

## **CRC Elections sub-committee report- 2021:**

### **1. County-wide or district-only election of candidates to the CRC**

- a. David moved to keep the election of the CRC as it is: Tom 2<sup>nd</sup>
- b. Discussion: The current breakdown of CRC members is properly distributed for the whole county at roughly 1000 residents to 1 CRC Commissioner.
- c. Vote: passed unanimously

### **2. County vs district elections for the County Council**

- a. The members consented for the SJCC elections to remain countywide elections as while discussing, we could not find a good way to have district only elections.

### **3. Age requirements for Candidates for County Councilor Elections**

- a. Discussion: By doing nothing, we're keeping the minimum age limit at 18. Paul withdrew his initial request and the members consented to it.

### **4. References in the Charter to residency districts vs. legislative districts of the County.**

- a. Paul motioned to leave the language as it is. Seconded by Sharon. Motion passed unanimously.

### **5. Primaries for CRC Elections**

- a. SJC Charter says there should not be a primary for the Charter Review Commissioners. Discussion. Members' consensus is to leave this as is for now.

### **6. Ranked Choice Voting (RCV)**

- a. The members spent a considerable amount of time learning about RCV and the pros and cons on how it can be implemented in SJC when applied to SJC elections. We heard material from FairVoteWA by Commissioner Sharon, SJC implications from Auditor Milene and Elections Supervisor Camolyn and Commissioner Tom read from the Heritage Foundation report.

- b. Sharon motioned to move the RCV discussion to the CRC. There was no second, the motion died.
  - i. Conclusion: This decision on RCV did not come up to a vote. If it is considered at the CRC, then the consensus is to hear from different views such as FairVoteWA and others.

**7. Procedures for Observation of County Elections**

- a. The members consented that this issue is more procedural than structural and would not qualify for a charter amendment. The presenting member will be bring back language to forward to the Elections department via the normal CRC process.

The CRC recommends to the SJC Auditor that the election observing process be improved by adopting the following – Add a section: Elections shall be observable- from drop box pickup of ballots to counting to verification. The Elections department will be open to all parties, giving information to all parties’ chairperson regarding dropbox pickup times, ballot box opening times, signature verification processes, ballot processing times, ballot counting times, and counting machine accuracy testing. If there are changes in the schedule for any of these activities, the elections office shall give at least one hour telephone notice to the Party representative.

Re: Art. 5, Sec. 5.1

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Here is the current state law on the matter:

In accordance with WAC 434-250-110(2):

Processing ballots. Prior to initial processing of ballots, the county auditor shall notify the county chair of each major political party of the time and date on which processing shall begin, and shall request that each major political party appoint official observers to observe the processing and tabulation of ballots. If any major political party has appointed observers, such observers may be present for initial processing, final processing, or tabulation, if they so choose, but failure to appoint or attend shall not preclude the processing or tabulation of ballots.