

Approved: February 11, 2011  
Date

## MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Schwab at 9:00 a.m., on January 12, 2011 in Room 546-S of the Capitol.

All members were present .

Committee staff present:

Doug Taylor, Office of Revisor of Statutes  
Katherine McBride, Office of Revisor of Statutes  
Martha Dorsey, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Diane Brian, Committee Assistant

Conferee appearing before the Committee:

Kris Kobach, Secretary of State

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairman Schwab asked for bill introductions. There were none.

Chairman Schwab recognized Representative Williams, who discussed a possible bill introduction to change the candidate filing deadline for extension districts to coincide with all other city and school elections, (Attachment 1).

Chairman Schwab recognized Secretary of State Kobach. Secretary Kobach introduced his staff.

Introductions were made by the committee members and staff.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 19, 2011.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

HOUSE ELECTIONS COMMITTEE  
9:00 AM,  
Room 546-S, Capitol Building

**GUEST LIST**

DATE: January 12 , 2010

NAME	REPRESENTING
Melissa Ward	Hein Law Firm
Brad Bryant	Sec. of State
Jim Edwards	KASB
ERIC RUCKER	SOS office
BRAD BRYANT	..
RYAN KRIEGSHAUSER	..
KRIS KOBACH	..

## Election candidate filing deadlines

Randal Neely [randalneelyclerk@neoshocounty.kscoxmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2011 3:37 PM

To: Forrest Knox; Jerry Williams

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Jerry, Forrest

I hope you are keeping warm today. It is thirteen degrees here in Erie.

I have a problem with conflicting statutes, or at least what I call conflicting statutes. In the spring of Odd-Numbered years, such as 2011, there are City-School Elections to be held. The candidate filing deadline for the City/School elections is 10 weeks before the April election of each of the odd-numbered years. This year the candidate filing deadline is January 25<sup>th</sup>.

Now we have an Extension District formed by Allen County and Neosho County, Southwind Extension District #10. Next July I understand that Bourbon County will join the Southwind Extension District. The members for the County Extension committees were not elected at a formal county election. The governing body of the Extension District is by statute to be elected in a county-wide election by qualified electors of the county. There are two members to be elected, from each separate Extension District member county, to serve a four year term. Then, two more elected in two years from each county to serve a four year term.

As stated above all other candidates for all the cities, all the school districts, and community colleges must file for office by January 25<sup>th</sup> for their chosen offices. The statute 2-264 pertaining to elections for Extension District governing body contains the language in paragraph (c) (2) (IN PART) *Not later than 12:00 noon of the Wednesday next following the Tuesday, five weeks preceding the first Tuesday in April in odd-numbered years, each person desiring to be a candidate for the membership on the governing body, in any election, shall file a declaration of candidacy with the county election officer of the county represented by the member of the governing body whose successor is to be elected, as a candidate in such election. The county election officer in up the ballots and in placing making the names thereon shall place the names on the ballots in alphabetical order.*

This statute in essence says that the person wanting to be on the board of the Extension District has to file, this year by noon on Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2011. IF, there were a primary election on March 1<sup>st</sup>, the County Election officials of the counties in question would transmit the winners of the primary election to the company that puts together our ballots, and the Wednesday filing of Extension District candidates would be part of the rush to get the April election slate of candidates to the company that arranges our ballots.

THE PROBLEM IS: Quite often in City/School election years there are not enough candidates to cause (the extra expense of) having a primary election. In those years such as 2009 we were able to get our ballot slate information to the ballot arranging company in the last week of January. This year because of the Statute 2-264 concerning filings for Extension District board member seats, we WILL have to wait until March 2<sup>nd</sup> at noon before we can transmit that ballot slate information to the ballot arranging company (ES&S), who then has to put the information in a workable format and counsel with Lockwood Company of Atchison. Lockwood does a draft of the ballot(s) and sends them to our office. We send back corrections and / or approvals to Lockwood. Lockwood then has to send the ballot arrangements to the printer, who then prints the ballots for Neosho County. All of the foregoing has to be completed so we may begin mailing advance ballots by the 10<sup>th</sup> of March, or the mandated mailing by the 16<sup>th</sup> of March! You see the squeeze on the timeframe can be most difficult to

