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KING COUNTY COUNCIL

Date Created:	6.21.18 CEOC adopted composition from April 11, 2018 meeting
Drafted by:	HP
Sponsors:	
Attachments:	

1 ..Title

2 AN ORDINANCE relating to the citizens' elections
3 oversight committee; and amending Ordinance 15453,
4 Section 3, as amended, and K.C.C. 2.53.021, Ordinance
5 15453, Section 4, as amended, and K.C.C. 2.53.031,
6 Ordinance 15453, Section 5, and K.C.C. 2.53.041 and
7 Ordinance 15453, Section 6, as amended, and K.C.C.
8 2.53.051.

9 ..Body

10 PREAMBLE:
11 The current citizens' elections oversight committee was established in 2006 by the
12 King County council in Ordinance 15453. The citizens' elections oversight
13 committee serves as a significant resource and asset to King County voters, the
14 King County council and the department of elections in its role of providing
15 oversight and advice on conducting elections in King County. The work of the
16 committee increases transparency, credibility and community engagement of
17 elections.

18 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

19 SECTION 1. Ordinance 15453, Section 3, as amended, and K.C.C. 2.53.021 are
20 each hereby amended to read as follows:

21 A. Committee membership shall include:

- 22 1. One representative from a nonpartisan organization active in King County
 23 that evaluates candidates and ballot measures, such as the Municipal League;
- 24 2. One representative from a nonpartisan organization active in King County
 25 that provides elections information to the public, such as the League of Women Voters;
- 26 3. One representative ~~((of an independent research and policy institute))~~ from the
 27 disability community;
- 28 4. One jurisdictional representative from a junior taxing district or a city with a
 29 population of under twenty thousand;
- 30 5. One representative of the Chinese-speaking community;
- 31 6. One representative of the Vietnamese-speaking community;
- 32 7. One representative of the Spanish-speaking community;
- 33 8. One representative of the Korean-speaking community;
- 34 9. One representative from each of any other language minority community for
 35 which the Director of the Bureau of the Census determines by publication in the Federal
 36 Register that King County is required to provide minority language assistance under
 37 Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act;
- 38 ~~((8. Two))~~ 10. Three King County registered voters who are not representatives
 39 of any of the groups listed in subsection A.1. through ~~((7.))~~ 9. and ~~((9.))~~ 11. through
 40 ~~((11.))~~ 15 of this section;
- 41 ~~((9.))~~ 11. One representative from the King County Democratic Party;
- 42 ~~((10.))~~ 12. One representative from the King County Republican Party;
- 43 ~~((11. One representative from the Washington state Democratic Party;~~
- 44 ~~12. One representative from the Washington state Republican Party;))~~

45 13. One ex officio, nonvoting representative from the Office of the Secretary of
46 State; (~~and~~

47 ~~14. One ex officio, nonvoting representative from the Washington State~~
48 ~~Association of County Auditors.))~~

49 14. One representative from an academic institution who has knowledge of
50 elections; and

51 15. One representative who has experience in technology.

52 B. The process for filling vacancies on the committee is:

53 1. The chair of the council shall notify councilmembers of vacancies on the
54 committee and shall direct council staff to develop a job description and list of
55 qualifications for committee members, as well as an application form;

56 2. The open positions shall be advertised at a minimum in the county's
57 newspaper of record;

58 3. The chair of the council shall direct council staff to develop administrative
59 procedures for accepting applications. All applications shall be forwarded to all county
60 councilmembers. Applications shall also be forwarded to the citizens' elections oversight
61 committee for review and the committee may provide feedback to the employment and
62 administration committee;

63 4. The employment and administration committee shall review applications, and
64 may interview applicants. By majority vote, the employment and administration
65 committee shall appoint members to the citizens' elections oversight committee; and

66 5. Appointments shall be confirmed or rejected by the full council by motion.

67 C. When the Director of the Bureau of the Census determines by publication in
68 the Federal Register that King County is no longer required to provide minority language
69 assistance under Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act to a language minority community,
70 the term of the committee member representing that community expires and committee
71 membership representing that community is no longer required.

72 D. ~~((All m))~~Members should have, but not be limited to:

73 1. A working knowledge of local or state government elections operations and
74 management, demography, technology and organizational management;

75 2. A strong commitment to an accountable, transparent, well-managed and
76 efficient elections operation in King County; and

77 3. A willingness to commit the time necessary to attend committee meetings and
78 activities.

79 E. ~~((Except for the member representing the Washington State Association of
80 Auditors, a nominee or appointee to the e))~~Committee members shall not hold elective
81 public office or be a candidate for election to public office, other than as a precinct
82 committee officer.

83 F. Except for the ex officio member((s)), members shall serve three-year terms.
84 ~~((However, the representatives representing the groups under subsection A.6, 10. and 11.
85 of this section appointed in 2006 initially shall serve one-year terms and the
86 representative representing the group under subsection A.1, 2, 8. and 9. of this section
87 appointed in 2006 initially shall serve a two-year term.))~~ The ~~((E))~~ex officio member((s))
88 serves at the pleasure of ~~((their))~~ the member's office~~((or association))~~. ~~((The member
89 representing the Vietnamese-speaking community shall serve a three-year term that~~

90 begins on the date of appointment to the committee and expires December 31, three years
91 after the appointment.)) Any other members that may be added as required by Ordinance
92 17273 and under Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act shall serve three-year terms that
93 begin on the date of appointment to the committee and expire December 31, three years
94 after the appointment.

95 SECTION 2. Ordinance 15453, Section 4, as amended, and K.C.C. 2.53.031 are
96 each hereby amended to read as follows:

97 The mission of the committee is to help King County ((~~restore and~~)) maintain
98 public confidence in elections. The committee shall make recommendations to the
99 council to:

- 100 A. Improve performance of the department of elections ((~~division~~)); and
101 B. Help ensure that accountability and performance of the department of
102 elections is provided in a transparent manner that is meaningful to the residents of King
103 County.

104 SECTION 3. Ordinance 15453, Section 5, and K.C.C. 2.53.041 are each hereby
105 amended to read as follows:

106 A. Before undertaking its other responsibilities identified in this chapter, the
107 committee shall elect officers and adopt administrative procedures consistent with this
108 chapter.

109 B. To accomplish its responsibilities as outlined in this chapter, the committee
110 shall complete the following tasks:

- 111 1. Review recent reports on elections and recent legislation that affects elections
112 standards, procedures, equipment and technologies;

113 2. Conduct oversight of the implementation of new standards or procedures for
114 elections as mandated by federal, state or county legislation;

115 3. Monitor the special, primary and general elections and canvassing board
116 meetings to observe if proper procedures are followed, to report on any problems that are
117 observed or come to light, to recommend corrective actions on problems that may arise
118 and to ensure that any problems that arise are discussed in an open and public manner.
119 The committee shall report to the council in a timely way on any significant problems
120 that might occur or on any serious concerns the committee may have;

121 4. Meet at least quarterly; and

122 5. Submit a report to the council on its observations, findings and
123 recommendations regarding the special, primary and general elections by February 1 of
124 each year by filing eleven copies of the report with the clerk of the council for
125 distribution to all councilmembers.

126 SECTION 4. Ordinance 15453, Section 6, as amended, and K.C.C. 2.53.051 are
127 each hereby amended to read as follows:

128 A. The council shall provide for appropriate staffing of the committee.

129 B. County staff in ~~((the department of executive services and))~~ the department of
130 elections shall provide information requested by the committee in a timely manner.

131 ~~((C. By March 31, 2009, the citizens' elections oversight committee shall
132 evaluate the extent to which county elections operations have changed or improved over
133 the previous four years and whether there is a need for an ongoing elections oversight
134 committee. This evaluation shall be submitted to the clerk of the council. The council~~

135 shall then make its own determination on the need for an ongoing elections oversight
136 committee.)

Proposed Changes to CEOC Membership

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Existing CEOC Categories (KCC 2.53.021)	Current CEOC Member	CEOC's Proposal (as of 4.11.18)	Impact on Current Membership
Nonpartisan org that evaluates candidates and ballot measures (e.g., Muni League)	Sven Kalve	Nonpartisan org that evaluates candidates and ballot measures (e.g., Muni League)	~
Nonpartisan org that provides elections information to the public (e.g., League of Women Voters)	Marilyn Knight	Nonpartisan org that provides elections information to the public (e.g., League of Women Voters)	~
Independent research and policy institute	Vacant	--	x
Junior taxing district	Vacant	--	x
Registered voter (at-large)	Ellen Hansen	Registered voter (at-large)	~
Registered voter (at-large)	Frank Radford	Registered voter (at-large)	~
KC Democratic party	Emily Willoughby	KC Democratic party	~
KC Republican party	Monica Tracey	KC Republican party	~
WA Democratic party	Vacant	--	x
WA Republican party	Vacant	--	x
Secretary of State's office (ex officio)	Sheryl Moss	Secretary of State's office (ex officio)	~
WA State Association of County Auditors (ex officio)	Vacant	--	x
Representative from the Chinese-speaking community	Bruce Huang	Representative from the Chinese-speaking community	~
Representative from the Vietnamese-speaking community	Linh Thai	Representative from the Vietnamese-speaking community	~
--	--	Representative from the Spanish-speaking community	↑
--	--	Representative from the Korean-speaking community	↑
--	--	Representative from the disability community	↑
--	--	Jurisdictional representative (e.g., school district, small city or junior taxing district)	↑
--	--	Registered voter (at-large)	↑
--	--	Representative from an academic institution who has knowledge of elections	↑
--	--	Representative who has experience in technology	↑

Key: ~ no change | x position eliminated | ↑ new position added