

April 25, 2018

Washington State Conservation Commission
P.O. Box 47721
Olympia, WA 98504-7721

Re: Whatcom Conservation District Supervisors Election, challenge to Commissioners Certification.

Dear Conservation Commissioners,

I respectfully request you not certify Whatcom Conservation District Election held on March 13, 2018 due to a violation and failure to comply with procedures WAC 135-110-610, RCW 89.08.040 and WAC-135-110-610 "Every individual requesting ballots for any conservation district election must be verified as a qualified district elector before a ballot is counted.

In response to my voter approved Public Records Request, Mr. Boggs, Executive Director provided a list of requested district electors/ballots after the deadline for requesting ballots. The reported total ballots requested was over 5300. Mr. Boggs indicated that the list had been checked for duplicates and verification of district electors.

In our review of the provided ballot requested list we found over 500 potential duplicates on the list. With same address and similar first names and middle initials. I myself received two ballots in the mail. Whatcom County Sheriff Bill Elfo received two ballots in one envelope. Of course I did not vote the second ballot neither did Mr. Elfo. However with 41 counted ballots that were not verified and 6 ballots that should not have been counted the potential the results of the election was impacted by duplicate votes is high.

None of the ballots requested or counted through the mail for the CD election in 2018 were verified by a signature comparison at the County auditor's office. All the auditor's office did was count the ballots! I have attached a spread sheet of all of the potential duplicate ballots that were included with the 5300 mail in ballot requests. District staff shared that the company hired to collect requests and mail out ballots only sorted exact duplicates. So B Brown and Bill Brown received two or more ballots. With over 500 potential duplicates the probability is high that some of the counted ballots may have been duplicate and/or fraudulent.

Nobody verified mail-in ballots requests with any personal Identification. This might be OK in a historical CD election with viewer than 50 ballots request, but in a heavily contested county wide politically heated election. This type of election management is unacceptable! Not only did many people receive two or more ballots, we really don't know how many mail-in ballot requests were for more than one ballot per person. In view of the fact that this election was decided by 29 votes out of 4397 which is less than a 1/10th of 1% margin. The potential for election error is too large to fairly certify this election as to who won.

Mr. Boggs stated to me over the telephone that he did not think that anyone would go to the trouble of submitting a false ballot therefore signature verification is not worth the districts election expense. I cannot disagree more. Without ballot signature verification the voted ballot cannot be verified as the actual district elector. Accepting the results of an election with 4397 total votes and a margin of 29 votes on blind faith that no one would falsify a signature and vote more than once given the opportunity to do so is not acceptable.

A new election should be scheduled in accordance with Conservation District Election and Appointment Procedures. An accurate signature verification of district electors and ballots must be made and the outcome of the election not be left in doubt.

Sincerely

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