

Elections Emergency Planning Task Force  
October 20, 2015  
12:30 PM

Members Present

Secretary Steve Simon, Chair  
Debby Erickson, Vice Chair  
Major Taylor Cox  
Margot Imdieke Cross  
Rep. Kelly Fenton  
Joe Kelly  
Sen. Mary Kiffmeyer  
Barret Lane  
Lucinda Messman  
Rep. Mike Nelson  
Gary Poser  
Barb Proulx  
Sen. Katie Sieben  
Grace Wachlarowicz

Secretary of State Steve Simon, Chair of the Elections Emergency Planning Task Force, called the meeting to order at 12:33 PM in Room 200 of the State Office Building.

A quorum was present.

Gary Poser moved approval of the meeting minutes from the September 3, 2015 meeting. THE MOTION PREVAILED.

Secretary Simon provided a recap of the previous meetings and a preview of the next three meetings.

Secretary Simon presented an overview of a draft proposal relating to election emergency plans.

Margot Imdieke Cross spoke to the portion of the draft proposal that related to the needs of voters with disabilities.

Barret Lane reviewed a document that contained possible amendments to the draft proposal.

Secretary Simon reviewed possible approaches for the task force to consider regarding emergency election procedures, which included making no changes to state law; recommending the legislature give the Office of the Secretary of State the rulemaking authority to create special emergency procedures; and recommending specific legislative reforms to be used only in emergency situations. Members discussed and provided input on the different approaches.

Secretary Simon then reviewed additional questions the task force may address including who decides when an emergency occurs that triggers use of the special emergency election procedures; once an emergency is declared, who decides what emergency procedures are appropriate for the situation; and how do we ensure that voters across the state are being treated equally. Members discussed and provided input on the questions.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:32 pm.

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Sally Olson, Commission Assistant