Citizens Election Oversight Committee April 9, 2014

MINUTES

Members Present: Ellen Hansen, Paul Berry, Chuck Gerringer, Bruce Huang, Sven Kalve, Marilyn Knight, Sheryl Moss, Frank Radford, James Rigby, Linh Thai, Monica Tracey, Emily Willoughby,

Excused: Carolyn Weikel

Elections Staff: Sherril Huff, Julie Wise, Nate Valderez, Kim van Ekstrom, Rene LeBeau

CEOC Staff: Mike Alvine, Paul Carlson

Guest Speaker: Anne Noris, King County Clerk

1. Chair Hansen called the meeting to order at 11:32 am and made introductions.

2. The minutes of February 9, 2014, were approved as presented.

3. Director's Report: Sherril Huff provided an update on preparations for the April 22 special election, and discussed accessible voting centers and ballot drop box locations and closing times. In terms of accessible voting centers, Ms. Huff noted that Elections would be operating three during the April election – in downtown Seattle, Renton, and Bellevue – for voters who need assistance completing their ballot. She noted that there is some interest among legislators to increase the number of accessible voting centers, potentially to cover each ballot drop box.

In terms of ballot drop boxes, Ms. Huff noted that the 8:00 P.M. deadline on election night is required by the Washington Administrative Code, although if voters are present at the drop box at 8:00, staff must wait for them to complete their ballots. She noted there is some possibility the legislature could change the deadline, and also noted that several County Councilmembers have expressed interest in increasing the number of ballot drop boxes and vans. The group discussed the budgetary and logistical issues related to making voting more accessible.

Ms. Huff noted that the County Council's Government Accountability and Oversight Committee would be holding its April 22 meeting at Elections Headquarters. She also noted that Elections had loaned five laptops to Snohomish County to provide support in the wake of the Oso landslide.

- 4. Training on Public Records: King County Clerk Anne Noris provided training on public records requirements. She discussed retention requirements, as well as the difference between archival and transitory records.
- 5. Community Outreach Ideas: Members discussed ideas for CEOC outreach and education to different communities. Linh Thai discussed outreach opportunities to the Vietnamese-speaking community. Frank Radford suggested the group develop a curriculum related to registration and voting. Chair Hansen suggested the group rely on the code of conduct for

guidance about when members are speaking on their own and when they are speaking for the group.

- 6. Remaining meeting schedule for 2014: June 18, September 10, October 8, November 12
- 7. Other business: Mike Alvine provided a link to an article about a study by the Pew Trust rating states on how well they conduct elections. Washington ranked 10th in the nation.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Mike Alvine