



## King County

# Metropolitan King County Council Government Accountability and Oversight Committee

### STAFF REPORT

<b>Agenda Item:</b>	6	<b>Name:</b>	Hiedi Popochock
<b>Proposed No.:</b>	2016-0001	<b>Date:</b>	February 9, 2016

### SUBJECT

Proposed Motion 2016-0001 would confirm the appointment made by the Employment and Administration Committee of Glenn Avery to the Citizens' Elections Oversight Committee.

### SUMMARY

The appointments to the Citizens' Elections Oversight Committee (CEOC) are made by the King County Council's Employment and Administration Committee and are subject to confirmation by the full Council.

This motion would confirm the appointment of Glenn Avery to the CEOC as the representative of the Washington State Republican Party.

### BACKGROUND

The Citizens' Elections Oversight Committee (CEOC) was created by the King County Council and is tasked to help King County restore and maintain public confidence in elections by making appropriate recommendations to the Council.

Under King County Code 2.53, 14 members represent named types of organizations or sectors of the community, including two at-large representatives of the electorate, and ex-officio, nonvoting members representing the Secretary of State's office and the Washington State Association of County Auditors.

The members of the CEOC serve a 3-year term. There are no term limits for this committee. Ex-officio members serve indefinitely, at the pleasure of their office or association.

### ANALYSIS

The Washington State Republican Party nominated Glenn Avery in November 2015 to represent their organization on the CEOC. Mr. Avery's application materials were

circulated to all Councilmembers and current members of the CEOC as required by the Council's Administrative Procedures for filling CEOC vacancies.

Also consistent with these guidelines and County Code, the Employment and Administration Committee appointed Mr. Avery to the CEOC position on December 14, 2015. Proposed Motion 2016-0001 would confirm this appointment.

Mr. Avery began observing election operations in 2004. He assisted with the hand-count of ballots received in the Washington state governor election. According to his application, he believes in an accountable, efficiently managed and transparent election operation as it is essential in maintaining the electorate's trust.

Mr. Avery is one of the six King County citizens who originated County Initiative 25 (I-25) – the County Charter Amendment in 2008 that made the King County Director of Elections position an elected position as opposed to an appointed position.<sup>1</sup> Mr. Avery indicated on his application that he supported I-25 in an effort to bring independence and better management of election operations.

Mr. Avery participates in a number of community and political organizations. He is currently the Chair of the Seattle Republicans 36<sup>th</sup> District, the Vice-chair of the Queen Anne Community Council and a member of the Magnolia Queen Anne District Council for the city of Seattle.

A table of all CEOC members/positions is provided as Attachment 2 to this staff report. There is currently one additional vacancy on the CEOC:

- an individual to represent a junior taxing district (which has been open since 2013).

## **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Proposed Motion 2016-0001
2. Citizens' Elections Oversight Committee Membership Roster (February 2016)

## **INVITED**

1. Glenn Avery, Appointee, Citizens' Elections Oversight Committee
2. Ellen Hansen, Chair, Citizens' Elections Oversight Committee

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<sup>1</sup> 2007-B0179 - Briefing on Initiative 25 and related ordinances and motions.