Indiana Election Commission Minutes August 22, 2014

Members Present: Bryce H. Bennett, Jr., Chairman of the Indiana Election Commission ("Commission"); Adam Dickey, Proxy for S. Anthony Long, Vice Chairman of the Commission; Suzannah Wilson Overholt, member; Zachary E. Klutz, member.

Members Absent: S. Anthony Long, Vice-Chairman of the Commission.

Staff Attending: Leslie Barnes, Co-General Counsel of the Election Division of the Office of the Indiana Secretary of State (Election Division); Dale Simmons, Co-General Counsel of the Election Division; Rhonda J. Hobbs, RPR, Notary Public, Stenographic Reporter, Connor Reporting, Inc.

Others Attending: Mr. William L. Brand; Ms. Ashley A. Keith Qualkenbush; Mr. Steve Runyan; Mr. Bradford D. Williamson.

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the August 22, 2014 meeting of the Commission to order at 2:32 p.m. EDT in Conference Room 1, Indiana Government Center South, 402 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, Indiana.

The Chair recognized the Co-General Counsels of the Election Division, who noted that proper notice of the meeting had been given, as required by state law. A copy of the meeting notice and agenda are incorporated by reference in these minutes. [Copies of all documents incorporated by reference are available for public inspection and copying at the Election Division Office.]

2. Transaction of Business

The Commission transacted the business set forth in the Transcript of Proceedings prepared by Ms. Rhonda J. Hobbs of Connor Reporting. A copy of this document is incorporated by reference in these minutes.

The following corrections of scrivener's errors in this document are approved:

Page 3, line 6, replace "Suzanna" with "Suzannah".

Page 4, line 5, replace "Miss" with "Ms.".

Page 4, line 17, replace "Barns" with "Barnes".

Page 20, line 6, after "Commission" insert "know".

Page 22, line 4, replace "52" with "62".

Page 26, line 8, replace "Statehouse" with "State House".

3. Adjournment

The Commission meeting was then adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Trent Deckard Co-Director

Co-Director

APPROVED:

Bryce H. Bennett, Jr., Chairman

In the Matter Of:

INDIANA ELECTION COMMISSION HEARING

HEARING PROCEEDINGS August 22, 2014



CONNOR REPORTING 1650 One American Square Indianapolis, IN 46282

Phone: 317-236-6022 Fax: 317-236-6015

Toll Free: 800-554-3376

Hearing Proceedings

1	August 22, 2014				
2	INDIANA ELECTION COMMISSION				
3	PUBLIC SESSION AGENDA				
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5					
6	Conducted On: Friday, August 22, 2014				
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10					
11	Location: Indiana Government Center South Conference Room 1				
12	402 West Washington Street Indianapolis, Indiana 46204				
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18					
19	A STENOGRAPHIC RECORD BY: Rhonda J. Hobbs, RPR				
20	Notary Public Stenographic Reporter				
21					
22					
23	Garage Barantina Tag				
24	Connor Reporting, Inc. 1650 One American Square Indianapolis, IN 46282				
25	(317) 236-6022				

2	August 22, 2014	
1 2		2
3	INDIANA ELECTION COMMISSION:	
5	Mr. Bryce Bennett - Chairman	
6 7 8 9	Mr. Adam Dickey - (Proxy for Vice Chairman Anthony Long) Ms. Suzannah Overholt Commission Member) Mr. Zachary Klutz - Commission Member	
10	INDIANA ELECTION DIVISION STAFF:	
12 13 14	Mr. Dale Simmons - Co-Legal Counsel Ms. Leslie Barnes - Co-Legal Counsel	
15 16 17		
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3	August 22, 2014	
1	CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: So it is 2:32 and	3
2	this meeting of the Indiana Election Commission	
3	is called to order. The following members of	
4	the Commission are present: Myself, Chairman	
5	Bryce Bennett; Adam Dickey, proxy for Vice	
6	Chairman, Anthony Long; Suzanna Wilson Overholt;	
7	and Member Zachary Klutz; and the Indiana	
8	Election Division staff.	
9	The co-directors are both attending a national	
10	association of election directors conference today.	
11	But we have co-general counsels, Leslie Barnes and	
12	Dale Simmons. The court reporter is Rhonda Hobbs	
13	from Connor & Associates.	
14	I want to welcome everyone to today's meeting.	
15	I know this was short notice, but we're operating	
16	under statutory deadlines and we're able to meet	
17	those deadlines so we are here today to hold this	
18	rather special meeting of the Indiana Election	
19	Commission in a public session.	
20	Before we begin today's proceedings, I want to	
21	remind everyone, on behalf of the court reporter,	
22	to identify yourself before beginning to speak,	
23	spell your name, when you identify yourself, and	
24	speak clearly, and do not speak at the same time	
25	that others are speaking because the court reporter	

- 1 cannot try and transcribe two conversations
- 2 simultaneously.
- 3 For the record, documentation of compliance
- 4 with the Open Door Law, would ask Mr. Simmons and
- 5 Miss Barnes to report.
- 6 D. SIMMONS: Mr. Chairman and Members of
- 7 the Commission, a notice of today's meeting was
- 8 posted and properly published to our website
- 9 pursuant to the Open Door Law so we can certify
- 10 to that fact.
- 11 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Ms. Barnes, do you
- 12 agree with that?
- 13 L. BARNES: I do. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
- 14 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: First item of
- 15 business is the ratification of campaign finance
- 16 settlement agreements, and I would ask, again,
- 17 for presentation by Ms. Barns and Mr. Simmons.
- D. SIMMONS: Mr. Chairman and Members of
- 19 the Commission, behind your second tab titled,
- 20 "Campaign Finance", there's listed four
- 21 committees who have entered into settlement
- 22 agreements with the Election Division for
- 23 payment of the full proposed fine under state
- 24 law.
- Once those agreements have been submitted,



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	1	however, those need to be ratified by the Indiana
	2	Election Commission.
	3	CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Is there a motion to
	4	ratify the campaign finance settlement
	5	agreements as presented in our materials today?
	6	COMMISSION MEMBER S. OVERHOLT: So moved.
	7	CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: We have a motion. Is
	8	there a second?
	9	COMMISSION MEMBER Z. KLUTZ: Second.
	10	CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Is there any
	11	discussion?
	12	(No response.)
	13	CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Hearing no
	14	discussion, all in favor say aye?
	15	THE COMMISSION: Aye.
	16	CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: All opposed, the same
	17	sign?
	18	(No response.)
	19	CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: The ayes have it and
	20	the motion to ratify the agreements are adopted.
	21	The next item of business is the approval of
	22	forms under 2014-4, and I would again for
	23	presentation by Ms. Barnes and Mr. Simmons.
	24	D. SIMMONS: Mr. Chairman and Members of
	25	the Commission, I will defer here in a minute to
	1	

- 1 Ms. Barnes because she did work extensively on
- 2 some of these forms. I have reviewed them, and
- 3 of course, Mr. King and Mr. Deckard have
- 4 reviewed them as well.
- 5 But Forms Order 2014-4 does a number of
- 6 things. It revises the order issued last week in a
- 7 couple respects. For example, the Spanish language
- 8 absentee ballot application in person was revised
- 9 to allow counties to leave off the designation of
- 10 party ballot -- you know, when you're requested in
- 11 a primary Republican or Democratic ballot, to leave
- 12 that off when they're having a general election to
- 13 avoid confusion.
- 14 There's also another revision to last week's
- order to grandfather, that is to approve the use of
- 16 one of the forms that was revised in last week's
- 17 order, just through the end of this year, just use
- 18 up current stock counties may have.
- 19 Other than that, Sections 2 and 3 deal with
- 20 updates to several forms that reflect statutory
- 21 changes or date changes for forms that are going to
- 22 be used in next year's election, including a
- 23 substantial revision to our form, the VRG 4/12,
- 24 which is to document fail safe provisions that
- 25 allow voters to vote on election day, even though



1	they may have moved, for instance, from the
2	residence listed on the poll book, and that's the
3	one in particular that Leslie Barnes had worked
4	extensively on redesigning that particular form,
5	and of course, she can address that in more detail
6	than I can because she worked on that.
7	CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Anything else?
8	D. SIMMONS: No.
9	CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Ms. Barnes.
10	L. BARNES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
11	concur with what Mr. Simmons said. These forms
12	have had bipartisan sets of eyes and agreement
13	on them. If you look on Section 2 of your order
14	form, you'll notice that there's a reference to
15	a couple of these forms being retroactively
16	approved at the last commission meeting on
17	August 15th.
18	When we did that, we learned that one of
19	military and absentee voter forms were available
20	online and a military overseas voter had already
21	used it and submitted it to Allen County so we
22	wanted to make sure there was no question that that
23	form would not be challenged because the new
24	version of the form was already being used and in
25	circulation available to the public.

7	we try to note these forms and not put them on
2	our website until after you all, the Commission,
3	have reviewed and approved the forms, but that one,
4	somehow a voter got ahold of it, and since it was
5	an overseas voter, we did not want to to
6	interfere.
7	If you have any questions on any of the forms,
8	including the VRG $4/12$, the one Mr. Simmons
9	mentioned, has had kind of a substantial revision.
10	One of the reasons we needed to revise the $4/12$ is
11	we now Indiana law permits counties to use
12	electronic poll books and some of our counties have
13	traditional paper poll books.
14	And so the way that you handle a fail safe
15	voter, someone who maybe has changed their name
16	since the last time they registered to vote or
17	somebody who moved within the same county and same
18	congressional district the way you can add a
19	voter to an electronic poll book is different. You
20	just can't just write on a paper poll book.
21	And so we needed a way to document that that
22	voter was eligible to vote, and so we modified this
23	form to allow voters using in counties using the
24	poll books, electronic poll books. The General
25	Assembly had concurred with that recommendation,

- 1 and they recommended that we use this form, so
- 2 that's what did on that form.
- 3 We tried to make it a little easier by putting
- 4 all of the instructions on the second page. We've
- 5 got a blank line so that the inspectors and poll
- 6 clerks can call the county election board on
- 7 election day. These types of exceptions are very
- 8 hard for our poll workers to understand -- they're
- 9 hard enough for our clerks to understand, and so we
- 10 just wanted to give the poll workers a phone number
- 11 that they can call on election day if they weren't
- 12 sure.
- 13 Sometimes a voter will appear and even their
- 14 name is not the same on the poll book or their name
- is not on the poll book, but every once in a while
- 16 a voter like that is still eligible to vote, and
- 17 this form capture those specific eligible voters.
- 18 Thank you.
- 19 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: How soon in advance
- 20 of the election is that number available to put
- 21 on these forms?
- L. BARNES: As soon as the Commission
- 23 approves the form today, tomorrow or on Monday
- 24 we will mail these forms out to the counties and
- 25 they can begin to put their number on them.



- 1 This form will be available for absentee voters
- 2 who vote by mail, which is going on right now,
- 3 and so we would encourage our counties to put
- 4 their phone number on it and make it available.
- 5 That's a good question.
- 6 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Is there a motion to
- 7 adopt the forms as presented?
- 8 COMMISSION MEMBER Z. KLUTZ: So moved.
- 9 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: We have a motion. Is
- 10 there a second?
- 11 COMMISSION MEMBER S. OVERHOLT: Second.
- 12 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Any discussion?
- 13 (No response.)
- 14 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Hearing none, all in
- 15 favor of approving the forms as presented, say
- 16 aye?
- 17 THE COMMISSION: Aye.
- 18 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: All opposed, the same
- 19 sign?
- 20 (No response.)
- 21 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Motion carried.
- 22 Thank you. Thank you Ms. Barnes and Mr. Simmons
- 23 for your work on these forms. The next item on
- 24 our agenda is the candidate challenge hearing or
- 25 hearings, and in the past I would remind



1	everyone that the Commission has followed						
2	certain procedures for conducting candidate						
3	challenge hearings, and I would move today that						
4	the Commission use the following procedures:						
5	After the candidate challenge is called, the						
6	hearing will begin by recognizing election division						
7	staff to provide information about the documents						
8	provided to commission members, including candidate						
9	challenge forms and the notice given to the						
10	candidate and challenger;						
11	B) Unless there is an objection, the documents						
12	provided to the Commission by the Election Division						
13	will be entered into the record of this meeting;						
14	C) After the election division staff presents						
15	its presentation, the challenger will be recognized						
16	first. The challenger or challenger's						
17	representative may present their case for no more						
18	than ten minutes unless the Commission votes to						
19	allow additional time for the presenter;						

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D) Commission members may ask questions during

a presentation, but the time spent answering these

presenter's time. The election division may signal

questions will not be counted against the

the chair when a presenter's time is up.

- 1 or other physical evidence not previously received
- 2 by the Commission, then the original must be
- 3 provided to the election division staff, that would
- 4 be Dale Simmons, to preserve for the record.
- 5 The candidate or the candidate's authorized
- 6 representative will be recognized following the
- 7 last presentation by a challenger. The candidate
- 8 may present their case for no more than ten minutes
- 9 unless the commission votes to allow additional
- 10 time for the presenter;
- 11 G) Following the presentation by a challenger,
- 12 the candidate may cross-examine the challenger
- 13 followed by the presentation -- I'm sorry,
- 14 following the presentation by a candidate, a
- 15 challenger may cross-examine a candidate. The
- 16 cross-examination in all cases is limited to two
- 17 minutes unless the Commission votes to allow
- 18 additional time.
- 19 The cross-examination must be limited to
- 20 questions regarding statements made by the
- 21 presenter. Following presentation by a candidate,
- 22 the challenger may present a rebuttal of no more
- 23 than two minutes;
- 24 H) The Commission may dismiss the cause of any
- 25 challenger who has failed to appear or testify



- 1 before the commission. Is there a second to my
- 2 motion for the commission to adopt these procedures
- 3 for today's candidate challenge?
- 4 COMMISSION MEMBER Z. KLUTZ: Second.
- 5 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: We have a second.
- 6 Any discussion on these procedures?
- 7 (No response.)
- 8 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Hearing none, all in
- 9 favor say aye?
- 10 THE COMMISSION: Aye.
- 11 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: All opposed, the same
- 12 sign?
- 13 (No response.)
- 14 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Motion carried.
- 15 These procedures are adopted. Everyone who's
- 16 present here today and plans to testify before
- 17 the Election Commission, including any voting
- 18 system matters, please stand for the
- 19 administration of the oath. I recognize Dale
- 20 Simmons to administer the oath.
- D. SIMMONS: Please stand and raise your
- 22 right hand and say I do after the administration
- 23 of the oath.
- 24 (Participants complied.)
- D. SIMMONS: Do you solemnly swear or



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- 1 affirm under the penalties of perjury that the
- 2 testimony you're about to give the Indiana
- 3 Election Commission is the truth, the whole
- 4 truth, and nothing but the truth, say I do?
- 5 THE PARTICIPANTS: I do.
- 6 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: We'll now begin
- 7 consideration of candidate challenges, and I
- 8 remind everyone to identify yourself when you
- 9 begin speaking. We will start with the Ashley
- 10 A. Keith Qualkenbush challenge.
- 11 COMMISSION MEMBER Z. KLUTZ: Mr. Chairman,
- 12 if I can make a preliminary statement and
- 13 motion. It appears a brief review of two
- 14 candidate challenges filed, one August 19th, and
- one August 21st, substantially similar in terms
- of both the candidate being challenged, the
- 17 office the candidate is seeking, as well as both
- 18 challenges seem to present the same basis or
- 19 statement of facts or theory for why the
- 20 challenge is being made. I make a motion or
- 21 open discussion for a consolidation of the two
- 22 challenges.
- 23 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: We have a motion. Is
- 24 there a second to that motion for purposes of
- 25 discussion?



- 1 A. DICKEY: I don't think there's any
- 2 reason why it would complicate things, so yeah,
- 3 I'll second the motion.
- 4 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: We have a motion and
- 5 a second, is there any discussion?
- 6 COMMISSION MEMBER S. OVERHOLT: The
- 7 question that I would have is that the -- I
- 8 mean, they are filed by two separate candidates.
- 9 If both of those candidates are indeed here
- 10 today, then I guess I don't have a problem with
- 11 consolidation, but if one of the candidates
- 12 isn't here, who filed the challenge, then I
- 13 would not want them consolidated, because if the
- 14 candidate filing the challenge hasn't appeared
- 15 then that challenge is dismissed.
- 16 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: State your name,
- 17 please.
- 18 S. RUNYAN: My name is Steve Runyan. I
- 19 represent Mr. Williamson and Mr. Brand who filed
- 20 two challenges. They're both here present. We
- 21 would consent to consolidating them into one, if
- 22 that helps.
- 23 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: So we have two
- 24 challenges for one candidate?
- 25 S. RUNYAN: Two challenges for one

- 1 candidate, exactly right.
- 2 COMMISSION MEMBER S. OVERHOLT: That
- 3 answers my question.
- S. RUNYAN: I try to help in any way I can.
- A. DICKEY: Since we asked the challengers,
- 6 is there objection from the candidate?
- 7 A. QUALKENBUSH: My name is Ashley
- 8 Qualkenbush and no I have no objection.
- 9 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Any further
- 10 discussion?
- 11 (No response.)
- 12 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Hearing none, all in
- 13 favor of consolidating the two challenges to the
- 14 one candidate, Ashley A. Keith Qualkenbush, say
- 15 aye?
- 16 THE COMMISSION: Aye.
- 17 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: All opposed, the same
- 18 sign?
- 19 (No response.)
- 20 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Hearing no objection,
- 21 we will consolidate both challenges and proceed
- 22 accordingly. With that, I would recognize -- we
- 23 have to figure out which challenger to
- 24 recognize. Perhaps we'll go with the first
- 25 file. I don't know whether they both filed



- 1 simultaneously or...
- D. SIMMONS: Mr. Chairman, Members of the
- 3 Commission, the Bradford Williamson was filed on
- 4 the 19th and the challenge filed by William
- 5 Brand was filed on the 21st, so Mr. Williamson
- 6 was the first filed.
- 7 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: All right. Let's
- 8 begin with Mr. Williamson's presentation.
- 9 S. RUNYAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My
- 10 name is Steve Runyan, and I represent Mr.
- 11 Williamson, and he's directly to my left here.
- 12 He did file a challenge to Ms. Qualkenbush. You
- 13 have the challenge forms, I understand -- the
- 14 Commission all has those -- do we need to enter
- 15 those into evidence or are those already
- 16 considered part of that record?
- 17 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Pursuant to our
- 18 procedures, unless there is an objection, the
- 19 documents that have been provided to the
- 20 Commission will be entered into the record
- 21 without further...
- 22 S. RUNYAN: I ask that they be admitted
- 23 into evidence. Do you have any objection?
- 24 A. QUALKENBUSH: I have no objection.



1	QUE	ESTIONS BY MR. STEVE RUNYAN:
2	Q	Mr. Williamson, can you identify yourself to the
3		Commission, please.
4	A	Yes. I'm Bradford D. Williamson from Oden,
5		Indiana.
6	Q	And did you file the challenge?
7	A	I certainly did, yes.
8	Q	And how did you come about how did you come
9		about filing the challenge?
10	A	Well, I am political buff, and so when I saw
11		that Ms. Qualkenbush had filed, I wanted to do
12		some research. I was familiar with the other
13		Democratic candidate. And so I went on the
14		Indiana State website and was just curiously
15		doing some research and was quite surprised a
16		third party would file, and then when I was
17		looking at addresses and backgrounds, I thought
18		well, wait a minute, something doesn't add up
19		right here.
20		And so when I did some checking, did a little
21		bit of research, a little more research, found that
22		she I didn't think that she was eligible to run
23		in the district that she filed.
24	Q	What district are you a member of?
25	A	I'm a member of the 62nd District.

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	1	Q 	And Ms. Qualkenbush had filed for the 62nd?	
	2	A	She had, yes. And according to my research with	
	3		the addresses given at the time of her filing,	
	4		it qualified her to run in the 65th District.	
	5	Q	And did you go onto the Secretary of State's	
	6		website?	
	7	A	Yes, I did, the Indiana Secretary of State.	
	8	Q	I hand you a document that's not the one that	
	9		you pulled up; is that substantially similar to	
	10		what you have in front of you?	
	11	A	Very yes, very similar.	
	12	Q	Is that identified as member of the 65th?	
	13	A	Yes, it does.	
	14		S. RUNYAN: There's a few copies there.	
	15		That's all we have from Mr. Williamson, Mr.	
	16		Chairman.	
	17		CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Is there any	
	18		particular portion of this document that you	
	19		handed us that you would like us to note?	
	20		S. RUNYAN: Yes, please. Under districts,	
	21		the last bold item, it identifies the districts	
	22		for each of the various precincts under the	
	23		Statehouse 65th District.	
	24		CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: I believe the	
	25		appropriate procedure at this point would be to	

		August 22, 2014	
1		ask to hear from Challenger William Brand, and	20
2		ask if there is anything else that he would like	
3		to add.	
4		S. RUNYAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.	
5		Mr. Brand is to my far left. We will let the	
6		Commission that Mr. Brand has some difficulty	
7		hearing. So if you have questions for him,	
8		please speak loudly.	
9			
10	QUE	ESTIONS BY MR. STEVEN RUNYAN:	
11	Q	Mr. Brand, can you identify yourself to the	
12		Commission, please.	*
13	A	It's William L. Brand, and I have a hearing	
14		disability. You did very well.	
15		L. BARNES: Thank you.	
16		W. BRAND: You had a good line. I miss a	
17		lot. I heard everything in the oath. I did.	
18	Q	Mr. Brand, did you file a candidate challenge?	
19	A	Yes, I did.	
20	Q	And how did you come about filing that	
21		challenge?	
22	A	Well, I had heard that what drew my attention	
23		is that Ashley Qualkenbush had filed and didn't	
24		think that she actually qualified to run in	
25		District 62, and I did look into her address	ļ

<u> </u>		, agast 22, 23
1		that she filed, which is in District 62, but her
2		voting address registration is on Zikes Road
3		which is in Clear Creek, not in District 62.
4		She's not registered to vote in District 62.
5		According to the documents I actually got from the
6		Monroe County Election supervisors, she was in
7		at the registered at the Zikes Road address as
8		late as 7/9/2014.
9	Q	Mr. Brand, is the document that you got
10		from them?
11	A	This is the document I got from the Monroe
12		County Election Board. It shows when she was
13		initially registered, and it was back in 2008,
14		and up through 7/9/2104.
15		S. RUNYAN: Mr. Chairman, I'd ask that that
16		be entered into evidence as well.
17		CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Any objection?
18		(No response.)
19		CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Hearing none, the
20		document will be admitted. Anything in
21		particular on this document that you would like
22		to direct the Commission's attention to?
23		S. RUNYAN: Just showing the address on
24		Zikes Road.
25	Q	Is there anything you want to point out other

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	1		than the address?	
	2	A	7345 South Zikes Road. This address is in Clear	:
	3		Creek. It's not no Perry Township. It's not in	
	4		District 52.	
	5	Q	And how did you what precinct it's in or what	
	6		township it's in?	i.
	7	A	A plat map.	
	8	Q	A plat map you have?	
	9	A	Yeah. Also how to get from her house to mine.	
	10		The line demarkation is between Clear Creek and	
	11		Perry Township. Perry Township is in District	
	12		62, Clear Creek is not, and the address where	
	13		she's registered is in Clear District.	
	14		CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Thank you.	
	15		Cross-examination by the candidate.	
	16		A. QUALKENBUSH: I have no questions at	
	17		this time.	
	18		CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Okay. Any questions	
	19		by the Commission?	
	20		(No response.)	
	21		CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Hearing none, we will	
	22		hear from the candidate.	
	23		A. QUALKENBUSH: My name is Ashley	
	24		Qualkenbush. Basically, I went ahead and came	
	25		today. I got a voter registration card to	
	1			

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update my address, two of them. They were	
forwarded from my previous address from the last	
time I voted to my new address. I filled them	
out, put them in the mail.	
I as a voter assumed at that point that I had	
done what I was supposed to, and it fell into the	
hands of the clerk's office. I filled out the	
form. I don't know why it's not updated, but	
unfortunately, with it being a system of you get	
the card in the mail, it gets forwarded to your	
correct address, and you send it back in.	
You really have no verification or way of	
tracking that. I sent that in three days before I	
filed my paperwork to run to be a candidate.	
A. DICKEY: Do you know what date that was,	
just for	
A. QUALKENBUSH: June 14th, 2014.	
	forwarded from my previous address from the last time I voted to my new address. I filled them out, put them in the mail. I as a voter assumed at that point that I had done what I was supposed to, and it fell into the hands of the clerk's office. I filled out the form. I don't know why it's not updated, but unfortunately, with it being a system of you get the card in the mail, it gets forwarded to your correct address, and you send it back in. You really have no verification or way of tracking that. I sent that in three days before I filed my paperwork to run to be a candidate. A. DICKEY: Do you know what date that was, just for

- CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Anything else you 18
- would like to say or present?
- A. QUALKENBUSH: No, sir. 20
- CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Is there any 21
- cross-examination by the challengers? 22
- S. RUNYAN: Just one question, I believe. 23

24



1		
2	QUE	STIONS BY MR. STEVEN RUNYAN:
3	Q	Did you ever check the voter registration
4		website before filing your paperwork to see if
5		it had been updated?
6	A	No, because it had only been three days. I
7		didn't assume that it would happen that quickly
8		with it being a mail process.
9	Q	You didn't expect it would be updated in time
10		before you filed your paperwork?
11	A	I didn't expect that they would have it updated
12		in three days, but I filed the appropriate paper
13		so I had taken the precautions I needed to at
14		that point.
15		S. RUNYAN: No further questions.
16		CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Any questions of the
17		candidate by the Commission?
18		COMMISSION MEMBER Z. KLUTZ: Have you since
19		followed up with the clerk?
20		A. QUALKENBUSH: I have not. When I got
21		this challenge, I received notice that it was
22		not updated, and that was an error on my part
23		for not following up with it more closely.
24		COMMISSION MEMBER S. OVERHOLT: So you
25		if I understand your testimony you completed the

- 1 voter registration update card or whatever it
- 2 was and put it in the mail June 14th?
- 3 A. QUALKENBUSH: Yes, ma'am.
- A. DICKEY: And just to be more clear, this
- 5 is the same card that went out with regards to
- 6 the cleanup of the voter file throughout
- 7 Indiana; correct?
- 8 L. BARNES: It sounds like it. If she can
- 9 describe it.
- 10 A. QUALKENBUSH: I received two post cards
- 11 and it said if your -- this is the address we
- 12 have on file for you. If it's correct, mark
- 13 this, sign it, and send it back. If not, there
- 14 was a space on it to update your address, sign
- 15 it and send it back, and I received two of them.
- A. DICKEY: Do you remember the address
- 17 that it was going to?
- 18 A. QUALKENBUSH: It was going to the Zikes
- 19 Road address but then it forwarded by the post
- 20 office.
- 21 A. DICKEY: Well, the address, though, that
- 22 you were mailing it from before returning the
- 23 card.
- A. QUALKENBUSH: It already had the address
- 25 on it. I don't remember. It was a postcard

- 1 pre-addressed.
- 2 COMMISSION MEMBER S. OVERHOLT: And you
- 3 said you put the card in the United States mail?
- 4 A. QUALKENBUSH: Yes.
- 5 COMMISSION MEMBER Z. KLUTZ: Do you have
- 6 any reason to believe that this printout
- 7 dated -- it appears to be August 22nd, which
- 8 shows your voter registration within Statehouse
- 9 65, do you have any reason to believe this is
- 10 inaccurate?
- 11 A. QUALKENBUSH: Yes, I believe this is
- 12 completely inaccurate. That's not my address
- 13 and that's not my address that I'm registered at
- 14 or should have been registered at.
- 15 COMMISSION MEMBER Z. KLUTZ: Do you have
- 16 anything to present that shows a different voter
- 17 registration address?
- 18 A. QUALKENBUSH: No. I simply filled out
- 19 the postcard and mailed it back. There is not a
- 20 real reliable system of...
- 21 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: I would ask legal
- 22 counsel what law governs this situation?
- D. SIMMONS: I'll be glad to start.
- L. BARNES: Sure.
- D. SIMMONS: Mr. Chairman and Members of



- 1 the Commission, this challenge is based on
- 2 3-8-1-1. It's actually -- if you want to
- 3 consult it in the books we have brought, it's on
- 4 page 226 and 227, but just to kind of
- 5 paraphrase, a requirement of the statute, it
- 6 requires a candidate to -- or office including
- 7 legislative -- state legislative office to be
- 8 registered in their election district by the
- 9 deadline for filing their candidate document, in
- 10 this case, certification.
- 11 As part of your materials that was included,
- 12 it's the CAN-23, and the deadline for the
- 13 Libertarian Party to certify the candidates in that
- 14 fashion would have been noon, July 3rd. So, in
- 15 essence, the statute requires candidates for
- 16 legislative office to be registered in their
- 17 election district by noon, July 3rd.
- 18 That's how the statutes all work together and
- 19 certainly defer to Ms. Barnes on any elaboration on
- 20 that particular requirement.
- L. BARNES: I would concur with Mr.
- 22 Simmons, Mr. Chairman and Members of the
- 23 Commission, that those two statutes are in play.
- 24 There's also several statutes in Title 3-7 that
- 25 required the state to conduct a statewide



- 1 outreach program which consisted of two
- 2 postcards and it was meant to identify voters
- 3 would had moved and it also allowed the voters
- 4 to update their address if they had moved within
- 5 the same county.
- I'd be happy to point out that statute. It is
- 7 not in the code book yet. It was a brand new
- 8 statute this year and I brought a copy of that new
- 9 legislation as well.
- 10 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Thank you. And I
- 11 guess I would ask the candidate, Ms.
- 12 Qualkenbush, do you have any evidence indicating
- 13 that you were registered in the election
- 14 district by the deadline for candidate filings
- 15 at noon on July 3rd?
- 16 A. QUALKENBUSH: No. Again, I mailed in
- 17 the card in June. The candidate filings weren't
- 18 due officially until July 3rd.
- 19 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Any other questions?
- 20 COMMISSION MEMBER S. OVERHOLT: You were --
- 21 your question was legal counsel so can I do
- 22 that, or can I continue questioning the
- 23 candidate?
- 24 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: I'm sorry, you have a
- 25 legal question?



1	COMMISSION MEMBER S. OVERHOLT: You had
2	asked questions of legal counsel. I have some
3	questions I'd like to ask of legal counsel but I
4	can wait until we're done with the candidate, if
5	that's how we want to proceed.
6	CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Well, it's possible
7	that your questions of legal counsel may give
8	rise to additional questions from the
9	candidates, so I would have no objection if you
10	want to ask questions of legal counsel at this
11	point in time.
12	COMMISSION MEMBER S. OVERHOLT: Sure. So
13	the cards that were sent out through the process
14	you described, were those considered to be
15	when folks returned those with their new
16	addresses, was returning that card, is that
17	supposed to be sufficient to allow voters to
18	reregister, or I mean, to officially changed
19	their address for voter registration purposes?
20	L. BARNES: Commissioner Overholt, Members
21	of the Commission, Mr. Chairman. Yes, legally,
22	in certain instances, if a voter had moved
23	within the same county and the same
24	congressional, returning a postcard with their
25	new address on it was legally sufficient to

- 1 update their voter registration record.
- 2 COMMISSION MEMBER S. OVERHOLT: And so with
- 3 respect to Ms. Qualkenbush, was she within -- we
- 4 know she was within the same county, or I
- 5 guess -- yes, she was within the same county,
- 6 was she within the same congressional district.
- 7 L. BARNES: Yes, Commissioner Overholt, she
- 8 was and is in the 9th Congressional District.
- 9 COMMISSION MEMBER S. OVERHOLT: Okay. And
- 10 are there presumptions that apply with respect
- 11 to these voter registration cards so that -- I
- 12 quess I'm used to the rules of civil procedure
- 13 for court filings and things, the submissions
- 14 are deemed filed upon mailing, or deemed served
- 15 upon mailing, or there are rules that assume,
- 16 you know, that it only takes three days for
- things to be delivered through the mail, are
- 18 there any similar presumptions that -- or rules
- 19 that apply with respect to these statutory
- 20 provisions?
- L. BARNES: Commissioner Overholt and Mr.
- 22 Chairman and Members of the Commission, there
- 23 are not statutes that apply to the date it was
- 24 mailed, however, there is a statute in 3-7 that
- 25 says if the postcard is post marked by a certain



- 1 date, prior to the 30th day before the election,
- 2 they will be registered in time for the
- 3 election.
- 4 Does not necessarily apply to what date they
- 5 would be registered, but it does entitle them to
- 6 vote in an election if they return it. The problem
- 7 is our post cards do not have post mark dates on
- 8 them. We just discovered that.
- 9 COMMISSION MEMBER S. OVERHOLT: Because
- 10 they're presorted, stamped or whatever?
- 11 L. BARNES: Yes.
- 12 COMMISSION MEMBER S. OVERHOLT: That might
- 13 be something we need to do in the future.
- 14 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Any other information
- 15 about the law as a result of that?
- D. SIMMONS: I just have a couple of
- 17 comments to make. As I recall our program, it
- 18 did not require that a registrant move within
- 19 the same county, same congressional district, or
- 20 I think it was the same county, wasn't it, and
- 21 then yeah, it was designed for folks who move
- 22 within the same county to transfer the
- 23 registration within the county if they -- if
- 24 they return the card -- of course, we would need
- 25 a card in order to process that particular card.



COMMISSION MEMBER Z. KLUTZ: I have some 1 2 questions for legal counsel. clarifications. The declaration of candidacy is 3 in a form of a state convention nominee; is that correct? Is that how this is being presented? D. SIMMONS: I believe this was designated 6 a vacancy candidate. This gets to a particular 7 We just have one form, the CAN 23. 8 the top of it you'll see crossed out at the 9 state convention and put to fill vacancy. 10 There's a particular provision in 3-13-1-20 11 that allows the Libertarian Party to fill ballot 12 vacancies that exist after they've conducted their 13 convention, so this is how they note that it's a 14 vacancy candidate, and they certify those by noon, 15 July 3rd, and this is the file marked, I believe, 16 17 on the 2nd. I have a question for CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: 18 the candidate. Ms. Qualkenbush, are you now 19 registered in the election district for which 20 you are seeking candidacy? 21 A. QUALKENBUSH: No, apparently, not. 22 this is actually accurate, then no. 23 COMMISSION MEMBER S. OVERHOLT: 24 understanding is that -- well, I guess I would 25

- 1 ask counsel, if we have -- because this -- we've
- 2 got an outdated -- one of the pieces of evidence
- 3 is an outdated record from July 9, and then my
- 4 understanding, this document from the statewide
- 5 system is not -- well, it's on the system, it's
- 6 not actually an official record, so I'm
- 7 wondering if we have available to us what might
- 8 be a more up-to-date official record of Ms.
- 9 Qualkenbush's voter registration?
- 10 L. BARNES: Mr. Chairman, I have a printout
- 11 from our statewide voter registration system
- 12 that was dated today. It's not something the
- 13 public has access to, but it is -- it is more
- 14 up-to-date than this record that was printed
- 15 out. I don't know if you would -- I have copies
- 16 for everybody.
- 17 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: I guess I would ask
- 18 if the Commission is expected to take any kind
- 19 of notice of records which are not introduced as
- 20 evidence in a proceeding of this nature or
- 21 whether it's up to the challengers and the
- 22 candidates to present the evidence to us?
- D. SIMMONS: Mr. Chairman, Members of the
- 24 Commission, yeah, I think the -- in my own view
- 25 of these things, I view them as -- the



- 1 Administrative Orders and Procedures Act, view
- 2 them as -- certainly, the -- the challenger
- 3 bears the burden of proof in a case like this,
- 4 but in the past, the Commission has asked staff
- 5 certainly for records that we have on file as
- 6 far as candidate records.
- 7 I don't know that we've ever been asked to
- 8 provide -- well, and my memory might not serve me.
- 9 I don't know if we've ever been asked to provide
- 10 voter registration records, have we?
- 11 L. BARNES: We have on other candidate
- 12 challenges involving dates of registration. I
- 13 think under AOPA, you can take judicial of
- 14 something, this record is available to the
- 15 public upon request -- available to the voter
- 16 upon request but not available to the general
- 17 public and it's not on a website. I don't know
- 18 if you would like to...
- 19 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Does the document
- 20 indicate when the registration became effective?
- 21 L. BARNES: It is actually not the
- 22 registration, but the inactivation of an old
- 23 registration, and yes, it does show the date.
- 24 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Would the Commission
- 25 like to see that document?

- 1 D. SIMMONS: It might help the Commission
- 2 to know what inactive --
- 3 L. BARNES: Means.
- 4 D. SIMMONS: -- might mean.
- 5 COMMISSION MEMBER S. OVERHOLT: It might be
- 6 helpful. It seems -- yeah. I mean, it seems
- 7 like it's a record that's somewhat under our
- 8 control and we ought to be able to consider it.
- 9 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Is there a consensus
- 10 on the part of the Commission and discussion or
- 11 motion on that.
- 12 COMMISSION MEMBER S. OVERHOLT: Okay. I'll
- 13 make a motion. If we can get a motion, I'll
- 14 move that we review this document that Leslie
- 15 has referenced which I can't -- I don't know
- 16 what it ought to be called.
- 17 L. BARNES: Statewide Voter Registration
- 18 System.
- 19 COMMISSION MEMBER S. OVERHOLT: Statewide
- 20 Voter Registration System dated August 22nd of
- 21 2014.
- 22 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Second to that
- 23 motion?
- 24 A. DICKEY: Second.
- 25 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Motion seconded. All



- 1 questions from the candidate or the challenger
- 2 with regard to the document that's been
- 3 presented here today from the Election
- 4 Commission?
- 5 S. RUNYAN: I have one. What does it mean?
- 6 I mean, it appears it was inactive on the Zikes
- 7 Road on July 30th; is that -- am I reading that
- 8 right?
- 9 L. BARNES: Yes, you are, Mr. Runyan.
- 10 Mr. Chairman, inactive is a status halfway in
- 11 between active and canceled. It is on the way
- 12 to being canceled. And there's a multistep
- 13 process governed by both federal and state law,
- 14 the National Voter Registration Act in Indiana
- 15 state law that says if a statewide mailing is
- 16 conducted, and the first mailing comes back as
- 17 undeliverable due to unknown or sufficient
- 18 address, a second postcard is sent out, which is
- 19 sent out by forwardable mail.
- 20 So if the voter has listed their address with
- 21 the post office, their new address, the second
- 22 postcard will be forwarded, and then under federal
- 23 law, the applicant is asked to reply within 30
- 24 days. And if the county does not hear -- does not
- 25 receive the postcard back either as undeliverable



- 1 or hear from the voter, then the federal law
- 2 directs the county to place this voter in this
- 3 inactive status, and then if the voter does not
- 4 appear and vote at that address within two federal
- 5 general elections, their record is canceled and
- 6 so...
- 7 S. RUNYAN: What that sounds like to me is
- 8 that nothing was returned to the state. It
- 9 doesn't mean that a postcard of a change of
- 10 address was sent in. Inactive seems to mean
- 11 postcards were both sent out and nothing came
- 12 back. Do I misunderstand that?
- 13 L. BARNES: Well, postcards are still
- 14 coming back in and the program is still under
- 15 way.
- 16 S. RUNYAN: Understand. But if a postcard
- 17 came in now, it would be way too late to declare
- 18 a candidacy for election. I mean, if I'm
- 19 misunderstanding, please correct me. But it
- 20 sounds to me like what this shows is that post
- 21 cards went out but nothing ever came back from
- 22 Ms. Qualkenbush. That's why she's inactive.
- L. BARNES: At this point the county does
- 24 not show a record of having received that
- 25 postcard.



- 1 S. RUNYAN: Okay.
- 2 L. BARNES: We are receiving daily
- 3 postcards.
- 4 S. RUNYAN: Okay. So the inactive of Zikes
- 5 does not mean she sent change of address for her
- 6 registration, it means no postcard came back?
- 7 L. BARNES: That is what it indicates at
- 8 this point.
- 9 S. RUNYAN: Okay.
- 10 COMMISSION MEMBER S. OVERHOLT: Or that it
- 11 hasn't been processed.
- 12 A. DICKEY: But it would confirm the
- 13 account that she's given that she did
- 14 receive -- she should have received two
- 15 postcards if she's now been labeled inactive, so
- 16 it at least affirms much of her account.
- 17 S. RUNYAN: No, it doesn't, Mr.
- 18 Commissioner. It doesn't confirm that she
- 19 received them. It confirms that they went out
- 20 and didn't come back.
- D. SIMMONS: Maybe we can clarify that a
- 22 little bit. There's two postcards sent out.
- 23 There's an initial postcard that's sent out,
- 24 that if it comes back undeliverable, we send a
- 25 second postcard out.

- 1 The second postcard is a postcard that they
- 2 can enter address change information on and return
- 3 because it has the attachable postage paid return
- 4 card on it. So what this certainly shows is that
- 5 her registration is still at the -- what is it?
- 6 S. RUNYAN: Zikes.
- 7 D. SIMMONS: The Zikes Road address, but it
- 8 is designated inactive because the first mailer
- 9 came back undeliverable, and at least, we don't
- 10 have any other direction to change the status.
- 11 So while it's active, it's still potentially
- 12 valid.
- I mean, a person can still vote at that
- 14 address, but we start running the clock, and we can
- 15 cancel them if they fail to vote at this address in
- 16 the next two federal elections. So there is two
- 17 post cards.
- 18 S. RUNYAN: I understand. I want to make
- 19 sure. I thought when I first read this, this
- 20 indicated she had affirmatively canceled her
- 21 registration. That's not at all what this is
- 22 saying.
- D. SIMMONS: No.
- 24 S. RUNYAN: This is saying the state
- 25 doesn't know what the situation is. They

1	haven't received anything from her as of the
2	last updates?
3	CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Let's get back to our
4	procedure here.
5	S. RUNYAN: Sorry.
6	CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Is there any well,
7	we've gotten all the evidence and testimony, I
8	think, that we're going to get at this point.
9	The only question is whether either party wants
10	to make a very very brief closing statement
11	before we close the public hearing of this
12	matter; does either the candidate or the
13	challenger wish to make any further statement?
14	S. RUNYAN: Your Honor, I would just point
15	to the statute, that she has permission to vote
16	by the time she files her candidacy. That
17	didn't happen. The document that we produced
18	that was dated today the statewide still
19	shows her at the old address, and the document
20	that was just provided by the commission doesn't
21	show any change either, any affirmative change
22	by the candidate. I would think the statute is
23	pretty clear.
24	CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Thank you. Any
25	statement by the candidate?

41

- 1 A. QUALKENBUSH: I just want to make a
- 2 statement, that this kind of shows that there is
- 3 a flaw in our voter registration process. We
- 4 can't have people to vote if they can't
- 5 effectively register to vote, which was my
- 6 bigger point in being here today, was if my
- 7 voter registration didn't get updated, I -- I
- 8 took the steps that I was supposed to to get
- 9 there, and if that didn't happen, then it shows
- 10 a flaw in our system that needs to be corrected
- 11 so our voters can vote.
- 12 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Okay. Thank you. At
- 13 this time the public hearing on Cause No.
- 14 2014-128 and 2014-129 is closed. It's time for
- 15 a discussion by commission members on the vote.
- 16 Is there any discussion the commission would
- 17 like to make before we vote?
- 18 A. DICKEY: Could I ask a few process
- 19 questions with regards to the cleanup real quick
- 20 that might clarify a few things for me? Exactly
- 21 when did the post cards, the first or the
- 22 second, for that matter go out? What's the
- 23 regimented scheduled for that?
- D. SIMMONS: I think we sent the first
- 25 postcard like the second week in May or the end



- of the second week of May, and then our deadline
- 2 for mailing out the second postcard was June the
- 3 24th, because we wanted to give 30 days response
- 4 time of July 24th. So that's when we would have
- 5 mailed those out.
- I don't know what specific date, because we
- 7 didn't mail them all out. We were sort of mailing
- 8 the second ones as the first ones came in on a
- 9 rolling basis, so I can't tell you exactly when we
- 10 sent the second card out to any particular group of
- 11 people, but it was before June 24th.
- 12 A. DICKEY: And again, a clarification of
- 13 my point. Do those all came back to the state
- 14 or did they go to individual county clerk's
- 15 offices?
- D. SIMMONS: The cards came back to our
- 17 vendor, the firm we hired, Election Systems &
- 18 Software for automated processing. And
- 19 actually, the cards were then -- at this point
- 20 the cards have been delivered to the county, but
- 21 the county, instead of processing cards, were
- 22 sent records, like update records or inactive
- 23 records via the SVRS electronically to process.
- 24 So if the cards came back, they ere tabulated
- 25 automatically, electronic records were created,



- 1 those were transmitted from our vendor to our --
- 2 from our mailing vendor to our SVRS vendor -- Quest
- 3 is the company that does our SVRS, and then they
- 4 were delivered county electronically via hoppers.
- But the postcard wasn't sent in those records.
- 6 However, there was a lookup kind of process set up
- 7 so that if they had a question about a particular
- 8 record, they can go look at a copy of the actual
- 9 card if they wanted to.
- 10 A. DICKEY: So in essence, there's three
- 11 hands on these cards, from the time that a
- 12 person mails them back, to the time that they
- 13 come in?
- D. SIMMONS: Well, you'd have the post
- 15 office, obviously, delivered to the vendor, and
- 16 then the vendor processes and sends them to the
- 17 county, ultimately.
- 18 COMMISSION MEMBER Z. KLUTZ: Mr. Chairman,
- 19 if I may. I find the discussion interesting. I
- 20 think the process should probably be looked
- 21 into. I just don't see it as relevant for this
- 22 candidate challenge.
- 23 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Are you prepared to
- 24 make a motion?
- 25 COMMISSION MEMBER Z. KLUTZ: Yeah. For



- 1 those reasons, I believe there's been
- 2 substantial evidence that's been presented that
- 3 the candidate has not complied with the
- 4 applicable candidacy requirements set forth in
- 5 Title III of Indiana code, specifically does not
- 6 appear, based on the evidence I've seen or
- 7 heard, that the candidate was registered to vote
- 8 in the district in which the candidate filing
- 9 was due.
- 10 So for that reason, I make a motion to deny
- 11 the Candidate CAN 23 filing and sustain the
- 12 consolidated candidate filing challenges.
- 13 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: So we have a motion
- 14 to sustain the challenge. Is there a second?
- 15 (No response.)
- 16 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: I will second the
- 17 motion. The motion is seconded. Any
- 18 discussion?
- 19 COMMISSION MEMBER S. OVERHOLT: Yeah, I
- 20 would say -- I'm sorry.
- 21 A. DICKEY: Go ahead.
- 22 COMMISSION MEMBER S. OVERHOLT: I think the
- 23 evidence is that the candidate took the steps to
- 24 change her registration with respect to the card
- 25 being mailed out. There is no evidence that she



- 1 failed to return the card. There is no evidence
- 2 that the county or the multiple vendors did not
- 3 receive the card, so to me, there's -- I mean, I
- 4 think it's reasonable to believe that she took
- 5 the steps to update her registration, and that,
- 6 as we all know, has happened with so many
- 7 voters, that the system does not accurately
- 8 reflect what has occurred. So I think the
- 9 challenge should be denied.
- 10 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Are you saying,
- 11 Commissioner Overholt, that the burden of proof
- 12 should be shifted to the Commission to prove?
- 13 COMMISSION MEMBER S. OVERHOLT: The
- 14 Commission? I believe it was on the challenger.
- 15 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: The proof, do you
- 16 think that -- well...
- 17 COMMISSION MEMBER Z. KLUTZ: Commissioner,
- 18 if I could ask -- Mr. Chairman, if I could ask a
- 19 question. Your position is the evidence
- 20 presented by the candidate, that verbal
- 21 testimony outweighs the printouts that have been
- 22 presented to us by the challengers?
- 23 COMMISSION MEMBER S. OVERHOLT: I would say
- 24 that if we want to have an argument amongst
- 25 ourselves, that's fine. I would say -- so we



- 1 have an outdated printout; right? We have an
- 2 outdated record, official record. We have a
- 3 document that is not an official record. We
- 4 have the document of August 22nd that the only
- 5 thing this shows to me is that the county is
- 6 saying that as of July 30th, when it got around
- 7 to processing this information, that it has put
- 8 her in an inactive status.
- 9 To me, this does not say anything about
- 10 whether she mailed the card as she had said. It
- 11 doesn't say anything about when the county actually
- 12 received or didn't receive anything. All it says
- is that after going through all those vendors, that
- 14 as of July 30th, this is the information that one
- of those vendors, and I'm still not clear to me who
- 16 it was, thought they had or didn't have, but to me,
- 17 that does not indicate to me anything about what
- 18 the candidate actually -- it does nothing to
- 19 question what the candidate actually did.
- 20 COMMISSION MEMBER Z. KLUTZ: Except for the
- 21 candidate's statement that she does not believe
- 22 she's registered to vote at the address.
- 23 COMMISSION MEMBER S. OVERHOLT: Well, what
- 24 she said was according to this. She said
- 25 according to this document...



1	CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: All right. We have a
2	motion and a second, we'll call into question,
3	all in favor of the motion to sustain the
4	challenge, say aye?
5	COMMISSION MEMBER Z. KLUTZ: Aye.
6	CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Aye. All opposed?
7	A. DICKEY: No.
8	COMMISSION MEMBER S. OVERHOLT: No.
9	CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: The motion fails
10	since it has not received three votes required
11	for official action by the Commission. I would
12	now ask if there's motion to overrule the
13	challenge?
14	COMMISSION MEMBER S. OVERHOLT: So moved.
15	A. DICKEY: Second.
16	CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: I have a motion and a
17	second to overrule the challenge. Any
18	discussion?
19	A. DICKEY: I would just kind of reiterate
20	what Suzannah said. I think that we have a very
21	flawed system, and the unfortunate reality is I
22	don't know that anyone knows what happened. And
23	personally, I would rather that instead of it
24	being us four, and I'm not sure if any of us are
25	really in that district, but I would rather it

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- 1 be the voters who decide whether or not she
- 2 should be in the office as opposed to us making
- 3 a decision here today on a flawed system.
- 4 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: We have a motion and
- 5 a second -- well, any further discussion?
- 6 (No response.)
- 7 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Motion and a second,
- 8 all in favor of the motion to overrule the
- 9 challenge, say aye?
- 10 COMMISSION MEMBER S. OVERHOLT: Aye.
- 11 A. DICKEY: Aye.
- 12 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: All those opposed,
- 13 say the same sign?
- 14 COMMISSION MEMBER Z. KLUTZ: Aye.
- 15 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Aye. 2-2, the motion
- 16 fails so...
- D. SIMMONS: Would you like an explanation
- 18 on what is going on?
- 19 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Sure.
- D. SIMMONS: Mr. Chairman and Members of
- 21 the Commission, of course, it takes three
- 22 affirmative votes of the Commission to take
- 23 official action, and without that, we are in a
- 24 position where the Commission hasn't taken
- 25 official action on the challenge, and the way



- 1 that works in this case is the special statute
- 2 applies to legislative challenge is 3-8-8. In
- 3 Subsection 3-8-8-5, it says that if the
- 4 commission fails to make a decision within one
- 5 day after having its meeting on the challenge,
- 6 that the challenge is deemed dismissed.
- 7 So that means the status quo would stay the
- 8 same. Now, what is the status quo -- the election
- 9 division was already certified the candidate as a
- 10 candidate, so the status quo in this case would be
- 11 preserve the candidate, would remain a candidate in
- 12 this instance, absent any further appellate review
- 13 or decision.
- 14 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Any questions on the
- 15 explanation or any elaboration?
- 16 L. BARNES: Mr. Chair, I would concur with
- 17 Dale's analysis and citation of the statutes.
- 18 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: Okay. With that, the
- 19 Election Commission has finished its business
- 20 for the day. Is there a motion that the
- 21 Election Commission adjourn?
- 22 COMMISSION MEMBER Z. KLUTZ: So moved.
- 23 CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: I've got a motion.
- 24 Is there a second?
- 25 COMMISSION MEMBER S. OVERHOLT: Second.



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          CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: All in favor, say
1
2
    aye?
          THE COMMISSION: Aye.
3
          CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: All opposed, same
5
    sign?
          (No response.)
6
          CHAIRMAN B. BENNETT: The ayes have it.
7
    The Indiana Election Commission meeting is
8
     adjourned. Thank you all.
9
          (Time noted: 3:30 p.m.)
10
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```

1	STATE OF INDIANA)	52
2) SS: COUNTY OF MARION)	
3		
4	I, Rhonda J. Hobbs, RPR, and a Notary Public	
5	and Stenographic Reporter within and for the County	
6	of Hendricks, State of Indiana at large, do hereby	
7	certify that on the 22nd day of August, 2014, I	
8	took down in stenograph notes the foregoing	
9	proceedings;	
10	That the transcript is a full, true and	
11	correct transcript made from my stenograph notes.	
12	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set	
13	my hand and affixed my notarial seal this	
14	day of September, 2014.	
15		
16	Wonda G. Halita	
17	NOTARY PUBLIC	
18		
19	My Commission Expires: August 24, 2017	
20	County of Residence: Hendricks County	
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		

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