the confidential elector list. There is no express exception for “indefinitely confined” electors.

Indeed, the designation as an “indefinitely confined” elector is separate from the process for requesting an absentee ballot for a specific election. That process is set forth in Section 6.86(2). It is clear that this is a separate process that allows a clerk to automatically send an absentee ballot to an elector for *future elections* provided that the elector has designated themselves as indefinitely confined. Nothing in this section obviates the requirement that the voter provide proof of identification. Further, a clerk is required to monitor this list and to take certain steps to ensure its validity from election to election.

This provision is not to be used as a “work around” to avoid the legally mandated proof of identification requirements.

Second, Governor Evers Safe at Home Order (Emergency Order #12) does not qualify any elector to declare themselves “indefinitely confined.” The Order exempts “Essential Governmental Functions.” Essential Governmental Functions are defined as those services that are “needed to ensure the continuing operation of the government...” Electing our officials is obviously within this definition. The Order also expressly allows “any travel related to the provision of or access to ... Essential Governmental Functions ...”. With regard to the election, no one has been confined.

Moreover, even if an election was somehow outside of the permitted activities under the Order, the Order does not qualify anyone as “indefinitely confined.” Section 6.86 lists the only four reasons any elector may qualify as “indefinitely confined.” They are: “age, physical illness or infirmity” and “disability.” It does include the fear of getting ill in this or any other circumstance. The Order does not have the power to transform an otherwise unconfined elector into a confined elector.

Joseph L. Olson

Partner

T 414.277.3465 | michaelbest.com



Michael Best & Friedrich LLP

[Click here to visit our COVID-19 Resource Center with the latest updates on business & legal implications related to the coronavirus.](#)

curbside voting

Handrick, Joe X - LEGIS <joe.handrick@legis.wisconsin.gov>

Fri 3/20/2020 12:53 PM

To: Knudson, Dean - ELECTIONS <Dean.Knudson@wisconsin.gov>

I mentioned this on the call the other day. Curbside voting requires no law changes and should be promoted by the WEC for use on election day. (I don't see any reason that it can't be done prior to election day as Madison is doing).

The statute mentions people with a "disability" but requires no burden of proof. In this case it is reasonable to interpret that to include high-risk individuals including seniors.

City of Madison to Offer Curbside Voting

Thursday, March 19, 2020 - 6:59pm

The City of Madison has reserved four parking spots on Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. outside the City-County Building and the Madison Municipal Building for curbside voting starting Friday, March 20th. Voters who are high-risk for COVID-19 can register to vote and/or cast their ballot from their vehicle. High-risk populations include older adults and people with chronic health conditions. Curbside voting will be offered 8:00am - 6:00pm, Monday - Friday, March 20th - April 3rd.

Signs will be posted at each of the designated stalls prompting voters who need to use the curbside voting option to call the City Clerk's Office. A pair of election officials will be sent out to the voter's vehicle to assist the voter in registering (if needed) and voting.

The City Clerk's Office is offering this option to those voters who are at high-risk for the virus COVID-19. For those not at high risk, in-person absentee voting is available in the Clerk's Office, City-County Building, Room 103, and in the Madison Municipal Building, Room 153. More sites may be added over the coming days; please keep an eye on the City Clerk's [in-person absentee voting page](#) for the most up-to-date information.

"I am so grateful to City Clerk Maribeth Witzel-Behl and her staff for their innovative work and quick turnaround on this issue. This is already an incredibly busy time for them and they are doing an amazing job," said Madison Mayor Satya Rhodes-Conway. "City staff have been working tirelessly to not only provide essential services, but are also going above and beyond in their service to the entire community."

Voters are also able to request absentee ballots to be sent to them through the mail at myvote.wi.gov. The deadline to request an absentee ballot to be sent to you is Thursday, April 2nd. "

To keep updates on COVID-19 developments please access the City of Madison [website](#) or that of [Public Health, Madison & Dane County](#).

Joe Handrick

Member Outreach Coordinator

Office of Speaker Robin J. Vos

PO BOX 8953

Madison WI 53708

Joe.Handrick@legis.wisconsin.gov

(608) 237-9597

Fwd: City of Milwaukee Suspending In-Person Absentee

Knudson, Dean - ELECTIONS <Dean.Knudson@wisconsin.gov>

Sun 3/22/2020 8:34 PM

To: Rep.Vos - LEGIS <Rep.Vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>

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From: Wolfe, Meagan - ELECTIONS <Meagan.Wolfe@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Sunday, March 22, 2020 8:31:09 PM

Cc: Rydecki, Richard H - ELECTIONS <Richard.Rydecki@wisconsin.gov>; Kehoe, Robert Y - ELECTIONS <robert.kehoe@wisconsin.gov>; Hauge, Sharrie - ELECTIONS <Sharrie.Hauge@wisconsin.gov>; Haas, Michael R - ELECTIONS <Michael.Haas@wisconsin.gov>; Magney, Reid - ELECTIONS <Reid.Magney@wisconsin.gov>; Judnic, Nathan - ELECTIONS <Nathan.Judnic@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: City of Milwaukee Suspending In-Person Absentee

Commissioners-

The City of Milwaukee is suspending in-person absentee voting immediately, their message can be found here:
<https://city.milwaukee.gov/election#.XngMlk9Onmp>

Meagan

Fw: Public Health and Primary Election - forwarded message from medical advisor

Knudson, Dean - ELECTIONS <Dean.Knudson@wisconsin.gov>

Sun 3/22/2020 9:54 PM

To: Rep.Vos - LEGIS <Rep.Vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>

Speaker Vos - It looks like the "Medical Advisor" who wrote the email that was forwarded to the Emergency Operations Center is the medical advisor to the director of the health department for the City of De Pere.

As you know, the City of De Pere will be significantly impacted by any postponement of the election. The office of mayor and four of the eight city council members could be left vacant on the third week of April. The City of De Pere requires a quorum of 6 members to hold a council meeting, and requires the votes of at least 5 members to confirm appointments.

This email was forwarded many times and ended up reaching the EOC. Administrator Wolfe will be meeting with Brig. General Blader tomorrow morning and should be able to find out more about the source of this communication. One thing that was odd about the email was that author objected to the use of gloves during election administration. The WEC has not requested gloves nor has the CDC recommended the use of gloves in the polling place.

Dean Knudson

From: Wolfe, Meagan - ELECTIONS <Meagan.Wolfe@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Sunday, March 22, 2020 9:28 PM

To: EL DL Elections Comm <ELECDlelectionscommision@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Rydecki, Richard H - ELECTIONS <Richard.Rydecki@wisconsin.gov>; Kehoe, Robert Y - ELECTIONS <robert.kehoe@wisconsin.gov>; Hauge, Sharrie - ELECTIONS <Sharrie.Hauge@wisconsin.gov>; Magney, Reid - ELECTIONS <Reid.Magney@wisconsin.gov>; Haas, Michael R - ELECTIONS <Michael.Haas@wisconsin.gov>; Judnic, Nathan - ELECTIONS <Nathan.Judnic@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: FW: Public Health and Primary Election - forwarded message from medical advisor

Commissioners-

I wanted to send a follow up to my previous email. As I referenced in my first relay of the message, I had taken out some of the "forwards" to make it more readable. This was a mistake on my part. Looking at the forwards (included below), it is not clear who the original audience is that is being advised. Again, the message was sent to us through the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) through our assigned National Guard team, but it may be based off a initial question posed by a municipality (based on googling the original recipients).

My apologies for my carelessness, I should have learned more about the origin, but thought that it was something I should share immediately because it was coming from the SEOC. I was relaying what was relayed to me and was trying to share the information timely.

I would ask if we could please pause on sharing this information until we have some more clarify on the original sender and who he was advising. I have a meeting with our National Guard elections team tomorrow, I will also see if I can get a hold of them yet tonight. I will provide any additional information I receive to the Commission.

Again, my apologies, it's been a very long day and I should have been more careful in understanding the entirety before sending.

Please do not hesitate to call me if you would like to discuss.

Meagan

From: Hawley, Michelle R - ELECTIONS <Michelle.Hawley@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Sunday, March 22, 2020 4:03 PM
To: Wolfe, Meagan - ELECTIONS <Meagan.Wolfe@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Public Health and Primary Election - forwarded message from medical advisor
Importance: High

As we discussed. Please see the original message from Dr. Stroman.

Thanks,
Michelle

From: Blader, Robyn J BG USARMY NG WIARNG (USA) <robyn.j.blader.mil@mail.mil>
Sent: Sunday, March 22, 2020 11:03 AM
To: Hawley, Michelle R - ELECTIONS <Michelle.Hawley@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Public Health and Primary Election - forwarded message from medical advisor
Importance: High

Ms. Hawley: Would you kindly share the email below with Ms. Wolfe for her awareness. This is something that came through our JOC. Thank you.

Robyn Blader
Brig Gen, Wisconsin National Guard
Assistant Adjutant General for Readiness and Training - Army

JFHQ-WI
2400 Wright Street
Madison, WI 53708-8111
O-608-242-3007
C-608-512-5240
Robyn.j.blader.mil@mail.mil

From: NG WI WIARNG Mailbox JOC <ng.wi.wiarng.mbx.joc@mail.mil>
Sent: Sunday, March 22, 2020 10:46 AM
To: Blader, Robyn J BG USARMY NG WIARNG (USA) <robyn.j.blader.mil@mail.mil>
Cc: NG WI WIARNG Mailbox JOC <ng.wi.wiarng.mbx.joc@mail.mil>
Subject: FW: Public Health and Primary Election - forwarded message from medical advisor
Importance: High

BG Blader,

Per your request, please see the email chain regarding the elections workgroup.

\\\\BREAK\\\\

From: DMA OPS - DMA <DMAOPS@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Sunday, March 22, 2020 10:39 AM
To: NG WI WIARNG Mailbox JOC <ng.wi.wiarng.mbx.joc@mail.mil>
Subject: FW: Public Health and Primary Election - forwarded message from medical advisor
Importance: High

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

FYSA. Do you have a point of contact for the elections workgroup?

From: Cox, Kimberlee S - DHS
Sent: Sunday, March 22, 2020 9:17 AM
To: Erlandson, Charlotte S - DHS <Charlotte.Erlandson@dhs.wisconsin.gov>; DMA OPS - DMA <DMAOPS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Public Health and Primary Election - forwarded message from medical advisor
Importance: High

Please forward to the elections workgroup.
Thanks,
Kim

Kim Cox, MPH
PHEP & HPP Project Coordinator
Office of Preparedness and Emergency Health Care
Division of Public Health
Wisconsin Department of Health Services
(608) 267-0234
Kimberlee.cox@wi.gov < Caution-mailto:Kimberlee.cox@wi.gov >

The Department of Health Services has implemented automatic encryption of e-mails. Future e-mails may come to you encrypted with instructions on how to read the secure message. Additional information can be found at: Caution-<https://connect.wisconsin.gov/dhspartencrypttrain> < Caution-<https://connect.wisconsin.gov/dhspartencrypttrain> >

From: Hohol, Christopher M - DNR <Christopher.Hohol@wisconsin.gov < Caution-mailto:Christopher.Hohol@wisconsin.gov > >
Sent: Saturday, March 21, 2020 10:47 PM
To: Cox, Kimberlee S - DHS <kimberlee.cox@dhs.wisconsin.gov < Caution-mailto:kimberlee.cox@dhs.wisconsin.gov > >
Cc: Pelch, Steven M <Steven.Pelch@hshs.org < Caution-mailto:Steven.Pelch@hshs.org > >
Subject: Fw: Public Health and Primary Election - forwarded message from medical advisor

Wanted to make sure his concerns were forwarded

We are commit to service excellence:

Visit our survey at Caution-<http://dnr.wi.gov/customersurvey> < Caution-<http://dnr.wi.gov/customersurvey> > to evaluate how I did.

Christopher M. Hohol, CET, CFI

WI-20-1203-A-000008

Forestry Staff Specialist - Division of Forestry

WI Type -3 IMT -PSC3 NWCG / PSC2 AHIMT

Phone: 920-427-6920

Christopher.hohol@wisconsin.gov < Caution-mailto:Christopher.hohol@wisconsin.gov >

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From: Steve Stroman <stroman@prodigy.net < Caution-mailto:stroman@prodigy.net > >

Sent: Saturday, March 21, 2020 9:18 AM

To: Armbruster, Deborah

Cc: Alan Matzke

Subject: Public Health and Primary Election

Good Morning Debbie,

Thank you for the excellent response by all in your department to the outbreak and response. Everyone has looked and performed professionally in the media.

My concern today is the apparent Governor's plan to proceed with the in person primary voting. I think this short-sighted and medically unwise. There is no way to prevent crowds and potential cross contamination at polling sites, no matter our intentions. In addition, the distribution of decontamination supplies such as cleansers and gloves, could be more valuably used in a healthcare setting.

I wanted to weigh in as your Medical Advisor with my concerns. I am hopeful this topic is being discussed through the Public Health EOC, and will be elevated to the level of the SEOC and Governor.

Thank you!

Steve

Steven J. Stroman, MD, FAEMS, CCEMT/P

Assistant Clinical Professor of Emergency Medicine, Medical College of Wisconsin

Clinical Adjunct Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health

Medical Director, EMS Programs, Fox Valley Technical College Public Safety Training Center

EMS MEDICAL DIRECTOR

EAGLE III-Critical Care Helicopter, Fixed Wing, and Ground Transport

De Pere Fire and Rescue, Assistant Chief-Medical Director

Ashwaubenon Public Safety / Austin Straubel Airport Fire

Howard Fire Department-Associate Medical Director

Oconto Falls Area Ambulance Service

Brown County Sheriff's Office ERU/SWAT

NEW Regional Trauma Advisory Council-Executive Council

cell 920.655.2152 fax 920.469.2151 office 920.288.4304

The WI-JOC makes initial distribution in accordance with our pre-approved operating procedures and distribution lists. When authorized, further distribution is the responsibility of the initial recipients and will be based on an identified need-to-know basis and in accordance with DODD 5200.1-R

Wisconsin Joint Operations Center/J3

Wisconsin Joint Force Headquarters

Wisconsin National Guard

608.245.8400 FAX: 608.242.3348

DSN: 745.8400 FAX DSN: 724.3348

ng.wi.wiarng.mbx.joc@mail.mil

ng.wi.ngb.mbx.arngwi@mail.smil.mil

Sent by: Ward, Stephen D NFG

Email forwarded from a physician regarding election administration

Knudson, Dean - ELECTIONS <Dean.Knudson@wisconsin.gov>

Sun 3/22/2020 11:46 PM

To: robyn.j.blader.mil@mail.mil <robyn.j.blader.mil@mail.mil>; Nilsestuen, Ryan - GOV <ryan.nilsestuen1@wisconsin.gov>;

Wolfe, Meagan - ELECTIONS <Meagan.Wolfe@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Rep.Vos - LEGIS <Rep.Vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>

General Blader-

You forwarded an email received in the EOC on the subject of health concerns in the polling place. It appears that the email was sent by a "medical advisor" to the City of De Pere health department and emergency medical services department. The email was forwarded to me by Administrator Wolfe, Chief Election Officer for Wisconsin.

The email has been forwarded widely at this point. Unfortunately when someone of your stature forwards an email it may be interpreted as the official advice of the WI-JOC. I am certain this was not intended on your part. The inclusion within your email of a cautionary statement that further distribution of the email would be on a "need-to-know basis" may have escaped the notice of some of the recipients. I apologize if our WEC staff or commissioners have already re-forwarded this email. We were led to believe this doctor was the official medical advisor to the Wisconsin National Guard emergency team.

The doctor's opinions are contrary to those of the CDC which has issued guidance on polling place practices during the current pandemic. The doctor seems to believe that the Wisconsin Elections Commission has requested gloves. WEC has not requested gloves because the CDC does not recommend the use of gloves in the polling place.

The doctor may not be aware of the urgent necessity to maintain continuity of government during a crisis. The City of De Pere, like hundreds of others across Wisconsin, elects a substantial portion of the city's elected officials at the April 7th election. The terms of office of the City of De Pere's mayor, as well as 4 of the 8 members of the city council will end on the third Monday of April. This means that, unless the newly elected mayor and council members are sworn in as scheduled on the third Tuesday of April, the City of De Pere will be left with a vacant office of Mayor and only 4 members of the City Council. The City Council requires a quorum of 6 members to conduct business, even such business as appointing an interim mayor.

The standard FEMA template for a local government emergency operations plan focuses on ensuring that command and control structures remain intact with clear lines of authority during a crisis. A significant part of ensuring continuity of local government is based on having a functioning municipal government with clear authority to spend and borrow money among other essential duties.

The doctor seems to suggest Wisconsin should postpone the April 7th election. The question is: When do you propose that it will be safer to hold the election? Even some physicians have been slow to realize that the purpose of social distancing is to push the worst of the pandemic a few months into the future.

Governor Evers has been correct in his position that the election must go on. We need to make every effort to encourage Wisconsin voters to vote absentee by mail. Already we have converted hundreds of thousands of voters from in-person voters to absentee voters. I believe we can further convert even

more voters to this concept so that our voter participation is strong overall while in-person voting is a small fraction of the total.

I appreciate your assistance to the Wisconsin Elections Commission and Wisconsin's voters during the pandemic.

Thank You,

Dean Knudson
Chairman
Wisconsin Elections Commission

Joint Letter from Milwaukee County Municipal Clerks

Christenson, George <George.Christenson@milwaukeecountywi.gov>

Thu 3/26/2020 6:03 PM

To: Governor Tony Evers <GovernorTonyEvers@wisconsin.gov>; Fitzgerald, Scott - LEGIS <Sen.Fitzgerald@legis.wisconsin.gov>; Rep.Vos - LEGIS <Rep.Vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Wolfe, Meagan - ELECTIONS <Meagan.Wolfe@wisconsin.gov>; Thomsen, Mark L - ELECTIONS <Mark.Thomsen@wisconsin.gov>; Spindell, Robert - ELECTIONS <robert.spindell@wisconsin.gov>; Jacobs, Ann - ELECTIONS <Ann.Jacobs@wisconsin.gov>; Bostelmann, Marge R - ELECTIONS <marge.bostelmann@wisconsin.gov>; Knudson, Dean - ELECTIONS <Dean.Knudson@wisconsin.gov>; Glancey, Julie - ELECTIONS <Julie.Glancey@wisconsin.gov>; Abele, Chris <Chris.Abele@milwaukeecountywi.gov>

📎 1 attachments (1 MB)

Milwaukee County Clerks United Letter To State.pdf;



Dear Governor Evers, Senator Fitzgerald and Representative Vos:

I am writing on behalf of and in unison with ALL 19 Municipal Clerks within Milwaukee County.

Please see our attached letter outlining our message asking you to work together for the safety of the citizens of Milwaukee County and for the preservation of our democracy by passing enabling legislation to address the serious issues facing Milwaukee County and the entire State of Wisconsin with respect to the April 7, 2020 Spring General Election.

Sincerely,

George L. Christenson
Milwaukee County Clerk
Courthouse, Room 105

901 N. 9th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53233
414-278-4625



WISCONSIN NOW REQUIRES A PHOTO ID TO VOTE.

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Absentee response

Knudson, Dean - ELECTIONS <Dean.Knudson@wisconsin.gov>

Sat 4/4/2020 12:22 PM

To: Rep.Vos - LEGIS <Rep.Vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>

Speaker Vos,

Some have questioned why ten other states postponed their presidential primary but Wisconsin is going forward. Our election Tuesday is about more than helping choose the presidential nominees. We have over 3900 state, county, school and municipal elections on Tuesday. It is critically important in our system of representative democracy that citizens have the right to choose their representatives, especially during a crisis.

In 1814, during the War of 1812, the British army invaded Washington, DC forcing President Madison and his government to evacuate as the British sacked and burned the city including the White House. Elections continued across the United States.

During the Civil War elections continued. During the 1918 Influenza pandemic elections continued relatively normally. It makes sense for Wisconsin encourage voting by absentee ballot to reduce the numbers at the polls on Tuesday. It is extremely important to maintain continuity of government, and to maintain normal transition of representative leadership, during times of fear or controversy.

As of today requests for absentee ballots are still being processed but nearly 1.3M ballots have been sent out. A reasonable estimate of voter participation for a spring election without a close presidential primary would be 1.5M. Turnout in 2016 was an all-time record at 2.1M but that included two very tight presidential primary races. In 2012 turnout was 1.1M voters without a presidential primary in doubt. The Tuesday in-person turnout is difficult to predict but if turnout at the polling places was 20% of the total we might see over 1.6M votes cast.

This is a phenomenal response and adjustment to the pandemic. To switch our election from 80% in-person to 80% by mail in just a few weeks demonstrates the flexible and adaptable nature of Wisconsin's voting laws. It shows how a "can do" attitude by our citizens can overcome huge challenges. Now we just need to pull together to help ensure we minimize health risks in polling places while protecting the integrity of our elections.

Sincerely,

Dean Knudson

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Fwd: Update on National Guard Plan

Knudson, Dean - ELECTIONS <Dean.Knudson@wisconsin.gov>

Sat 4/4/2020 5:09 PM

To: Rep.Vos - LEGIS <Rep.Vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>

FYI

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From: Wolfe, Meagan - ELECTIONS <Meagan.Wolfe@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Saturday, April 4, 2020 4:51:52 PM

To: EL DL Elections Comm <ELECdlelectionscommision@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Rydecki, Richard H - ELECTIONS <Richard.Rydecki@wisconsin.gov>; Kehoe, Robert Y - ELECTIONS <robert.kehoe@wisconsin.gov>; Hauge, Sharrie - ELECTIONS <Sharrie.Hauge@wisconsin.gov>; Magney, Reid - ELECTIONS <Reid.Magney@wisconsin.gov>; Haas, Michael R - ELECTIONS <Michael.Haas@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Update on National Guard Plan

Commissioners-

Today we had a call with all the county clerks to discuss the plans for utilizing Wisconsin National Guard (WING) service members as poll workers. General Blader, Assistant Adjutant General, joined us for the call to coordinate with the counties. We have assigned two WEC staff liaisons to coordinate this project: Rob Kehoe who is a retired Army Officer, and Michelle Hawley who currently serves in the Army Reserves. Here are the highlights:

- WING anticipates they will be able to deploy upwards of 5,000 service members to serve as poll workers.
- WING has put out calls in all 72 counties and they have service members in all 72 counties.
- WING service members will serve as poll workers within the county where they live. They will serve in plain clothes as will serve in regular poll worker roles.
- The county clerks will serve as the hub for deploying service members where they are needed within their county.
- On Sunday morning service members will report to their regional armories for intake and health screening to go on active duty. They will be on active orders from Sunday through Tuesday/Wednesday to serve in this capacity.
- On Sunday afternoon the service members will complete the training WEC has created. As you know, poll worker training is typically the responsibility of municipal clerks and we have not previously provided this training. The WEC team has developed a series of trainings for Chief Inspectors, Election Inspectors, voter registration, and new roles like helping with line management and hand hygiene. In the last few days the team recorded all this training so that WING service members can take the full curriculum on Sunday. The total training we produced takes about 2.5 hours to complete and includes the self-examination for them to be certified as Chief Inspectors. Huge thanks to Richard and WEC team members for completing this.
- On Monday, the WING service members will report to either the municipality where they are needed or to the county clerk where they were assigned. WING members that have a municipality assigned will spend the day training with the municipal clerk and assisting with polling place set up. WING members that have not been assigned may train with the county or WEC so that they are ready to be deployed on election day if an emergency need arises.
- On Tuesday the WING members will be deployed to municipalities where they are needed through the county clerk. WEC will have WING liaisons in our office helping to coordinate the ~5,000 service members.
- WING will continue to make service members available through Wednesday for jurisdictions who continue to need assistance with processing ballots. They can also assist with polling place tear down if needed.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Meagan

Fwd: *National Guard Deployment Information*

Knudson, Dean - ELECTIONS <Dean.Knudson@wisconsin.gov>

Sun 4/5/2020 8:33 PM

To: Rep.Vos - LEGIS <Rep.Vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>

Update on status of National Guard

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From: Wolfe, Meagan - ELECTIONS <Meagan.Wolfe@wisconsin.gov>**Sent:** Sunday, April 5, 2020 8:28:50 PM**To:** EL DL Elections Comm <ELECDlelectionscommision@wisconsin.gov>**Subject:** FW: *National Guard Deployment Information*

Commissioners-

2,434 National Guard men and women are being deployed to support polling places. The Service Members (SM) report to their county or municipality tomorrow at 10:00am to train and assist with polling place set up. We have spent the last two days coordinating with all 72 counties on their needs, meeting spots for tomorrow, and deployment plan for Monday/Tuesday. This was a truly remarkable effort by the staff leading the charge on this project and the counties who will assist with the deployment to their municipalities on Monday and Tuesday. We can already see that the majority of the SM have completed the 2.5 hours of training we created.

Please let me know if you have questions.

Meagan

From: From the Wisconsin Elections Commission <elections@wi.gov>**Sent:** Sunday, April 5, 2020 8:00 PM**Subject:** *National Guard Deployment Information*

Good evening County Clerks and Elections Professionals,

This e-mail contains information regarding the Wisconsin National Guard volunteers assigned to work in your county as poll workers. These men and women are assigned to you to support elections in your County. They will not work in uniform. You may assign them to municipalities as needed to ensure polling places are adequately supported. Please read this e-mail carefully for important guidance. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at robert.kehoe@wi.gov or michelle.hawley@wi.gov or call me at 608-261-2019.

1. The attached spreadsheet contains the list of personnel assigned across the state. **Please treat it as sensitive information for official use only.**
2. The spreadsheet is sorted by county. If the county name has "DEP" after it, this means that the individual does not live in the county and must be deputized to work there. For example, in the picture below, two soldiers are shown who are assigned to work in Iowa County but live in Grant County (Bancroft & Dressler). Thus, they must be deputized as deputy clerks in Iowa County.

842	WALCZAK, RYAN	PFC	ARMY	WTQZD0	Iowa County
843	ZUNKER, ZACHARIAH	SPC	ARMY	WY23T0	Iowa County
844	BANCROFT, WYATT JAMES	SPC	ARMY	WUASE6	Iowa County Dep-Grant
845	DRESSLER, JORDAN E	SPC	ARMY	WY13AA	Iowa County Dep-Grant

3. Each line contains the following information: Name, Rank, Branch of Service, Home Unit Code (UIC), and County of Assignment. The UIC is used for military pay purposes only.

WI-20-1203-A-000018

4. Service members will report to the designated location at 10:00 a.m. tomorrow, Monday April 6th.
5. You can confirm the report location by looking at the bottom of the spreadsheet for a tab named "Report Locations." This tab shows where you need to meet your National Guard personnel.



a.

6. Tomorrow (Monday) the service members need you or your representative to give them their assignments for Tuesday and Wednesday. You can also put them to work tomorrow if needed.
7. If anyone on the list does not show up for work – or if you have any problems at all - please contact me.

Again, if you have any questions at all, please contact me at robert.kehoe@wi.gov or michelle.hawley@wi.gov or call me at 608-261-2019.

Sorry this is coming in on a Sunday night but these are unusual times. We're passing information to you as fast as we receive it. Thanks for your cooperation and support – we will do everything we can to make this work for you.

Robert Kehoe
Technology Director
Wisconsin Elections Commission
Phone - 608.261.2019
Fax – 608.267.0500
robert.kehoe@wisconsin.gov
<http://elections.wi.gov>



Fw: Notice of Federal Grant Award- COVID-19 CARES Act

Knudson, Dean - ELECTIONS <Dean.Knudson@wisconsin.gov>

Mon 4/13/2020 3:08 PM

To: Rep.Vos - LEGIS <Rep.Vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>; Rep.Steineke - LEGIS <Rep.Steineke@legis.wisconsin.gov>

 2 attachments (207 KB)

CARES Award Instructions.pdf; WI-CARES NGA.pdf;

Representative Vos, Representative Steineke,

FYI - This is the federal funding available to Wisconsin through the federal COVID legislation, about \$7.3M with a required 20% state match within 2 years. My understanding is that costs related to National Guard personnel working the recent election would likely be counted toward the state match, but that will need to be worked out.

Dean Knudson

From: Wolfe, Meagan - ELECTIONS <Meagan.Wolfe@wisconsin.gov>**Sent:** Monday, April 13, 2020 3:00 PM**To:** EL DL Elections Comm <ELECdlelectionscommission@wisconsin.gov>**Cc:** Rydecki, Richard H - ELECTIONS <Richard.Rydecki@wisconsin.gov>; Kehoe, Robert Y - ELECTIONS <robert.kehoe@wisconsin.gov>; Magney, Reid - ELECTIONS <Reid.Magney@wisconsin.gov>; Haas, Michael R - ELECTIONS <Michael.Haas@wisconsin.gov>; Judnic, Nathan - ELECTIONS <Nathan.Judnic@wisconsin.gov>**Subject:** Notice of Federal Grant Award- COVID-19 CARES Act

Commissioners-

Attached please find documentation we received from the US EAC regarding CARE Act funding available for states to fund COVID-19 related expenses such as vote by mail. In the attached materials, it references an April 14 deadline but the EAC did give us an extension to accept the grant funds of April 27. We do not have the full details of the grant and will be working to analyze what the funds can be used for. According to the attached Notice of Grant Award, we are eligible for \$7,332,471 in funding with a required \$1,466,495 state match. We will need to discuss with the Commission next steps for accepting the award and options for producing the match prior to April 27. I will work with our financial team and agency partners such as DMA to see if we might be able to use some of the supplies and support that was utilized for April 7 as the match.

Please let me know if you have any questions. I don't have any additional details right now, we will be working to understand the terms of the grant to relay to the Commission after today's tally. There are conference calls with the EAC scheduled for the upcoming week which staff will attend to learn more.

Meagan



Dean Knudson <dean.knudson@gmail.com>

Fwd: FW: Primary Election

Vos, Robin <Robin.Vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>
To: Dean Knudson <deanknudson@gmail.com>

Mon, Apr 6, 2020 at 9:40 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: "Rep.Vos" <Rep.Vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Date: Apr 6, 2020 9:30 PM
Subject: FW: Primary Election
To: "Vos, Robin" <Robin.Vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Cc:

Can you forward this to Dean? I doubt anyone is being forced. And we have 200 extra members of the guard on standby, correct?

-----Original Message-----

From: Janine Bunkowski <dimple55@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, April 06, 2020 9:27 PM
To: Rep.Vos <Rep.Vos@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Primary Election

Congratulations! You have now won the
Right to sicken and cause harm to thousands more of your constituents.

If anything happens to my 57 year old sister who has a heart condition AND is being FORCED to work the polls in Jefferson County tomorrow, I'll hold you And your imbecile minions personally responsible.

Oh, and that Easter thing, sure, go ahead and open your churches. Go to the biggest fucking service you can find.
See how That works out for you.
The world is watching you pricks.

Sent from my iPhone