

## **CITIZENS' ELECTIONS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (CEOC)**

Best Practices Workgroup

May 1, 2024 | 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. | Virtual Meeting

**Members Present:** Chair: Christopher Hays, Kathy Sakahara, Jason Lambacher, and Mike Flood

**Absent:** N/A

**Special Guests:** Jacob Lodge, Jerelyn Hampton, and Halei Watkins

**Council Staff:** Jonathan Fowler, Tania Mondaca, and Ternia Wilson

### **MINUTES**

#### **1. Call to Order**

Chair Hays called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m. and introduced new member Mike Flood.

#### **2. April 2, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

Member Sakahara moved approval of the April 2, 2024 meeting minutes. Chair Hays seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion carried unanimously.

#### **3. Presentation on King County Elections Staff Security and Safety**

King County Elections staff, Jacob Lodge and Jerelyn Hampton, provided a presentation.

Member Lambacher asked if there was anything KCE staff was doing differently for the 2024 tabletop scenarios. KCE staff responded that they are running scenarios with escalated customer services instances and mail in voting. Halei Watkins added that scenarios are made to be worst-case scenarios and many different scenarios are tested. Explained that the likelihood of encountering more than one scenario is high.

Member Hays asked what part of the King County code would support adding more protections to King County Elections staff against harassment. KCE staff responded that they are not sure if there is a section which deals with those laws, however receiving support from King County with those sorts of laws would be helpful, as well as support with more funding. Added that harassment safety laws would be a matter of state and federal legislation.

Member Sakahara asked if there are specific laws KCE would like to see in legislature. KCE staff responded that they have not reviewed laws. Explained that KCE has broadly discussed deepfake and misinformation topics, which are topics of concern. People who make threats and are angry tend to get their information from such sources.

Member Sakahara asked if people could vote by email by attaching a picture and asked about the security assurances of voting by email, referencing when UOCAVA voters could vote via email years ago. Member Hampton responded that overseas voters may vote via email by sending a picture of their ballot and there are many security layers in place.

**4. Presentation/Discussion on How Different Counties Process Complaints**

Agenda item postponed.

**5. Discussion on Election and Ballot Processing Disinformation**

Agenda item was postponed.

**6. Staff Updates**

Staffer Mondaca reported that the next CEOC meeting is on May 15<sup>th</sup>.

**7. Adjournment**

Chair Hays adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:58 p.m.