

**MINUTES OF THE HAVEN TOWN BOARD MEETING**  
**September 16, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Haven Town Board met at the Haven Town Hall on Monday, September 16, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairperson Eric Meyer. Members present: Supervisor Eric Meyer, Supervisor Randy Linn, Supervisor Mark Knowles, Supervisor Joseph Then, Supervisor Joseph Sexton, Treasurer Viki Monroe and Clerk Tammy Schefers. There were nine people who attended the meeting in person. There was no Zoom for this meeting.

**PLEDGE OF ALLIGIANCE**

All present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**SHERBURNE COUNTY SHERIFF REPORT**

Sergeant Geoff Dowty sent out an e-mail report that stated there were 130 incidents for the month of August. He reviewed the report with the board members and answered any questions.

**OPEN FORUM (Time for Residents to Ask the Board Questions)**

Kari Watkins read a letter of her concerns to the board members. Letter is attached to the September 16, 2024 meeting minutes. The letter pertains to Post Election Review (PER).

Linda Schultz was going to speak, until Supervisor Eric Meyer asked her if this was on the same subject that Kari Watkins spoke about. She said yes it was. Then he asked her if she was a Haven Township Resident, she said no, she is a Sherburne County Resident. Then he said he was sorry, but the board can not continually listen to the same topic on the Post Election Review (PER). She did not get to speak.

Brian Fleming has recently been hired by Sherburne County for the Economic Development Coordinator Administration Position. He just wanted to come to a meeting and introduce himself and get to know the board members and townships he will be working with.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Supervisor Joseph Sexton made a motion to accept and approve the agenda. Supervisor Joseph Then seconded the motion. Role Call was taken; Supervisor Eric Meyer – Aye; Supervisor Randy Linn – Aye; Supervisor Mark Knowles – Aye; Supervisor Joseph Then - Aye; Supervisor Joseph Sexton – Aye; the motion carried.

**READING OF THE MINUTES**

Supervisor Mark Knowles made a motion to approve the August 19, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes, September 5, 2024 Special Meeting Minutes and the rest of the consent agenda. Supervisor Randy Linn seconded the motion. Role Call was taken; Supervisor Eric Meyer – Aye; Supervisor Randy Linn – Aye; Supervisor Mark Knowles – Aye; Supervisor Joseph Then - Aye; Supervisor Joseph Sexton – Aye; the motion carried.

## **BUILDING PERMITS**

Just for reference; Sherburne County sends an e-mail report of permits each month to the Clerk for all the Townships. There were 10 permits for Haven Township this month.

## **PUBLIC HEARING (Communication that the Board Notified Residents)**

None

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Cemstone Gravel Pit IUP Amendment** – Supervisor Eric Meyer made the comment that they are still in the working progress with Cemstone. Alex Olin was present at the meeting and took with him the documents that needed to be signed. The board will wait for the final signed agreement to come back; which should be coming this week and address it at the October 21, 2024 board meeting.

**Hwy 10 Study Funding** – Supervisor Eric Meyer made the comment that there are no new updates.

**Wet Hydrants** – Supervisor Eric Meyer made the comment that this project with Palmer Bus is moving forward. Traut Companies will be installing the hydrant.

**Township Sign Replacement** – Supervisor Joseph Then reported that he has been working on signage. He ordered more signs and they will be installed when they arrive.

**AED (Automated External Defibrillators)** – Supervisor Eric Meyer has been working with property owners for locations of AED machines in Prairie Woods Addition. The funds have been raised from the residents so 2 AED machines can be installed within this addition. Bezek's on 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE is one location and he put the Anderson's location on hold. He asked if Supervisor Randy Linn would be willing to have a machine located by his property. Supervisor Randy Linn will talk to his family and get back to Supervisor Eric Meyer.

**Driveway Permits** – Supervisor Eric Meyer is working on 6338 45<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE – Driveway Permit & Culvert. The homeowner asked if they could address this in 2025 next spring being it is coming into the winter season. Supervisor Eric Meyer made the comment that they will postpone this until 2025.

**Neighborhood Meetings** – Supervisor Eric Meyer made the comment that Elk River Estates might have to be addressed closer to the end of this year or beginning of 2025. He will let people know of the date when it gets scheduled.

**Holcim-MWR, Inc.** – Supervisor Eric Meyer talked about considering approval of a Joint Powers Agreement with Haven Township and Sherburne County Planning & Zoning. It would be for a Joint Powers Agreement with Haven Township delineating roles and responsibilities for completion of a mandatory Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) / Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a proposed gravel mine operation in Haven Township, and authorize execution of the same. After discussion on



this Supervisor Mark Knowles made a motion to accept, approve and proceed to have Supervisor Eric Meyer sign and enter into agreement to approve a Joint Powers Agreement with Sherburne County and Haven Township delineating roles and responsibilities for completion of a mandatory Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) / Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a proposed gravel mine operation in Haven Township, and authorize execution of the same. Supervisor Joseph Sexton seconded the motion. Role Call was taken; Supervisor Eric Meyer – Aye; Supervisor Randy Linn – Aye; Supervisor Mark Knowles – Aye; Supervisor Joseph Then - Aye; Supervisor Joseph Sexton – Aye; the motion carried.

**Palmer Bus Service** – Supervisor Eric Meyer commented that he is working with legal counsel on a cooperative agreement for cost sharing of the wet hydrant project.

**Knife River** – No New Updates; Still in Working Progress; Supervisor Mark Knowles made the comment that he has some document history on the Knife River Mark Pit that he would be willing to share with the board. He will see if he can locate it and get it to the board.

**46<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE – Boathouse/Shed Road Right-of-Way-** Supervisor Eric Meyer made the comment that he has been working with legal counsel on this issue and the property owner has signed an agreement to have the boathouse/shed removed from this property that is in the road right-of-way. Supervisor Mark Knowles made a motion to accept and approve the Abatement Agreement for Removal of Structure Encroaching on Dedicated Township Utility Easement and Road Right-of-Way on the property 6485 46<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE, St. Cloud, MN 56304. Supervisor Joseph Then seconded the motion. Role Call was taken; Supervisor Eric Meyer – Aye; Supervisor Randy Linn – Aye; Supervisor Mark Knowles – Aye; Supervisor Joseph Then - Aye; Supervisor Joseph Sexton – Aye; the motion carried.

**Done Right Contracting** – The board discussed the Interim Use Permit (IUP) for Done Right Contracting. Currently Done Right Contracting is working in a subdivision area that does not allow a contractors yard so the board has to consider denying this request based on ordinance of a platted area. He is also dealing with a wetland violation. Neighbors have also expressed concerns of his business being located in this residential area. Supervisor Eric Meyer continues to work with legal counsel on this issue. A November 21, 2024 deadline has been extended.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Sherburne County Planning & Zoning** – Lynn Waytashek and Jerome Doede represented Sherburne County to speak on Solid Waste and Cannabis Ordinance. Jerome Doede, Senior Environmental Specialist went through his slide presentation on solid waste updates. He spoke on how to Provide for Enforcement and Regulation of Solid Waste Ordinance; Various Landfill Abatement Related Programs and Initiatives; Regulates, Inspects and Licenses Over 20 Separate Solid Waste Facilities Located within the County; Administer State Grant Dollars to Encourage and Foster Landfill Abatement Related Initiatives, Household Hazardous Waste Collections; Provide Enforcement of



Failing Septic Systems. He also talked about the Solid Waste Projects; Hazardous Waste Facilities; Food Waste; School Waste Characterization Study; Collection Events and Grant & Loan Programs.

Lynn Waytashek went through her slide presentation on planning and zoning ordinances. She discussed SSTS; Shore Land; Flood Plain; Cannabis; Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU's) and Short-Term Rentals. She talked about MN State Statute 342 Amendments; New MN State Rule 9810-Cannabis; Cannabis Business; Buffer Areas; Types of Licenses Issued; County Ordinances; Items to Consider Related to Land Use and a Time Frame. She also made the comment that there is a Township Comment Form that she encourages everyone to fill out so that Sherburne County knows how each township feels on this new Proposed Cannabis Ordinance. The board thanked them for the presentation.

**Resolution Designating Official Newspaper** – Supervisor Eric Meyer made the comment that the board needs to designate a newspaper for posting official publications. After discussion on this Supervisor Mark Knowles made a motion to accept and approve Resolution Number 2024-07; Resolution Designating Official Newspaper. The Haven Township Board officially designates the St. Cloud Times as its newspaper for official publications in accordance with MN Statute 331A.04 and the Haven Town Board when authorized or required by statute or charter, will publish its public notices in the St. Cloud Times. Supervisor Joseph Sexton seconded the motion. Role Call was taken; Supervisor Eric Meyer – Aye; Supervisor Randy Linn – Aye; Supervisor Mark Knowles – Aye; Supervisor Joseph Then - Aye; Supervisor Joseph Sexton – Aye; the motion carried.

## **BUSINESS FROM THE SUPERVISORS**

### **Supervisor (Chairperson) Eric Meyer**

Orderly Annexation with the City of St. Cloud –No New Updates

**Supervisor Randy Linn** – None

**Supervisor Mark Knowles** – Supervisor Mark Knowles talked about 32<sup>nd</sup> Street SE and how he would like to see Cemstone widen the road to prevent stacking of traffic. In past practice the commercial industries would improve the road to the specs the township wants to see. He would like to see Cemstone center the road. Supervisor Mark Knowles also made the comment that he will attend the Sherburne County Planning Board on Thursday, September 19, 2024.

**Supervisor Joseph Then** – Supervisor Joseph Then talked about holding off mailbox posts until the spring of 2025. Tree trimming is in progress and has been going well. ASTECH will be starting the road projects soon. A notice will be sent out to the residents who will be affected.

**Supervisor Joseph Sexton** – Supervisor Joseph Sexton is working on Fire Call invoices. He talked with the board on a certain fire call that the home owner feels like a victim from and they did not call the Sauk Rapids Fire Department for help with a lift assist, they stated Mayo Ambulance did. They feel that they should not have to pay this bill.

After discussion on this Supervisor Joseph Sexton made a motion that the board should pay this lift assist fire call (Krueger) bill due to the husband said that they will not pay it and they did not call the fire department for help. They also tried to collect from their insurance company with no success. This has been over a year ago. Supervisor Mark Knowles seconded the motion. Role Call was taken; Supervisor Eric Meyer – Aye; Supervisor Randy Linn – Aye; Supervisor Mark Knowles – Aye; Supervisor Joseph Then - Aye; Supervisor Joseph Sexton – Aye; the motion carried.

#### **TREASURER UPDATE**

The Treasurer reviewed the August Cash Control Statement; Receipt Register and Disbursement Register with the Supervisors.

#### **CLAIMS LIST FOR APPROVAL**

Supervisor Eric Meyer made a motion to accept and approve the claims 24171-24197 totaling \$79,831.20 as presented for the month of September. This motion will also include adding the banking service fees for the end of the month when the statements arrive. Supervisor Randy Linn seconded the motion. Role Call was taken; Supervisor Eric Meyer – Aye; Supervisor Randy Linn – Aye; Supervisor Mark Knowles – Aye; Supervisor Joseph Then - Aye; Supervisor Joseph Sexton – Aye; the motion carried.

#### **CLERK UPDATE**

The picnic table has been pressure washed off. The cement slab will be installed before the end of the month.

The General Elections will be held at the Haven Township Hall on November 5, 2024.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS**

MN Association of Townships – Online Training / Newsletter Updates / Meetings  
Sherburne County Planning & Zoning – Public Hearings  
Sherburne County Association of Township Meeting Agenda  
Sherburne County Comprehensive Plan Land Use Plan Steering Committee  
Sherburne County Connect Agenda  
Voice Mails  
E-mails from Residents  
Sherburne County Planning & Zoning – Amending Ordinance Subsurface Sewage Treatment System Program  
Sherburne County History Center – Fall Newsletter  
Bureau of Justice Assistance – Grant Programs  
MN Pollution Control Agency – MN Storm Water Seminar Series  
Sherburne County Development Coordinator – SCCA Meetings  
Couri & Ruppe, P.L.L.P. – 2025 Rate Increase  
Sherburne County Household Hazardous Waste Information


#### **OPEN FORUM (Time for Residents to Ask the Board Questions)**

None

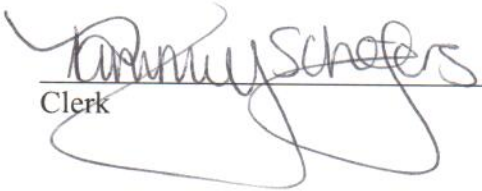


**ADJOURN**

It was moved by Supervisor Mark Knowles seconded by Supervisor Joseph Sexton to adjourn the meeting. Role Call was taken; Supervisor Eric Meyer – Aye; Supervisor Randy Linn – Aye; Supervisor Mark Knowles – Aye; Supervisor Joseph Then - Aye; Supervisor Joseph Sexton – Aye; the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

  
Chairperson

10-21-24 em  
Date

  
Clerk

10:21-2024  
Date

## **Haven Township PER**

Good evening, my name is Kari Watkins. I asked to be able to present this as an agenda item but was not allowed and told I could speak during this time. I will give a brief outline of this important information and will give you a hard copy of the presentation which has more detail.

Over 60% of voters no longer trust our elections. Elections are complex and outsourced to NGO's and 3<sup>rd</sup> party entities rather than managed and controlled locally as intended. While our group has 6 election integrity goals that are attainable using current MN statutes, I will only be able to speak to one. Hand counted votes on paper ballots using current Statutes regarding the Post Election Review or PER. In Sherburne County the City of Big Lake, with the County's approval was and is poised to do this in 2022 and 2024. This information is included in the packet. In Anoka County, the cities of Ramsey, Oak Grove, Ham Lake, Linwood and East Bethel have voted to expand their PERs.

Why expand the PER? Recently passed MN statutes have made hand counting impossible at the precinct and impossible for municipalities to stop using the tabulators if they have been previously used. This does mean that there was local municipality control over using electronic voting systems prior to these statutes being passed. The legislator also deemed the Cast Vote Record non-public, which was a way the votes could be audited by the public. Control of our vote, our elections, is being taken from the people, the local government, county government and being given to the State and ultimately the Federal Government, which was not the intention of the founding fathers.

There are 37 precincts in Sherburne County. Only 3 or 4 are included in the PER, and only 2 or 3 top offices are usually included. That means, State offices other than Governor, County Offices, City offices and other down ballot offices, Constitutional Amendments and other ballot questions are not included in the PER. Most offices are not audited for decades if ever. The PER is less than a 0.3% sample. State Statute does make it possible for offices or ballot questions to be included or in other words expand the PER. In fact in 2022 Sherburne County did just that by counting the top 4 offices; Governor, U.S. House, Attorney General and Secretary of State rather than just the Governor and U.S. House.

It only takes 5 to 6 seconds to process each vote. MN has a hand counting method in State Statute that is used effectively and gives accurate results that are observable to the public which is also a MN State Statute (MS 204C.19 sub 1). When the counting is done inside a tabulator machine it is not public. As an election judge I have no idea how the tabulator tallied any particular vote. I just know how many ballots were voted. When I am paired with another election judge to do a hand count, I can verify how each vote was tallied and so

can the other election judge and it is public. Source codes and programming of these tabulators are proprietary and hidden from the public, further making our elections hidden from the voting public.


Haven Township P1 has around 100 registered voters and P2 has around 1300 registered voters. On the 2024 ballot each precinct has 10 contested offices, 26 uncontested offices and 1 Constitutional Amendment question. You can choose to have one precinct randomly chosen at the canvas or have both precincts included in the PER. You can choose all or any number of the contested offices and questions to be included in the Per. If P2 were chosen and you included 5 of the down ballot contested offices/Constitutional Amendment question I estimate it would cost less than \$400, but election judges can opt to volunteer their time.

We need to bring confidence back to our elections by bringing transparency into our elections. Expanding the PER is a great way to start. Transparency based on previous PER results is not permanent, it is only good until the next PER audit. The goal is to have perfect transparent elections based on vote tallies not ballot tallies.

Please consider passing a resolution to expand the PER in Haven Township, a sample is enclosed in the packet we are giving to you.

If you have any questions, I'm happy to take them.

Thank you for your time.

  
9.16.24



## WHY CONDUCT A POST-ELECTION REVIEW (PER)?

Mission: To protect the votes of your citizens by checking the accuracy of the machine counts in order to enhance security and transparency and to build voter confidence.

### What your peers are saying:

Weston Rolf, Mayor City of Oak Grove, MN: *"Nobody can confirm that the voting machine counted the ballots correctly on Election Day. It is important to me as your mayor that your vote counted."*

Deb Musgrove, Ramsey, MN City Council: *"We value double checking everything in our society so why wouldn't we double check the counting of our votes."*

Others are saying: *"We spend millions on our budget so we can afford a few thousand dollars to hand count our votes."*

### What is PER?

The post-election review (PER) is a manual recount (or "audit") of the paper ballots of randomly-selected precincts for specific offices following each state general election. It compares the hand count with the results from the machines in order to determine accuracy within defined standards. The precincts and offices to be counted is determined by the County Canvassing Board which meets 3-8 days after the general election. The hand count takes place between 9 and 14 days after the general election (206.89).

## Municipalities can request to add precincts & offices

1. Determine number of precincts and offices to hand count (see below)
2. Calculate time and cost(see calculator below) based upon:
  - a. number of precincts and offices to be hand counted
  - b. estimated or known number of ballots in each precinct
  - c. hourly rate of pay to election judges if not waived
3. Adopt resolution to request inclusion in PER (see templates below)
4. Send resolution to county auditor or elections manager
5. Provide election judges to hand count
6. Cooperate with county during hand count
7. Pay election judges

## County can facilitate requests by expanding sample

- a. This request will be considered by County Canvassing Board. This board consists of five members: two county commissioners, the County Auditor, the County District Administrator, and Mayor of the largest city in the County). There is some flexibility in that each member can appoint a designee to appear for them and/or the County Auditor can appoint an eligible voter in the County to fill any vacancy. (MS 204C.31).
- b. The Canvassing Board must meet 3 to 8 days after the November 5, 2024 election, so between November 8-13. They make the decision about how many precincts are randomly drawn and how many offices are included (MS 204C.33 as amended in 2024).
- c. The Post-Election Review (PER) is held 9 to 14 days after the November 5, 2024 elections, so between November 14-19 (MS 206.89).
- d. Each municipality involved in the hand count provides election judges to conduct the count and pays them (MS 206.89, Subd. 9).
- e. The County elections department trains and supervises the hand count.
- f. The method of hand counting is the Piling System (MS 204C.21) and re-count protocols (204C.361).
- g. There are provisions in Statutes to deal with any deviants between the machine count on Election Day and the hand count under the PER (MS 206.89, Subd. 5).



# Statutory Authority

- a. PER authorized & required: Sec. 206.89 MN Statutes
  - i. Option to expand precincts (MS 206.89, Subd. 2)
  - ii. Option to expand offices (MS 206.89, Subd. 3)
- b. Hand Count Method is Piling System: Sec. 204C.21 MN Statutes
- c. County Canvassing Board: Sec. 204C.31 MN Statutes
- d. PER Guide: 2022 Post-Election Review Guide (state.mn.us)
- e. Sample hand count time & cost calculation (see below)
- f. Sample resolutions: Oak Grove (4/29/2024) & Ramsey (6/11/2024)

## A FEASIBLE STRATEGY

- Use tabulators as mandated by State law
- Conduct Expanded Post-Election Review (PER)
- Hand count votes only for competitive offices

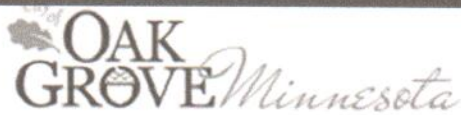
## EXAMPLE: 2024 HAND COUNT CALCULATOR PER PRECINCT BELOW

	A	B	C	D	E
1	<b>CITY/TOWNSHIP 2024 HAND COUNT PER PRECINCT COST</b>				
2	<b><u>1. Determine Number of Offices or Counts</u></b>				
3	<b><u>Office</u></b>	<b><u>MIN</u></b>	<b><u>MAX</u></b>	<b><u>On Ballot</u></b>	<b><u>Contested or Not</u></b>
4	US President, Senate, House	3	3	3	Always contested
5	MN Senator	0	0	0	None in 2024
6	MN Representative	1	1	1	Usually contested
7	County Board	0	1	1	May not be up or contested
8	Mayor	1	1	1	May not be up or contested
9	Councilmembers (2) (or more seats)	4	4	4	May not be contested
10	OR Township Supervisors: Seats ?				May not be contested
11	School Board	0	8	8	May not be contested
12	Soil & Water Conservation	0	1	1	Usually not contested
13	Judicial (Supreme, Appeals, District)	0	0	24	Usually not contested
14	<b><u>Other: Questions</u></b>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>?</u>	<b><u>Always contested</u></b>
15	<b>Total Number of Counts Per Ballot</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>43</b>	
16	City Council and School Board seats elected at large when contested require a count or ballot sort for each candidate. For example, if voter selects 2 of 4 councilmembers, then each ballot is sorted 4 times. Likewise,				
17	if a voter selects 3 of 6 or 4 of 8 school board members, then the ballot is sorted/counted 6 or 8 times.				
18					
19	<b><u>2. Determine Time and Cost</u></b>			<b><u>Sources</u></b>	
20	Number of offices or Counts	9	19	Total from estimator above	
21	Number of ballots in precinct	500	500	Past SOS data or machine count	
22	Total votes/sorts (offices x Ballots)	4,500	9,500	Calculated	
23	Time to process each vote (seconds)	6	6	Known from time studies	
24	Total Seconds (votes x 6 seconds)	27,000	57,000	Calculated	
25	Total Hours (total seconds/3600)	7.5	15.8	Calculated	
26	2-person judge team (hours x 2)	15.0	31.7	Calculated	
27	Election Judges hourly rate of pay	\$12.00	\$12.00	Insert approved rate of hourly pay	
28	<b>Total Cost (judge team hours x r</b>	<b>\$180.00</b>	<b>\$380.00</b>		
29	<i>*Source: Hands-On Elections , Nancy Tobi, 2010, pp 92-93. This time includes judge training</i>				
30	<i>organizing work, sorting, stacking, counting and tallying of votes on all ballots.</i>				
31	<b><u>Directions for use:</u></b>				
32	<b>The calculator above is set up to change based upon your inputs.</b>				
33	1. In Column B Rows 4-14 enter the offices to hand count.				
34	2. In Column B, Row 21 enter the number of ballots in each precinct estimated or known.				
35	3. In Column B, Row 27 enter the election judges hourly rate of pay.				
36	This set of data will produce a cost estimate.				
37	Disclaimer: This estimate does not include possible general administrative costs.				
38	To estimate use MN SOS 2020 General Election Results ballot count for President or actual machine				
39	count after the polls close.				

**Disclaimer:** this estimate reflects an approximate cost for hand counting by election judges and does not include other potential administrative costs.

**(Upon request, ACEIT will provide this Excel spreadsheet on USB)**





## City Council votes 5-0 to hand count all four precincts and all competitive offices in November Election under Post-Election Review (PER)

April 29, 2024



City Council Meeting

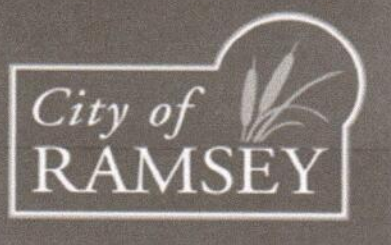
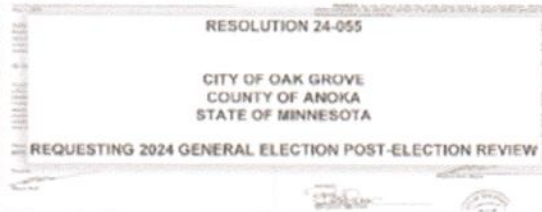
**Rolf for Oak Grove**  
8m

There has been a lot of discussion about election integrity over the years and I think it is time to make sure things are being done correctly.

I requested to have this resolution added to the council agenda this past Monday as a discussion item and the resolution passed 5-0!

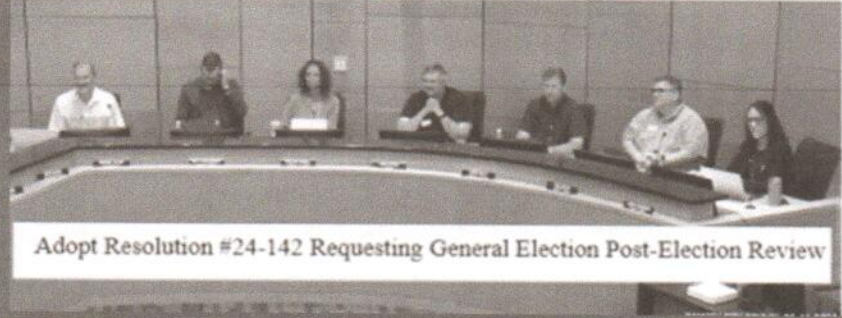
This signed resolution will be sent to Anoka County requesting they conduct a post-election review on our four precincts this November. It is important to me as your mayor that your vote counts.

I would like to thank the council for supporting this resolution.



## City of Ramsey Agenda Regular City Council Tuesday, June 11, 2024

### City of Ramsey seeks to hand count votes during the 2024 Post-Election Review



Ramsey City Council voted 7-0 to hand count 2/3 of their 9 precincts under Post-Election Review (PER) for the 2024 General Election. This will include all offices with more than one candidate, with the exception of judicial offices.

# CITY OF OAK GROVE RESOLUTION

## RESOLUTION 24-055

### REQUESTING 2024 GENERAL ELECTION POST-ELECTION REVIEW

**WHEREAS**, the City council of the City of Oak Grove desires to have a Post-Election Review (PER) conducted on the results of all four of its precincts for the 2024 general election pursuant to Minnesota Statute 206.89; and

**WHEREAS**, PER are conducted at precincts that must be chosen by lot by the Anoka County Canvassing Board, but there is not a limit on the number of lot selections that may be performed and there is not a restriction on establishing the lot from which the selection is made; and

**WHEREAS**, a PER is required to include counting the votes for President or Governor, United States Senator, and United State Representative; and the county-appointed post-election review official may conduct a PER of votes cast for additional offices; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council desires to have a PER performed for all four of its precincts and to include all offices for which there is more than one candidate;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RAMSEY, ANOKA COUNTY, STATE OF MINNESOTA, as follows:**

1. In the event an Oak Grove election precinct is selected for a Post-Election Review (PER) of the 2024 general election, the City Council requests that the Anoka County Canvassing Board perform a second lot selection that includes only the other three precincts in Oak Grove and select three additional precincts.
2. In the event an Oak Grove election precinct is not selected for a PER of the general election, the City Council request that the Anoka County Canvassing Board perform a second lot selection that includes only the four precincts in Oak Grove and select four precincts.
3. The City Council request that any PER of an Oak Grove precinct include all elections in which there are more than one candidate.

Adopted by the City Council this 29<sup>th</sup> day of April 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk (Seal)



# CITY OF RAMSEY RESOLUTION

## RESOLUTION #24-142

### RESOLUTION REQUESTING GENERAL ELECTION POST-ELECTION REVIEW

**WHEREAS**, the City council of the City of Ramsey desires to have a Post-Election Review (PER) conducted on the results of two-thirds of its precincts for general elections pursuant to Minnesota Statute 206.89; and

**WHEREAS**, PER are conducted for precincts that must be chosen by lot by the Anoka County Canvassing Board, but there is not a limit on the number of lot selections that may be performed and there is not a restriction on establishing the lot from which the selection is made; and

**WHEREAS**, a PER is required to include counting the votes for President or Governor, United States Senator, and United State Representative; and the county-appointed post-election review official may conduct a PER of votes cast for additional offices; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council desires to have a PER performed for two-thirds of its precincts and to include all offices for which there is more than one candidate but exclude all judicial offices.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RAMSEY, ANOKA COUNTY, STATE OF MINNESOTA, as follows:**

1. In the event a Ramsey election precinct is selected for a Post-Election Review (PER) of the general election, the City Council requests that the Anoka County Canvassing Board perform a second lot selection that includes only the other precincts in Ramsey and select additional precincts to reach the threshold of two-thirds.
2. In the event a Ramsey election precinct is not selected for a PER of the general election, the City Council request that the Anoka County Canvassing Board perform a second lot selection that includes only Ramsey precincts and selects two-thirds of the precincts.
3. The City Council request that any PER of a Ramsey precinct include a review of the results of all state, county, and city offices, except judicial races, that include more than one candidate.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Councilmember, and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof:

and the following voted against the same:

and the following abstained:

and the following were absent:

Whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted by the Ramsey City Council this the 11 day of June, 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk.

# SAMPLE RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION # \_\_\_\_\_

## RESOLUTION REQUESTING GENERAL ELECTION POST-ELECTION REVIEW

**WHEREAS**, the City Council/Town Board of the City/Township of \_\_\_\_\_ desires to have a Post-Election Review (PER) conducted on its precinct(s) for general elections pursuant to Minnesota Statute 206.89; and

**WHEREAS**, PER are conducted for precincts that must be chosen by lot by the \_\_\_\_\_ County Canvassing Board, but there is not a limit on the number of lot selections that may be performed and there is not a restriction on establishing the lot from which the selection is made; and

**WHEREAS**, a PER is required to include counting the votes for President or Governor, United States Senator, and United State Representative; and the county-appointed post-election review official may conduct a PER of votes cast for additional offices; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council/Town Board desires to have a PER performed for its precinct(s) and to include all offices for which there is more than one candidate but exclude all judicial offices.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL/TOWN BOARD OF THE CITY/TOWNSHIP OF \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY, STATE OF MINNESOTA, as follows:**

1. In the event that a precinct(s) in City/Township of \_\_\_\_\_ is not selected for a PER of the general election, the City Council/Town Board requests that the \_\_\_\_\_ County Canvassing Board perform a second lot selection that includes only the City/Township of \_\_\_\_\_ precinct(s) and select \_\_\_\_\_ precinct(s) in the 2024 PER.
2. The Council/Board requests that the PER of the City/Township precinct(s) include a review of the results of all state, county, and city offices, except judicial races, that include more than one candidate.

Adopted by the City Council this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor/Chair

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City/Township Clerk (Seal)



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### 2023 Minnesota Statutes

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This section has been affected by law enacted during the 2024 Regular Session. [More info...](#)

#### **204C.19 COUNTING VOTES; PENALTY.**

Subdivision 1. **Procedure.** When the hours for voting have ended and all voting has concluded, the election judges shall immediately count the votes cast at the election. The count shall be held at the polling place and shall be public. It shall be continued without intermission until it is completed and the results are declared, except that the election judges may recess for meals or other necessary purposes. During the count no one except the election judges shall handle the ballots. Any other individual who touches or interferes with ballots during the counting or any election judge who permits such touching or interference is guilty of a misdemeanor.

Subd. 2. **Counting ballots.** Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision, the ballot boxes shall be opened, the votes counted, and the total declared. The election judges on each counting team shall be evenly divided between the major political parties. The numbers entered on the summary sheet shall not be considered final until the ballots in all the boxes have been counted and corrections have been made if ballots have been deposited in the wrong boxes.

Subd. 3. **Premature disclosure of count results.** No count results from any precinct shall be disclosed by any election judge or other individual until all count results from that precinct are available, nor shall the public media disclose any count results from any precinct before the time when voting is scheduled to end in the state.

**History:** *1981 c 29 art 5 s 19; 1987 c 266 art 1 s 38; 1991 c 227 s 17; 2013 c 131 art 2 s 34*

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IF IT'S IN THE NEWS, IT'S IN OUR POLLS. PUBLIC OPINION POLLING SINCE 2003.

POLITICS

# 62% Concerned About Election Cheating

Wednesday, July 24, 2024



Most voters think this year's election could be impacted by cheating, nearly one-in-five say they received multiple mail-in ballots in 2020 and nine percent (9%) of voters nationally are either not U.S. citizens or aren't sure if they're citizens.

A new telephone and online survey by Rasmussen Reports and the Heartland Institute finds that 62% of Likely Voters are concerned that cheating will affect the outcome of the 2024 election, including 37% who are Very Concerned. Thirty-five percent (35%) aren't concerned about election cheating, including 15% who are Not At All Concerned. (To see survey question wording, [click here.](#))

Eighteen percent (18%) say that, in the 2020 election, they personally received more than one official ballot in the mail or received a ballot for someone who does not live at their address, while 74% did not. The number who say they got multiple mail-in ballots in 2020 is higher (20%) among voters in six states (Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Nevada, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin) viewed as key "battlegrounds" in this year's election. "The fact that more than 60% of likely voters are concerned about election integrity should be a massive wake-up call to all those who refuse to admit that potential cheating in elections is a major problem," said Chris Talgo, editorial director of The Heartland Institute.

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“As the 2020 election demonstrated, mass mailing of ballots based on outdated voter rolls, ballot harvesting, unattended drop boxes, and no excuse mail-in voting has made it easier than ever for those who are committed to breaking the law and illegally voting. The fact that nearly one-in-five likely voters received multiple ballots before the 2020 election cements the case for the urgent need for election integrity reform measures across the states.”

(Want a free daily e-mail update? If it's in the news, it's in our polls). Rasmussen Reports updates are also available on [Twitter](#) or [Facebook](#).

The survey of 2,466 U.S. Likely Voters, and 5,605 Likely Voters in six battleground states – Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Nevada, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin – was conducted on July 5-12, 2024 by Rasmussen Reports and the Heartland Institute. The margin of sampling error is +/- 2 percentage points for the national results, and +/-1 percentage points for battleground states, with a 95% level of confidence. Field work for all Rasmussen Reports surveys is conducted by Pulse Opinion Research, LLC. See [methodology](#).

In the battleground states, a little more than one percent (1%) of Likely Voters say they're not U.S. citizens, while somewhat fewer (0.85% to be precise) answer they are “not sure” if they're citizens. These numbers are significantly larger among voters nationally, where more than five percent (5%) say they are not U.S. citizens and a little less than four percent (4%) are not sure if they're citizens or not.

Eighty-three percent (83%) of voters who say they voted for Donald Trump in 2020, compared to 42% of those who voted for Joe Biden, are at least somewhat concerned that cheating will affect the outcome of the 2024 election.

Twenty-two percent (22%) of Republicans, and 18% of Democrats and voters not affiliated with either major party say they either received more than one official ballot in the mail or received a ballot for someone who does not live at their address in 2020.

Sixty percent (60%) of whites, 65% of black voters, 69% of Hispanics and 67% of other minorities are at least somewhat concerned that the outcome of the 2024 election will be affected by cheating. Whites are less likely than minority voters to say that, in 2020, they either received more than one official ballot in the mail or received a ballot for someone who does not live at their address in 2020.

Voters under 40 are significantly more likely than their elders to say they received extra mail-in ballots in 2020.

Breaking down the electorate by income categories, voters earning less than \$50,000 a year are more likely to be concerned that cheating will affect the outcome of this year's election.

“Over the past several months, we have conducted extensive polling on issues relating to election integrity,” said Donald Kendal, director of the Socialism Research Center at The Heartland Institute. “In December of last year, we discovered that more than one in every five voters admitted to voting fraudulently during the 2020 election. In April of this year, we found that 28% of likely voters admitted they would cheat in the upcoming 2024 election if given the opportunity. Given these past results, it should come as no surprise that a large majority of voters are concerned that cheating will impact the 2024 election. These findings collectively illustrate a dire need for comprehensive election integrity reforms to be instituted in all 50 states.”

Joe Biden has quit his campaign for reelection, but most voters believe the decline in his mental ability poses a danger for America.

Nearly half of American voters would support laws to protect U.S. business from a European Union (EU) policy that imposes strict environmental, climate, and social justice rules on companies.

Additional information from this survey and a full demographic breakdown are available to the public as well as to Platinum Members.

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**204C.21 COUNTING BALLOTS; PILING SYSTEM.**

Subdivision 1. **Method.** The election judges shall take all the ballots of the same kind and count the votes cast for each office or question, beginning with the first office or question on the ballot. They shall make one pile of the ballots for each candidate who received votes for that office, or one pile for the "Yes" votes and one pile for the "No" votes on a question. They shall make a pile of totally defective ballots and a pile of totally blank ballots. They shall make a pile of ballots that are not totally defective but are defective with respect to the office or question being counted and a pile of ballots that are not totally blank but are blank with respect to the office or question being counted. After the separation into piles, the election judges shall examine each pile and remove and place in the proper pile any ballots that are found in the wrong pile. The election judges shall count the totally blank and totally defective ballots and set them aside until the counting is over for that ballot. In conducting the count of blank ballots, election judges may presume that the total count provided for sealed prepackaged ballots is correct. The election judges may pile ballots crosswise in groups of 25 in the same pile to facilitate counting. When their counts agree, the election judges shall announce the number of ballots in each pile, and shall write the number in the proper place on the summary statements.

The election judges shall then return all the counted ballots, and all the partially defective or partially blank ballots, to the original pile to be separated and counted in the same manner for the next office or question.

Subd. 2. **More than one candidate to be elected; piling.** Where more than one candidate is to be elected to an office, the votes for that office shall be counted and canvassed in the manner provided in subdivision 1 as far as practicable.

Subd. 3. **Primary.** At a primary the election judges shall first separate the partisan ballots by major political party and then count the votes for each office as provided in subdivision 1. The nonpartisan primary ballots shall be counted separately after the partisan primary ballots have been counted.

**History:** 1981 c 29 art 5 s 21; 2021 c 31 art 3 s 11



**204C.33 CANVASS OF STATE GENERAL ELECTIONS.**

Subdivision 1. **County canvass.** The county canvassing board shall meet at the county auditor's office between the third and tenth days following the state general election. After taking the oath of office, the board shall promptly and publicly canvass the general election returns delivered to the county auditor. Upon completion of the canvass, the board shall promptly prepare and file with the county auditor a report which states:

- (a) the number of individuals voting at the election in the county and in each precinct;
- (b) the number of individuals registering to vote on election day and the number of individuals registered before election day in each precinct;
- (c) the names of the candidates for each office and the number of votes received by each candidate in the county and in each precinct;
- (d) the number of votes counted for and against a proposed change of county lines or county seat; and
- (e) the number of votes counted for and against a constitutional amendment or other question in the county and in each precinct.

The result of write-in votes cast on the general election ballots must be compiled by the county auditor before the county canvass, except that write-in votes for a candidate for federal, state, or county office must not be counted unless the candidate has timely filed a request under section 204B.09, subdivision 3. The county auditor shall arrange for each municipality to provide an adequate number of election judges to perform this duty or the county auditor may appoint additional election judges for this purpose. The county auditor may open the envelopes or containers in which the voted ballots have been sealed in order to count and record the write-in votes and must reseal the voted ballots at the conclusion of this process. The county auditor must prepare a separate report of votes received by precinct for write-in candidates for federal, state, and county offices who have requested under section 204B.09 that votes for those candidates be tallied.

Upon completion of the canvass, the county canvassing board shall declare the candidate duly elected who received the highest number of votes for each county and state office voted for only within the county. The county auditor shall transmit a certified copy of the county canvassing board report for state and federal offices to the secretary of state by messenger, express mail, or similar service immediately upon conclusion of the county canvass.

Subd. 2. **County canvassing board reports; public availability.** The county auditor of each county shall provide a certified copy of the county canvassing board report to anyone who requests it upon payment to the auditor of costs of reproduction actually incurred by the auditor's office. The auditor shall not take into account the general office expenses or other expenses.

Subd. 3. **State canvass.** The State Canvassing Board shall meet at a public meeting space located in the Capitol complex area on the third Tuesday following the state general election to canvass the certified copies of the county canvassing board reports received from the county auditors and shall prepare a report that states:

- (1) the number of individuals voting in the state and in each county;
- (2) the number of votes received by each of the candidates, specifying the counties in which they were cast; and

(3) the number of votes counted for and against each constitutional amendment, specifying the counties in which they were cast.

All members of the State Canvassing Board shall sign the report and certify its correctness. Within three days after completing the canvass, the State Canvassing Board shall declare the result and declare the candidates duly elected who received the highest number of votes for each federal office and for each state office voted on in more than one county.

**History:** 1981 c 29 art 5 s 33; 1983 c 303 s 15; 1997 c 147 s 41; 2000 c 467 s 21; 2004 c 293 art 2 s 26; 2010 c 194 s 19,20; 2010 c 201 s 43; 2017 c 92 art 1 s 21; 2023 c 62 art 4 s 96



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### 2023 Minnesota Statutes

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#### **204C.361 RULES FOR RECOUNTS.**

(a) The secretary of state shall adopt rules according to the Administrative Procedure Act establishing uniform recount procedures. All recounts provided for by sections 204C.35, 204C.36, and 206.88, shall be conducted in accordance with these rules.

(b) Notwithstanding Minnesota Rules, part 8235.0800, the requirement that ballots be recounted by precinct means that a recount official shall maintain the segregation of ballots by precinct but the recount official may recount more than one precinct at a time in physically separate locations within the room in which the recount is administered.

**History:** 1983 c 253 s 18; 1989 c 291 art 1 s 16; 1990 c 426 art 1 s 25; 2004 c 293 art 2 s 29

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**206.89 POSTELECTION REVIEW OF VOTING SYSTEMS.**

Subdivision 1. **Definition.** For purposes of this section "postelection review official" means the county auditor, unless the county auditor designates the municipal clerk as the "postelection review official" within 24 hours after the canvass of the state general election.

Subd. 2. **Selection for review; notice.** At the canvass of the state primary, the county canvassing board in each county must set the date, time, and place for the postelection review of the state general election to be held under this section. The postelection review must not begin before the 11th day after the state general election and must be complete no later than the 18th day after the state general election.

At the canvass of the state general election, the county canvassing boards must select the precincts to be reviewed by lot. The ballots to be reviewed for a precinct include both the ballots counted at the polling place for that precinct and the absentee ballots counted centrally by a ballot board for that precinct. The county canvassing board of a county with fewer than 50,000 registered voters must conduct a postelection review of a total of at least two precincts. The county canvassing board of a county with between 50,000 and 100,000 registered voters must conduct a review of a total of at least three precincts. The county canvassing board of a county with over 100,000 registered voters must conduct a review of a total of at least four precincts, or three percent of the total number of precincts in the county, whichever is greater. At least one precinct selected in each county must have had more than 150 votes cast at the general election.

The county auditor must notify the secretary of state of the precincts that have been chosen for review and the time and place the postelection review for that county will be conducted, as soon as the decisions are made. If the selection of precincts has not resulted in the selection of at least four precincts in each congressional district, the secretary of state may require counties to select by lot additional precincts to meet the congressional district requirement. The secretary of state must post this information on the office website.

Subd. 2a. **Exception.** No review is required under this section if the election for the office will be subject to a recount as provided in section 204C.35, subdivision 1.

Subd. 3. **Scope and conduct of review.** The county canvassing board shall appoint the postelection review official as defined in subdivision 1. The postelection review must be conducted of the votes cast for president or governor; United States senator; and United States representative. The postelection review official may conduct postelection review of the votes cast for additional offices.

The postelection review must be conducted in public at the location where the voted ballots have been securely stored after the state general election or at another location chosen by the county canvassing board. The postelection review official for each precinct selected must conduct the postelection review and may be assisted by election judges designated by the postelection review official for this purpose. The party balance requirement of section 204B.19 applies to election judges designated for the review. The postelection review must consist of a manual count of the ballots used in the precincts selected and must be performed in the manner provided by section 204C.21. The postelection review must be conducted in the manner provided for recounts under section 204C.361 to the extent practicable. The review must be completed no later than two days before the meeting of the state canvassing board to certify the results of the state general election.

Subd. 4. **Standard of acceptable performance by voting system.** A comparison of the results compiled by the voting system with the postelection review described in this section must show that the results of the electronic voting system differed from the manual count of the offices reviewed by no more than two votes in a precinct where fewer than 1,200 voters cast ballots, three votes in a precinct where between 1,200 and 1,599 voters cast ballots, four votes in a precinct where between 1,600 and 1,999 voters cast ballots, or five



votes in a precinct where 2,000 or more voters cast ballots. Valid votes that have been marked by the voter outside the vote targets or using a manual marking device that cannot be read by the voting system must not be included in making the determination whether the voting system has met the standard of acceptable performance for any precinct.

**Subd. 5. Additional review.** (a) If the postelection review in one of the reviewed precincts reveals a difference greater than the thresholds specified in subdivision 4, the postelection review official must, within two days, conduct an additional review of the races indicated in subdivision 3 in at least three precincts in the same jurisdiction where the discrepancy was discovered. If all precincts in that jurisdiction have been reviewed, the county auditor must immediately publicly select by lot at least three additional precincts for review. The postelection review official must complete the additional review within two days after the precincts are selected and report the results immediately to the county auditor. If the second review in any of the reviewed precincts also indicates a difference in the vote totals compiled by the voting system that is greater than the thresholds specified in subdivision 4, the county auditor must conduct a review of the ballots from all the remaining precincts in the county for the races indicated in subdivision 3. This review must be completed and the results must be reported to the secretary of state within one week after the second review was completed.

(b) If the results from the countywide reviews from one or more counties comprising in the aggregate more than ten percent of the total number of persons voting in the election clearly indicate that an error in vote counting has occurred, the secretary of state must notify the postelection review official of each county in the district that they must conduct manual recounts of all the ballots in the district for the affected office using the procedure outlined in section 204C.35. The recount must be completed and the results reported to the appropriate canvassing board within two weeks after the postelection review official received notice from the secretary of state.

**Subd. 6. Report of results.** Upon completion of the postelection review, the postelection review official must immediately report the results to the county auditor. The county auditor must then immediately submit the results of the postelection review electronically or in writing to the secretary of state not later than two days before the State Canvassing Board meets to canvass the state general election. The secretary of state shall report the results of the postelection review at the meeting of the State Canvassing Board to canvass the state general election.

**Subd. 7. Update of vote totals.** If the postelection review under this section results in a change in the number of votes counted for any candidate, the revised vote totals must be incorporated in the official result from those precincts.

**Subd. 8. Effect on voting systems.** If a voting system is found to have failed to record votes accurately and in the manner provided by the Minnesota Election Law, the voting system must not be used at another election until it has been examined and recertified by the secretary of state. If the voting system failure is attributable to either its design or to actions of the vendor, the vendor must forfeit the vendor bond required by section 206.57 and the performance bond required by section 206.66.

**Subd. 9. Costs of review.** The costs of the postelection review required by this section must be allocated as follows:

(1) the governing body responsible for each precinct selected for review must pay the costs incurred for the review conducted under subdivision 2 or 5, paragraph (a);

(2) the vendor of the voting system must pay any costs incurred by the secretary of state to examine and recertify the voting system; and

(3) the secretary of state must reimburse local units of government for the costs of any recount required under subdivision 5, paragraph (b).

Subd. 10. **Time for filing election contest.** The appropriate canvass is not completed and the time for notice of a contest of election does not begin to run until all reviews under this section have been completed.

**History:** 2006 c 242 s 34; 2008 c 244 art 1 s 20,21; 2008 c 295 s 22; 2008 c 336 s 8; 2010 c 194 s 25; 2013 c 131 art 2 s 69,70; 2021 c 31 art 3 s 21,22