Wisconsin Elections Commission - 2016 Vote Recount - Presidential Election

Transcript of the Testimony of:

Wisconsin Elections Commission

December 8, 2016



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1	APPEARANCES
2	
3	BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS:
4	Ms. Nancy Penn, Chairwoman
5	Mr. Rick Baas, Commissioner
6	Mr. Tim Posnanski, Commissioner
7	
8	ALSO PRESENT:
9	
10	Mr. Joseph Czarnezki, County Clerk
11	Mr. George Christenson, Deputy County Clerk
12	Ms. Julietta Henry, Elections Director
13	Mr. Timothy A. Karaskiewicz, Corporation Counsel
14	
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1	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
2	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: We will call this
3	meeting to order at whatever time your record shows.
4	(Recount called to order at 8:13 a.m.)
5	Joe, would you be so kind as to call a
6	roll.
7	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: Commissioner
8	Baas?
9	COMMISSIONER BAAS: Here.
10	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: Commissioner
11	Posnanski?
12	COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: Here.
13	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: Chairwoman Penn?
14	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Here.
15	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: Madam
16	Chairwoman, all commissioners are present. The forum
17	of the Milwaukee County Election Commission is
18	present.
19	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Wonderful. Thank you.
20	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: At this time I
21	will give you a brief rundown of what we're going to
22	do. We're going to administer the oath of office to
23	the election inspectors. After that the Milwaukee
24	County Elections Director Julietta Henry will give
25	you some brief instructions, and we will proceed with

1 Day 7 of the recount. 2 So at this time I would like to ask all 3 the election inspectors to please stand, if you can. And if you would be so kind as to raise your right 4 hand and repeat after me. 5 6 I, please state your name, do solemnly 7 swear that I will support the Constitution of the 8 United States and the Constitution of the State of 9 Wisconsin, and I will perform the duties of election 10 inspector according to law, and will faithfully and 11 studiously endeavor to prevent all fraud, deceit or 12 abuse in conducting the same, according to the best 13 of my ability. 14 Congratulations, and thank you for your 15 service. 16 At this time I will turn it over to 17 Julietta Henry, who will provide you -- at least 18 the West Allis folks, with some brief instructions. 19 (Recount off the record from 8:16 a.m. to 20 9:24 a.m.) 21 CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Okay. So we're back on 2.2 the record. 23 CITY CLERK GOERGEN: City of Greenfield. 24 Jennifer Goergen, G-o-e-r-g-e-n, City Clerk.

I have here a Ward 11 ballot.

25

The voter

1 made one vote, filled in the oval for Donald Trump, 2 and then went down the ballot and made a write-in for 3 So this would be an over-voted Evan McMullin. 4 ballot. However, we believe our DS200 machine 5 6 election night perhaps missed that and so we -- and 7 the machine here kicked that out. We need permission 8 to remake this ballot, and it would be an over vote for that office. 9 10 (Ballot reviewed by the commissioners.) 11 (Ballot reviewed by Election Observer 12 Jeff Perzan and Election Observer Brendan Quinn.) 13 COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: Do either of the 14 party representatives want to be heard on this issue? 15 ELECTION OBSERVER QUINN: Not yet. 16 COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: We've had past 17 rulings dealing with these issues. The guidance we 18 received from the Wisconsin Election Commission in 19 ascertaining voter intent, the write-in takes 20 precedence over any circles or marks above. And the 21 failure to include a vice-president does not 2.2 invalidate the write-in vote for the president. 23 Therefore, I would vote this ballot be 24 reconstructed as a write-in vote for Evan McMullin 25 and be counted as such.

25

1	or different?
2	CITY CLERK SCHULTZ: There are three that
3	are similar in this case.
4	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Okay.
5	CITY CLERK SCHULTZ: These are the three
6	by mail.
7	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Were they counted on
8	election day?
9	CITY CLERK SCHULTZ: Yes. Voter number
10	in Ward 4, 8412, and this ballot also was counted;
11	however, there was no voter signature and no witness
12	signature or address.
13	COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: This is by mail?
14	CITY CLERK SCHULTZ: By mail as well.
15	COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: Does West Allis
16	maintain a single count?
17	CITY CLERK SCHULTZ: West Allis does not
18	maintain a single count.
19	COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: So there's no
20	way to tie these ballots to the votes?
21	CITY CLERK SCHULTZ: That is correct.
22	The last one by mail is in Ward 9, 8443.
23	This ballot was also counted, but there is no witness
24	signature or witness address.
25	COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: Do either of the

1	party representatives wish to inspect these
2	envelopes?
3	(Inspected by Election Observer Perzan.)
4	COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: All right.
5	Given the lack of signatures from either the witness
6	or the voters, these envelopes respectively
7	presenting these issues to us, I move that they be
8	excluded, that we draw down from the ballots from the
9	respective wards.
10	The priority being if there are any blank
11	ballots from those wards, then if there are any
12	ballots that are missing initials from those wards.
13	And if there are not, we draw down from all of the
14	absentee ballots from these respective wards, based
15	upon the failure of the each of these envelopes to
16	enclose a witness signature and/or a voter signature.
17	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: On the motion.
18	Commissioner Baas?
19	COMMISSIONER BAAS: Aye.
20	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: Commissioner
21	Posnanski?
22	COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: Aye.
23	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: Chairwoman Penn?
24	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Aye.
25	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: Madam

1 Chairwoman, there are three ayes, zero noes. 2 motion prevails. 3 CHAIRWOMAN PENN: So we're going to ask 4 you to put the absentee ballots -- We can come over 5 there or you can bring them, whatever is most 6 expedient for you. And we will draw from those 7 ballots as he instructed. 8 CITY CLERK SCHULTZ: Thank you. Then there are also three absentee 9 10 ballots, and they were all in-person. And the first 11 one is Ward 3, 8385. This absentee ballot was 12 There is no address for the witness; counted. 13 however, this witness is a staff member in the 14 clerk's office. 15 CHAIRWOMAN PENN: You have three cases 16 like this? 17 CITY CLERK SCHULTZ: There are two cases. 18 One -- Two cases that have the missing city hall 19 address, and one case with the missing witness 20 signature but it is in-person at city hall. And I 21 can tell by the initials for checking the photo ID 2.2 that it was a temporary worker in West Allis. 23 CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Does anyone want to 24 look into that? 25 CITY CLERK SCHULTZ: And in Ward 4, the

1	voter number was 8257, and in Ward 5 the voter number
2	was 8295.
3	COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: With the prior
4	decisions with this board and for the reasons
5	previously articulated on the record, I move that we
6	accept all three of these ballots.
7	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: On the motion to
8	accept these ballots.
9	Commissioner Baas?
10	COMMISSIONER BAAS: Aye.
11	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: Commissioner
12	Posnanski?
13	COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: Aye.
14	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: Chairwoman Penn?
15	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Aye.
16	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: Madam
17	Chairwoman, there are three ayes, zero noes. The
18	motion prevails.
19	CITY CLERK SCHULTZ: The last issue I
20	have for the Board is a request for permission for
21	these absentee ballots to be counted. There were
22	absentee voter numbers assigned; however, the ballots
23	still remained in the envelopes so they were not read
24	through the machine. And the ward numbers are for
25	Ward 19, 8522, and then for Ward 11 there are five of

1	them: 8447, 8448, 8548, 8549, 8550.
2	COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: From your
3	review, is there any reason why these ballots should
4	not have been accepted?
5	CITY CLERK SCHULTZ: The absentee ballots
6	certificate envelopes look sufficient for me.
7	COMMISSIONER BAAS: Did I hear you say
8	that all of these were unopened, or did I just
9	mishear you?
10	CITY CLERK SCHULTZ: There is one
11	envelope that was opened, but the ballot still
12	remains in that particular envelope. The other ones
13	are sealed.
14	COMMISSIONER BAAS: Let the record show
15	that there are in fact two envelopes that are open.
16	COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: I think she said
17	that all of them were not counted.
18	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Right.
19	COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: Do any of the
20	party representatives wish to inspect these
21	envelopes?
22	No opinions?
23	I move that all of these envelopes and
24	the ballots therein be counted.
25	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: On the motion to

1	accept and count these ballots.
2	Commissioner Baas?
3	COMMISSIONER BAAS: Aye.
4	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: Commissioner
5	Posnanski?
6	COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: Aye.
7	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: Chairwoman Penn?
8	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Aye.
9	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: Madam
10	Chairwoman, there are three ayes, zero noes. The
11	motion prevails.
12	CITY CLERK SCHULTZ: Thank you very much.
13	(Recount off the record from 9:38 a.m. to
14	9:39 a.m.)
15	CITY CLERK COUILLARD: Karen Couillard,
16	City of Glendale. Two days ago we had a variance of
17	15 ballots for Ward 39. The board asked us to
18	recount, which we did. We also came up with the same
19	amount again. We ran it on two machines. 1,371. We
20	had Tyler from ES&S come off and print off every
21	single ballot from that election night. Ward 39, the
22	total was 1,386.
23	Andrew, the deputy clerk, and me, the
24	clerk, just hand counted all of the ballots from the
25	night of the election, and they came out exactly

1	right at 1,386, with no difference in the amount of
2	votes per candidate.
3	COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: Let me see the
4	tabulation.
5	So Tyler was able to reproduce the images
6	of the ballots from election night, and you have now
7	hand counted those, and they match exactly what? The
8	ballot from election night?
9	CITY CLERK COUILLARD: That is correct.
LO	COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: That I think
L1	explains the variance from 1,371, which was initially
L2	from the machine, and now the total count of 1,386.
L3	CITY CLERK COUILLARD: Yes, exactly.
L4	COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: And I have
L5	reviewed the tally sheet. And it is all noted on the
L6	inspector ballot sheet, correct?
L7	CITY CLERK COUILLARD: Yes.
L8	COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: After reviewing
L9	and going back and searching the materials you had,
20	do you have any explanation or idea of where those
21	15 ballots would have gone?
22	CITY CLERK COUILLARD: I do not. We
23	obviously had 1,386 at the end of the night. We
24	called our city yesterday, had them make sure that at
25	the bottom of the machine there wasn't any random

1 ballots left in there. We had them check a tote that 2 the ballots were put in, even though at that point 3 those ballots should be in a plastic bag, just to 4 make sure there was nothing in there either. 5 So somewhere between the end of the 6 election night and when we came here on Tuesday and 7 opened our tote bags, they were missing. 8 CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Did you say you checked 9 your office? 10 CITY CLERK COUILLARD: I don't actually 11 have an office, so it is not hard to know there's 12 nothing in there. But we checked all the locations 13 that any possible ballots would be in, and there were 14 none. 15 CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Okay. 16 COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: Either of the 17 representatives? 18 CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Look at the record? 19 ELECTION OBSERVER PERZAN: Jeff Perzan, 20 representing the Green Party. 21 I would like to thank the City of 2.2 Glendale for producing these images and doing the 23 hand count as per our request, and I think it 24 demonstrates the integrity of the election and the 25 fact that all votes cast count. Thank you very much.

1	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Thank you.
2	When you conclude, can you please include
3	the images of those votes in the ballot bag?
4	CITY CLERK COUILLARD: Yes, we will. We
5	will make sure that they get in a separate recount
6	bag, but it will be all part of our process.
7	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Very good.
8	COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: Thank you for
9	your work, and congratulations on completing your
10	recount.
11	CITY CLERK COUILLARD: Thank you.
12	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: We want to
13	congratulate the City of Glendale on completing their
14	recount.
15	(Recount off the record from 9:44 a.m. to
16	10:16 a.m.)
17	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Go ahead.
18	CITY CLERK SCHULTZ: Monica Schultz, City
19	Clerk, City of West Allis. Schultz is S-c-h-u-l-t-z.
20	I'm requesting permission from the Board
21	to count the ballots that are in bags that were
22	delivered to the recount workers in an opened state.
23	These would be for Ward 11 and Ward 24.
24	COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: Do you have any
25	idea or understanding as to how or why these bags

1 were opened? 2 CITY CLERK SCHULTZ: It would be my 3 estimation that this occurred during transport. 4 COMMISSIONER BAAS: What did she say? COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: That it occurred 5 6 during transport. 7 CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Transportation from her office. 8 9 COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: Let's have them 10 When this previously occurred, we counted. 11 instructed the municipality with this issue to go and 12 then count these ballots and report back, and make 13 sure that the ballot count is consistent with the 14 ballot that was previously reported. 15 CITY CLERK SCHULTZ: Thank you. 16 And my other request for the Board is 17 regarding Ward 18. After election day, during 18 cleanup of the polling place and the voting bin, 19 there were five ballots left there. They were 20 write-in ballots for the presidential office. And 21 I'm requesting the Board's permission to accept these 2.2 ballots. 23 COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: Do we know why they were not initially accepted? 24 25 CITY CLERK SCHULTZ: They were left in

1	the voting bin at the polling place and discovered
2	during cleanup of the polling place after election
3	day, and delivered to my attention. I sealed them in
4	that envelope.
5	COMMISSIONER BAAS: How far after
6	election day? That night?
7	CITY CLERK SCHULTZ: No. This occurred
8	approximately one week following election day.
9	COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: Who delivered
10	them to you?
11	CITY CLERK SCHULTZ: These would be the
12	voting voting technicians, DPW workers for the
13	City of West Allis.
14	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Were they counted on
15	election day?
16	CITY CLERK SCHULTZ: They were counted on
17	election day.
18	COMMISSIONER BAAS: They are not absentee
19	ballots. They are just regular ballots?
20	CITY CLERK SCHULTZ: I would have to look
21	at them to make that determination.
22	COMMISSIONER BAAS: But you sealed them
23	in there?
24	CITY CLERK SCHULTZ: I sealed them in
25	immediately when they were turned in to me.

1	COMMISSIONER BAAS: I just wanted to see
2	if they are absentee ballots.
3	COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: These were
4	actual ballots.
5	COMMISSIONER BAAS: That's what I just
6	asked her.
7	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: They were
8	discovered in the bin. So they were voted on
9	election day, I suppose.
10	ELECTIONS DIRECTOR HENRY: Recommendation
11	from the staff on the ballots is she can come back
12	once the ballots have been counted to verify that
13	those ballots were indeed part of her original count
14	on election day.
15	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Great.
16	COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: I would instruct
17	you to do that and come back with the count.
18	CITY CLERK SCHULTZ: Okay. Thank you.
19	(Recount off the record from 10:19 a.m.
20	to 10:55 a.m.)
21	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: So we're back on the
22	record. Go ahead.
23	CITY CLERK GOERGEN: Jennifer Goergen,
24	City of Greenfield, City Clerk. And last night we
25	were Last night I was before the Board of

1 Canva
2 three
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4 ballo
5 night
6 numbe
7 numbe

Canvassers. I wanted to announce that there were three wards in question. Ward 1, the election night number of ballots was 1,024, the recount number of ballots was 1,023. Then we had Ward 3, the election night number of ballots was 805, and the recount number was 806. And Ward 12, the election night number was 1,120, the recount number was 1,120. So I had brought that before the Board.

If we look at how all of our numbers -- I believe the question from Commissioner Baas was how did all of our numbers look once everything was run through the voting machine for the recount.

So if we look at our number of ballots from election night, there were 19,431. And the recount number of ballots is 19,425.

reporting back. As I previously moved last night, based upon the reconciliation performed, including the ballots that were found and then transported here for purposes of recount, given the discrepancy of the two votes for the three wards in question and a total variance of six for the entire City of Greenfield, I would move that we accept and include the ballots from Wards 1, 3, and 12, including all of those ballots that were found at the City of Greenfield and

2.2

brought here, in the total vote tally for the City of Greenfield.

CHAIRWOMAN PENN: In your vote totals did

Trump and Clinton get relatively the same number of

counts as they did on election night?

CITY CLERK GOERGEN: I can get you that information here. Okay. So for Ward No. 1 -- Okay. So for Ward No. 1, there is zero variance. And for Ward No. 3, Trump received four more votes after the recount and Clinton received three more votes after the recount. Okay. And for Ward 12, Trump received one more vote with the recount and Clinton zero. Zero variance.

COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: Madam Chairman,

I would just like to clarify one thing for the

record. These ballots were not found. These were

ballots that were at the City of Greenfield and were

not transported to Milwaukee County after the

election. So they were not newly discovered ballots.

They were ballots that were counted on election

night. They just were not transported from the City

of Greenfield to Milwaukee County.

CHAIRWOMAN PENN: I understand that. My question was so that we had just another check to make sure that the vote wasn't intentionally altered

1 by leaving those ballots back at the office. 2 this confirms that that is not the case. 3 COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: I understand, 4 Madam Chairwoman. There were just words or questions from the media as to whether or not these were newly 5 6 discovered ballots. I just wanted to make that 7 clear, that they were not newly discovered ballots. 8 They were ballots that were counted on election night 9 and simply were not transported from the City of 10 Greenfield to Milwaukee County. 11 COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: Thank you, 12 Ms. Goergen. 13 I was using "found" in the colloquial 14 sense, in that we had a statement from City of 15 Greenfield staff in terms of how they were then 16 transported to the recount facility. 17 COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: Do either of the 18 party representatives wish to be heard? 19 ELECTION OBSERVER PERZAN: Jeff Perzan, 20 representing Green. 21 In light of your previous request, given 2.2 that there is inadequate security of the ballots 23 while they were stored in the village clerk's office, 24 we would like the images taken off the flash drives 25 from election day and a hand count redone.

1	The village clerk said that there was
2	three full-time employees and two part-time
3	employees, but I have learned that janitors are
4	allowed in there, as well as other maintenance of
5	equipment type people as well. For all those reasons
6	I think to ensure the integrity of the vote, even
7	though we're pretty damn close, that we would renew
8	our request.
9	COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: The request is
10	noted for the record.
11	ELECTION OBSERVER PERZAN: Thank you.
12	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Can you call the roll
13	on the vote?
14	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: On the motion to
15	accept the Greenfield recount.
16	Commissioner Baas?
17	COMMISSIONER BAAS: Aye.
18	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: Commissioner
19	Posnanski?
20	COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: Aye.
21	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: Chairwoman Penn?
22	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Aye.
23	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: Madam
24	Chairwoman, there are three ayes, zero noes, and the
25	motion prevails.

2.2

1 CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Thank you.

Jennifer, can you tell us a little bit about your plan?

CITY CLERK GOERGEN: I have developed a plan. It is a work in progress, but I have something in writing, and certainly I've got it right here to submit it as an exhibit to the Board, if you would prefer.

CHAIRWOMAN PENN: That would be acceptable. It is an exhibit.

If you could just give us the highlights of that, on the record.

CITY CLERK GOERGEN: Okay, sure. So what we would do differently to ensure that all of the ballots are put in the ballot bags on election night and not -- not returned with miscellaneous election materials or blank ballots, the election workers would -- if they removed any ballots from the voting machine because the machine is at maximum capacity, they would bag them and secure them until the end of the night when the poles close. When the poles close, they would open them and sort them by ward and check them for write-ins, which is the typical process.

However, what we would do different is we

1 would make sure that this would only be done at a 2 separate table that's designated for counting and 3 sorting ballots, where there is no other paperwork 4 allowed. And, at that table they would have their 5 ballot bags. And they would -- When they are 6 finished sorting them, they would have to also count 7 them to make sure that the number of ballots that is 8 counted going into the bags is indeed the number of 9 ballots that were counted through the machine. 10 to double-check, so that we know what comes to us 11 election night is indeed in all of the bags and not 12 loose with blank ballots or election -- other 13 election materials. Of course, it would be 14 documented on the inspectors statement and such. 15 COMMISSIONER BAAS: Thank you for that 16 I would also suggest that -- Ms. Henry 17 being an expert in this field, that you reach out to 18 her staff any time that you find it might be helpful, 19 because I'm sure that they could give you additional 20 guidance. And, I appreciate the work you've done. 21 CITY CLERK GOERGEN: Thank you. 2.2 ELECTION OBSERVER PERZAN: Jeff Perzan, 23 representing the Green. 24 As I understand it, when you removed 25 those ballots because the bin is full -- did I

1	understand you to say you would note the count on the
2	machine at that time? And then when you put it into
3	the ballot bags, you would have a number to
4	correspond to the actual number of ballots? Or are
5	you proposing something else?
6	CITY CLERK GOERGEN: I agree that would
7	be a good thing to do as well. We would add that to
8	our procedure.
9	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Okay. So now that you
10	said this was a work in progress And it has been
11	recommended that you type it up.
12	CITY CLERK GOERGEN: Yes.
13	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: I would submit that
14	typed-up version to Julietta. She can make sure that
15	we have it. And I think I would place her in the
16	role of expert and run past the procedures with her,
17	and she can help you identify any strengths and
18	weaknesses and recommendations.
19	CITY CLERK GOERGEN: Okay.
20	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: That should help you
21	avoid this in the future.
22	CITY CLERK GOERGEN: Okay.
23	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Thank you.
24	COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: That's it. So
25	we would like to congratulate Greenfield for

```
1
           finishing their recount.
 2
                       (Recount off the record from 11:07 a.m.
 3
           to 1:34 p.m.)
 4
                       CITY CLERK SCHULTZ: Monica Schultz, City
           Clerk, City of West Allis.
 5
 6
                       This is a request for the Board to review
 7
           the name of a write-in candidate for presidential
 8
           office, to determine if this individual is a
 9
           registered write-in candidate.
10
                       CHAIRWOMAN PENN: You may approach.
11
                       ELECTION OBSERVER PERZAN:
                                                  Thank you.
12
                       COMMISSIONER BAAS: For the record.
13
          Ma'am, I see Evan. Spelling, M -- Last name being
14
          M-c-c-o-u-l-l-a-h.
15
                       CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Any comments,
16
           questions?
17
                       COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: Based upon my
18
           review of the spelling, I think it is clear you can
19
           ascertain the intent of the voter to vote for Evan
20
          McMullin. Had it just been the last name misspelled,
21
           I might reach a different conclusion, but I think
2.2
           given that it is Evan, I think it appears to be
23
          McMullin. And, there's no other similar candidate on
24
           the ballot or a registered write-in. I would count
25
           it as a write-in vote for Evan McMullin.
```

1	In consulting the guidance provided by
2	the election commission on write-in candidates, they
3	do acknowledge that misspellings of the last name for
4	a registered candidate is sufficient to count as a
5	vote for that write-in candidate. So for that
6	reason, I would move that this be accepted as a
7	write-in vote for Evan McMullin.
8	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: In order for the
9	machine to accept this, do you have to reconstruct
10	it?
11	ELECTIONS DIRECTOR HENRY: That name will
12	appear on the write-in sheet, and then the staff will
13	have to go through all of the write-in sheets and
14	change it in the canvas. In the official canvas.
15	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Anything further?
16	Go ahead and call the roll.
17	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: On the motion to
18	count this ballot as a write-in vote for a
19	registered write-in vote for Evan McMullin.
20	Commissioner Baas?
21	COMMISSIONER BAAS: Present.
22	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: Commissioner
23	Posnanski?
24	COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: Aye.
25	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: Commissioner

1	Penn?
2	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Aye.
3	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: Madam
4	Chairwoman, there are two ayes and one present. The
5	motion prevails.
6	CITY CLERK SCHULTZ: Thank you.
7	(Recount off the record from 1:38 p.m. to
8	2:13 p.m.)
9	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Okay. We're back on
10	the record. What do you have?
11	We're going to go do the draw down for
12	Ward 9 in West Allis.
13	Okay. The record should show that West
14	Allis had a blank ballot, so that is one that is
15	taken out of the by statute, that's the one that
16	gets taken out of the pile.
17	So we're done.
18	(Recount off the record from 2:14 p.m.
19	to 3:01 p.m.)
20	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Okay. We're back on
21	the record.
22	MR. ALBRECHT: Neil Albrecht with the
23	City of Milwaukee Election Commission.
24	I brought this before the Board of
25	Canvassers earlier, that in our preparation for the

2.2

recount we inadvertently separated some of our original -- the original reconstructed ballots from the duplicate reconstructed ballots. We learned afterwards that on some of those the ward number had not been recorded on the original of the reconstructed ballot, presenting something of a challenge to matching them both up.

Of the approximate 1,200 reconstructed ballots in the City of Milwaukee, 600 of those having been emailed ballots, 600 falling in another category, we were able to match up 1,130 originals with duplicates but have 70 that we cannot pair affirmatively without doubt that the original matches the duplicate. We have both unmatched originals and unmatched duplicates.

COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: Question for corporation counsel. I'm not aware that there is a legal requirement to affirmatively match the reconstructed ballots with the originals. I don't know that there is or is not such a requirement.

MR. ALBRECHT: I am unaware of one, either. I do want you to know that of the 1,130 ballots that we were able to reconstruct and match the original with the duplicate, with the observers present, each ballot matched in terms of the voter's

1	intent.
2	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Comments from
3	observers?
4	COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: We understand it
5	is your position that the voter intent is accurately
6	reflected in the reconstructed ballots.
7	MR. ALBRECHT: Correct.
8	ELECTION OBSERVER QUINN: Brendan Quinn,
9	on behalf of the Trump campaign.
10	Is it the custom and practice when you
11	reconstruct that ballot that the poll workers would
12	initial the reconstructed ballot?
13	MR. ALBRECHT: It is.
14	ELECTION OBSERVER QUINN: Do the 70 that
15	are not matched up at the moment have both sets of
16	initials?
17	MR. ALBRECHT: They do, and they have an
18	ROB number on them, but they don't have the voter
19	number on them. They could be in a different ward.
20	They don't have a Pardon me. A majority of them
21	don't have a ward number on them; that's the issue.
22	ELECTION OBSERVER QUINN: I just want to
23	confirm that all of the unmatched ones have both sets
24	of poll workers initials.
25	MR. ALBRECHT: To the best of my

1	recollection, they do, yes.
2	ELECTION OBSERVER QUINN: If we could
3	just confirm that, that would be fine.
4	ELECTION OBSERVER PERZAN: Jeff Perzan,
5	representing the Green party.
6	Have you done a hand count of those 70 to
7	confirm that the number of votes for each of the
8	candidates for president comes out the same, based on
9	your view of voter intent?
LO	As an example, if there were 30, 30, and
L1	10, are there 30, 30, and 10 based on your looking at
L2	the original ballots, considering voting intent?
L3	COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: The results on
L4	election night wouldn't be any different than the
L5	recount, because these were reconstructed on election
L6	night; is that right?
L7	MR. ALBRECHT: That's correct.
L8	COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: So the 70 votes
L9	should be the same on election night as they are
20	during the recount. There's no basis for those to
21	have changed?
22	MR. ALBRECHT: That's correct, because we
23	have the duplicate reconstructed ballots. The
24	original we are not able to match to, and the
25	duplicates were fed through as part of the recount

1	just as they were fed through on election night, and
2	the results matched.
3	ELECTION OBSERVER PERZAN: Have you
4	segregated those 70 reconstructed ballots?
5	MR. ALBRECHT: We have them separated,
6	yes.
7	ELECTION OBSERVER PERZAN: The request
8	is that you do that you confirm the number of
9	votes for president on both the reconstructed ballots
LO	and the original ballots, considering the intent
L1	You said it was done accurately, so I just want to
L2	confirm that the vote count is the same.
L3	MR. ALBRECHT: We're not able to tally
L4	the votes on the original ballots, because some
L5	original ballots were confirmed with the
L6	reconstructed ballots and then placed back in the
L7	original ballots pile.
L8	ELECTION OBSERVER PERZAN: I'm talking
L9	only about the 70. Therefore, it is not possible to
20	match them at this point again?
21	COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: That's precisely
22	the issue you brought.
23	ELECTION OBSERVER PERZAN: Okay. And
24	then I would like to just put on the record the fact
25	that the City did not have the imaging capability on

1 the 850s on for the original election and it was also 2 not on during the recount. Otherwise, I was very 3 impressed with the City of Milwaukee and how it 4 conducted the election and the recount. And I have 5 no other concerns. Thank you. 6 COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: So I think where 7 we are at is we have 1,130 which were -- we were able 8 to match up and reconcile with the original vote and 9 the reconstructed ballot. And we know that of the 10 1,200, 1,130 of them accurately reflect the voters' 11 intent. 12 MR. ALBRECHT: Correct. 100 percent of 13 the ones that we were able to match up reflected the 14 voters' intent. 15 COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: 16 discrepancies. 17 MR. ALBRECHT: No discrepancies. 18 COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: 19 comment by Mr. Quinn. I don't think it is an 20 unreasonable request to go look at the 70 that we 21 cannot match and make sure that they do include the 2.2 initials of the poll workers. 23 Sure. I can report back. MR. ALBRECHT: 24 COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: If you can bring I would note, for the record, we're 25 that back.

1	talking about 6 percent of the ballots that were
2	reconstructed here, where we have 94 of them 94
3	percent of them that have no discrepancies
4	whatsoever. So I'm pretty comfortable that the city
5	workers did a fantastic job of accurately
6	reconstructing ballots consistent with the voter
7	intent. So, if you can report back after you take a
8	look at those 70 ballots.
9	MR. ALBRECHT: Okay. Very good.
10	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Thank you.
11	(Recount off the record from 3:11 p.m. to
12	3:15 p.m.)
13	MR. ALBRECHT: So, reporting back. Of
14	the 70 ballots, 7 have do not have either set of
15	initials, and 8 have one set of initials.
16	COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: So a total of
17	15 out of 1200.
18	MR. ALBRECHT: 15 of the 70, that I can
19	speak to today.
20	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: I would just interject
21	that in all our past rulings we have not penalized a
22	voter for a lack of for clerical error on the part
23	of the poll worker. So whether it is one signature
24	or two signatures appear initials doesn't
25	affect the vote.

1 COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: Neil, does the 2 fact that 15 of these signatures are missing one or 3 both set of initials give you any reason to question whether the poll workers accurately captured the 4 5 voters' intent in reconstructing these ballots? 6 MR. ALBRECHT: No, it does not, not based 7 on what we saw with the other 1,100-plus 8 reconstructed ballots. ELECTION OBSERVER QUINN: Brendan Quinn 9 10 on behalf of the Trump campaign. 11 I understand the earlier rulings that you 12 referred to but, given the fact that we have 13 questioned that the reconstruct did not match, I 14 believe that those without either set of initials, 15 without the two initials, you can't fully verify a 16 chain of custody, therefore, those ballots should not 17 count. Thank you. 18 ELECTION OBSERVER PERZAN: Jeff Perzan, 19 for the Green party. 20 From what I've heard, there is no problem with the chain of custody. And consistent with past 21 2.2 practices of the Board if there is an error or an 23 omission by election workers, the voter intent ought 24 to be reflected, as has been put on the record by the executive director, and it should therefore be 25

2.2

counted.

MR. ALBRECHT: And if I could -- There is no issue of chain of custody with these ballots.

They have been in the proper chain of custody since they were reconstructed. Again, it was just during the process of organizing these ballots for the recount that originals became separated from duplicates.

COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: Thanks, Neil.

Based on that, based on our prior discussions and

based on the overwhelming evidence that these ballots

were properly constructed by these -- I mean, all

1200 were properly constructed to capture the voter's

intent on the original ballot and then on the

reconstructed ballot, I move that all 1200 of these

ballots be accepted.

COMMISSIONER BAAS: Understanding your logic, I am not -- I am more comfortable with accepting 63. We sent him back to get the information. We have the information.

Understanding what we've done in the past, given these circumstances, I think we are absolutely clean if we accept 63 instead of the 70. Thank you.

CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Joe, would you be so

1	kind?
2	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: There is a
3	motion.
4	On the motion, Commissioner Baas?
5	COMMISSIONER BAAS: Nay.
6	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: Commissioner
7	Posnanski?
8	COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: Aye.
9	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: Chairwoman Penn?
10	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Aye.
11	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: Madam
12	Chairwoman, there are two ayes, one no. The motion
13	to accept the ballots prevails.
14	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Thank you.
15	(Recount off the record from 3:19 p.m. to
16	4:08 p.m.)
17	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: We're back on the
18	record.
19	This is Monica Schultz from West Allis.
20	We're doing a draw down of ballots from issues we
21	discussed earlier. What's the ward?
22	CITY CLERK SCHULTZ: Ward 2, Ward 4.
23	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Okay. And you
24	separated those out?
25	CITY CLERK SCHULTZ: Yes. And that

1	would be Ward 2 is a draw down from blank ballots,
2	and Ward 4 is a draw down from two ballots that were
3	not initialed by the election inspectors.
4	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Okay. Very good.
5	Which meets the requirements or the guidance the
6	statutory guidance.
7	(Ballots are drawn.)
8	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: The record should show
9	that the draw down was completed.
10	(Recount off the record from 4:11 p.m. to
11	4:25 p.m.)
12	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: We need to go back on
13	the record.
14	CITY CLERK SCHULTZ: Monica Schultz,
15	City of West Allis, City Clerk.
16	This is regarding the issue that was
17	brought up earlier regarding the issue of write-in
18	ballots that were not packaged on election night, but
19	were found during polling place cleanup. The numbers
20	do match up for that ward, and they were included in
21	the tally for that day.
22	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Very good.
23	CHAIRMAN POSNANSKI: You opened the
24	sealed envelope.
25	CITY CLERK SCHULTZ: The envelope was

1	opened and included in what's being processed right
2	now by the high-speed machine.
3	CHAIRMAN POSNANSKI: Okay.
4	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: I don't think we need
5	to make any kind of ruling. We just wanted
6	reassurance that it matched up.
7	CITY CLERK SCHULTZ: Thank you.
8	(Recount off the record from 4:27 p.m. to
9	7:55 p.m.)
10	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: May I have a motion to
11	adjourn, please.
12	CHAIRMAN POSNANSKI: I move to adjourn
13	the canvas of the Milwaukee County presidential
14	recount.
15	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: On the motion to
16	adjourn the recount canvas.
17	Commissioner Baas?
18	COMMISSIONER BAAS: Aye.
19	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: Commissioner
20	Posnanski?
21	COMMISSIONER POSNANSKI: Aye.
22	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: Commissioner
23	Penn?
24	CHAIRWOMAN PENN: Aye.
25	COUNTY CLERK CZARNEZKI: Madam

```
1
     STATE OF WISCONSIN
                           ) SS:
 2
    WAUKESHA COUNTY
 3
                     I, FAYE M. TALATZKO, Registered
 4
 5
     Professional Reporter and Notary Public in and for the
 6
     State of Wisconsin, do hereby certify that I have carefully
 7
     compared the foregoing pages with my stenographic notes,
 8
     and that the same is a true and correct transcript.
 9
                     I further certify that I am not a relative
10
    or employee or attorney or counsel of any of the parties,
11
     or a relative or employee of such attorney or counsel, or
12
     financially interested directly or indirectly in said
13
     action.
14
                Dated at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on this
15
     28th day of December, 2016.
16
17
18
19
                     FAYE M. TALATZKO - Notary Public
                     in and for the State of Wisconsin
20
                     My commission expires 4-14-2017.
21
2.2
23
24
25
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