

**Iowa Voter Registration Commission Meeting
Minutes: January 20, 2015**

The Voter Registration Commission meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m. on Tuesday, January 20, 2015, in the Secretary of State's conference room by Secretary of State Paul D. Pate. Commissioner Chad Olsen, Commissioner Troy Price, and Commissioner Kelly Spurgeon were also present. Deputy Secretary of State Carol Olson, Director of Election Dawn Williams, Assistant Director of Elections Marisa Roseberry, and Elections staff member Christy Suesakul were also present. Cerro Gordo County Auditor Ken Kline, Jasper County Auditor Dennis Parrott and members of the media were also present.

1. Call to Order

Called to order by Secretary Pate at 1:05 p.m.

2. Appointment of Secretary Paul D. Pate's designee

Secretary Pate appointed Deputy Secretary of State Carol Olson as his designee on the Voter Registration Commission. Deputy Olson will serve as Chairperson of the Commission.

3. Approval of the minutes of the September 22, 2014, Voter Registration Commission Meeting

Motion by Commissioner Price, second by Commissioner Olsen to accept the minutes of the meeting of September 22, 2014. All ayes.

4. Consideration and action regarding county maintenance fees to support I-VOTERS

Chairperson Olson explained the current county maintenance fees are \$0.135 per registered active and inactive voter. She further explained that while these fees do not cover the costs to support and maintain I-VOTERS, she does not recommend increasing the fees at this time.

Motion by Commissioner Olsen, second by Commissioner Price to maintain the county maintenance I-VOTERS fees at \$0.135 per registered active and inactive voter. Roll call vote: Price, Aye; Olsen, Aye; Spurgeon, Aye; Olson, Aye.

5. Overview of December 30, 2014, public hearing on the Notice of Intended Action for proposed rulemaking regarding the use of digitized signatures on file with the Iowa Department of Transportation

Chairperson Olson asked Assistant Director Roseberry to give an overview of the public hearing. Assistant Director Roseberry explained written comments were submitted by the League of Women Voters of Ames as well as by the Brennan Center for Justice, League of Women Voters of Iowa, the ACLU of Iowa, the League of United Latin American Citizens of Iowa, the Interfaith Alliance of Iowa, the Iowa-Nebraska NAACP, the Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council, and Disability Rights Iowa. At the public hear, eight speakers also presented comments.

Chairperson Smithson explained the rules, if approved by the Commission, will be filed under notice of intended action to allow for the public to provide input. The rules will appear in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin in late October.

Motion by Commissioner Spurgeon, second by Commissioner Olson to direct the Secretary of State's staff to file the drafted rules. Roll call vote: Smithson, Aye; Olsen, Aye; Price, Aye; Spurgeon, Aye.

6. Discussion and possible action regarding the proposed rule authorizing the use of digitized signatures on file with the Iowa Department of Transportation for purposes of voter registration.

The commissioners discussed the public comments submitted and agreed the rule was a good first step in implement online voter registration. The commission agreed to continue to pursue options to expand the online voter registration system to all eligible Iowans.

Motion by Commissioner Olson, second by Commissioner Spurgeon to adopt the Administrative Rule to authorize the use of digitized signatures on file with the Iowa Department of Transportation for purposes of voter registration. Roll call vote: Price, Aye; Olsen, Aye; Spurgeon, Aye; Olson, Aye.

7. Discussion regarding production and distribution of voter registration lists

Chairperson Olson asked Christy Suesakul, staff member of the Elections Division, to present information regarding the current costs of voter registration lists. Suesakul explained the current cost structure and informed the Commission the costs do not cover the Secretary of State's cost of producing the lists. Suesakul also explained the money generated from the voter registration lists is sent to the state General Fund and is not kept within the Secretary of State's Office.

The Commission tabled the decision on whether to raise the costs until a later meeting.

8. Other new business

Commissioner Price asked the Secretary of State's staff to share information at the Commission's next meeting regarding its efforts to begin working with other voter registration agencies on an online voter registration system. Commissioner Price also requested information from the Iowa Department of Transportation regarding the online voter registration system's ADA compliance.

9. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned by Chairperson Olson at 1:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Marisa Roseberry
Assistant Director of Elections