



**DENISE MERRILL**  
SECRETARY OF THE STATE  
CONNECTICUT

Election Performance Task Force  
Meeting Minutes  
Friday, October 7, 2011  
10:00 a.m. in Room 1C of the Legislative Office Building

The meeting was convened at 10:10 a.m. by Secretary of the State Denise Merrill. The following members were present:

Kevin Ahern, Judy Beaudreau, Ted Bromley, Secretary Denise Merrill, John Murphy, Therese Pac, Cheri Quickmire, Peggy Reeves, Bilal Sekou, Brian Sear, Deputy Secretary James Spallone, Shannon Wegele, Carole Young-Kleinfeld

Secretary Merrill reminded the task force of the three subgroups that had been formed at the last meeting: Improving post election/year round processes, improving voters' experience, and improving voter participation from underperforming groups. These emerged from the discussions on issues that the force needs to tackle when they look at election performance. She had asked for a report and presentation from each of these three groups.

Peggy Reeves began with listing her group of Lisa Valenti, Kevin Ahearn, Secretary Denise Merrill, Shannon Wegele, and Luther Weeks. They were asked to discuss post-election audits, ballot storage, recanvass procedures, cost of machine maintenance, cost of ballots, and technology issues. First she spoke about how the state audits elections. They audit 10% of polling places, chosen at random. Some towns pay about \$10/hr for someone to come, which can take half a day or longer so costs can vary. The cost is about \$80,000-\$120,000 each year an audit is done, but that estimate may be low because the Registrar of Voters is there all day during the audit and she is on salary, which is not included.

The benefits of conducting an audit are: confidence in the election process, the voters will feel that their votes did count, and the candidates will feel that it was fairly conducted. The deterrent effect occurs because of the randomness since even if you were chosen last year you still have the same chance of being chosen again.

When an audit is done, it involves counting which always has a human error. A small difference is normal but if it is wildly off, then the Secretary of the State may come in to look and see why the audit results are so different than the machines.

Some suggestions, which came from Luther Weeks, are including absentee ballots since we don't audit them. Also, every town would pick their own three races to audit and it would be good to give public notice so it is not done in secret.

Luther Weeks added that the cost figures come from reimbursement requests to the state when they asked for reimbursement, but they remain pretty consistent.

One of the things the first group talked about for the future was centralizing the audit process; instead of doing it town by town it can be done in a regional center. Ms. Reeves said they can use high speed scanners to read the marks and the density of those on the ballots. She also talked about video training of the counting process to help with consistency. Again, she spoke of transparency for the public and whether the public should be able to view the scanner copies of the ballots and whether it should be FOIable, about which there has been quite a divergence of opinion.

Then Ms. Reeves went into the recanvass/recount procedure. In Connecticut,  $\frac{1}{2}$  of 1%, or 2,000, is the point at which you will have an automatic recount. There was a question of whether  $\frac{1}{2}$  was too high or low, but the group didn't reach a consensus. There was a big discussion in their group on the Secretary of the State's recanvass manual. Some felt changes should be made because some towns vary in their processes but some felt that there also needs to be flexibility in the law due to town sizes as long as you follow main procedures. Many that were present at larger recounts felt it was not orchestrated correctly, that they were not reviewing the ballots as they should. For example, anything that is clear is run through the machine again but anything unclear is reviewed manually since the machine does not understand voter intent (such as circling the name instead of filling in the bubble).

It is very important to have recommended best practices that the state should institute that should ideally be in place by the August 2012 primary. It may be good to have a few people who understand how to set up a room and that observers know their role. It was also discussed if the time frame of 5 days is too short; some states do extend this. The group also discussed discrepancy recanvasses, which is when a moderator sees something wrong with results and has the ability to call the discrepancy recanvass; this is very important and should be continued.

Ms. Reeves then continued to say how the subcommittee spoke a little bit about moderator returns and that tabulator tapes should be attached to individual moderator returns to help with human error when the head moderator conglomerates the other moderators' returns. It is the head moderator's return that is sent to the state and seen as the statement of the vote. There could be lots of errors and there have been since we rely on those head moderator's returns. Election Night Reporting (ENR) is new technology where each district will upload their results and there will be checks to prevent error. The subcommittee believes it is very important to have better training for head moderators so we make sure they understand the importance of their role even after a long day.

Pilot poll books will be used in the November election in Torrington, side by side with the written check list to test how they work. More vigorous enforcement laws are needed, particularly around election history. We now have some teeth to enforce the law due to recent legislation; towns can now be fined if they do not upload their history within 60 days.

Ms. Reeves continued on the topic of ballot storage. They found that towns keep their ballots in various places. The election on wheels is a huge rolling cabinet that some towns keep at their schools and load up their pre-voted ballots there. There is a question as to whether there is a security risk to have them in a locked cabinet as opposed to a vault; there are inconsistencies with where they are stored. The law is very strict on how long they need to be kept but registrars may not be aware of when they can dispose of the ballots to help with storage space. There was then a question on who should have access to the ballots before and after the vote. Machine maintenance was then brought up. There are approximately 760 polling places, plus backup and absentee machines, this is a lot of machines and it is very expensive to maintain. The state took over the contract to maintain them until 2014, which costs about \$200 per machine. After this the towns have to look to their own resources and the question arose of why it is so expensive and if there can be competition among vendors. Ms. Reeves also posed the question of the role of the state involving programming and what it should or should not be doing, yet the group came to no firm conclusions.

She then brought up the costs of the ballots. Currently, Adkins and LHS are the only printers who can print our ballots. There is not a lot of competition in this business. The costs vary from towns so greatly because of the size of order, colors used on ballots, etc. They also spoke about the cost per ballot cast, cost per registration change, and turnaround time for ballots. The new technology, ballots on demand, would work best in a regional center because it is very expensive and the machine is very heavy, but there is a great value to being able to print so quickly.

Kevin Ahearn brought up the best practices discussion. He suggested setting up a system and serving as a body to encourage regional conversations about best practices.

Secretary Merrill supported his idea stating that she was in a small town recently and noticed the differences of the practices.

Bilal Sekou asked if people are improvising because they see certain things as important or is it a function of an absence of direction. He brought up he has noticed that people are always asked for identification in one town and never asked in another.

Kevin Ahearn answered that the manual is written by lawyers who tend to stick to strict interpretation of only what is in law and this brings the gap between different interpretations.

Secretary Merrill agreed that she has heard stories of discrepancies in being asked for identification. She said that this an area that she'd like to see statistics of how often people are turned away for not having identification.

Judy Beaudreau said that everyone is trained a certain way but older Registrars used to do it a different way and just don't adapt to the newer laws; some aren't aware that the law changed. Municipalities send town clerks and many others to conferences but won't send Registrars. A current law restricts funding to \$35 a day for conferences which includes travel, food, overnight accommodations.

Secretary Merrill said that the money is not available right now but that access to the conferences needs to be made available; maybe don't stay overnight to save money.

Brian Sear brought up the issue that because of competing time frames of changes on the ballot and getting them reprinted, sometimes the only option is to place stickers on the ballots to change it.

Secretary Merrill agreed and said this brings up the idea of having a regional ballot printing machine. In eastern Connecticut, there are many small towns so this could be beneficial, but she asked if this is a practical solution to the problem statewide.

Ted Bromley said it used to be that a political party could replace a candidate up to 7 days prior to an election, but it wasn't a big deal on lever machines because you could just replace the name strip. In about 2007, the legislature rolled it back to 21 days prior to an election to accommodate the printing of ballots. But the problem is that absentee ballots become available 31 days before an election so in reality it would have to be moved back to 35 or more days before an election when you no longer can replace a candidate. This presents competing interests between practicality and political parties.

Secretary Merrill agreed that something needs to be done, this doesn't just happen if candidates are replaced but when someone drops off or a mistake was made. It is very expensive to reprint ballots.

Ted Bromley brought up sometimes when placing stickers a ballot is missed too.

Luther Weeks brought up some other points. Regarding the chain of custody, many town officials can gain access to the ballots for a period of time. When he told officials in other states that, they said they wouldn't take the job because there is too much responsibility to ensure no one touched the ballots. He also said there needs to be a longer period for recanvassing due to the situation that occurred in Bridgeport when enough ballots hadn't been ordered; someone called for a recanvass with 5 days left and there just wasn't enough time. On counting ballots, he has observed 37 audits and 5 recanvasses and felt that it's difficult to know if officials counted correctly. Finally, on the idea of on demand printing, some vendors can print at the last minute but this could raise the problem of whether the machines will take these on-demand ballots. In the scheme of things for the state, this isn't expensive but it is for a town.

Secretary Merrill questioned electronic ballot storage: Is it secure? Are other states doing this as a means of permanent storage? Should we look into it?

Peggy Reeves said we can look into it.

Judy Beaudreau said that as far as she knows there is no law to hold it electronically, places still need to hold the physical ballots for a standard 22 months by federal law.

Secretary Merrill said that federal mandates are trying to be reduced since money is running out of HAVA (Help America Vote Act) so maybe they can make suggestions to the 22 month storage law. It is a concern for towns because they are running out of storage.

Judy Beaudreau said when lever machines were in use this storage only used to apply to absentee ballots. She doesn't know why all the ballots are being stored. She is aware that the federal government can seat someone for up to 22 months, that's why the law is in place but it doesn't specify if it is all ballots.

Carole Young-Kleinfeld said it may be to our advantage to have a shorter time frame. By storing ballots electronically it would allow you to look up a ballot and see the physical one to see what the voter intended.

Carole Young-Kleinfeld reported back for the subcommittee on improving voters' experience. Most people around the table of the subcommittee initially believed from their personal experience that Connecticut's elections generally run smoothly except for some highly publicized incidents. However, she doesn't know if that is actually true since we don't have the data to prove if these isolated incidents are glitches or indicative of underlying problems in the system. She doesn't know if the low ranking on the EAC survey is deserved or not. She tried to come up with questions that would help determine this and make general improvements to the voters' experience at the polls.

Starting with voter registration, one group member said 25% of Bridgeport voters change their polling place every year. If that is true for other cities, that is a lot of people to track and update and is a management problem. Reregistering or changing the address within the town or within the state poses challenges to local officials. The group wanted to address how to fix this problem. They discussed online voter registration like the programs Arizona and Washington have and are interested in partnering with other states to compare voter lists to keep them up to date and accurate. Some of the group thought they should learn more about universal voter registration. Another suggestion was the possibility of passing a Constitutional Amendment to pre-register 17 year olds. Some Registrars aggressively follow property transfers in their town to determine registration changes in addition to following tax office forwarding addresses or working with rental agencies so when new leases are signed people are provided with a voter registration card. It also may help to loosen the strict registration deadlines.

Ms. Young-Kleinfeld then went into discussing what happens at the polls. One of the group members reported he personally waited in line for a matter of hours to vote at his college community. She does not know if this happens in other towns but if you want to encourage young people to vote, they need to find out.

She went on to say they do not know staff numbers from town to town or even from district to district. Some members suggested staffing requirements based on voters set by the Secretary of

the State's office. Do voters think they are treated with courtesy? Is privacy respected? It was unknown; it was suggested to post Election Day hotlines at the polls for voters to report this.

As far as expanding absentee voting, the pros were more convenience for voters and fewer last minute disenfranchising experiences, such as a last minute work meeting that would prevent you from voting. The cons are costs to municipalities and burdens to town clerks who handle absentee voting as well as the potential for undue influence. How do states that do all mail in voting, like Oregon, monitor candidate influence? This should be explored.

Also, the EAC shows that Connecticut reports the number of absentee ballots cast and those rejected but not reasons for rejections, although local town clerks and registrars can compile this and many already do. Knowing the reasons for rejections might help us in voter outreach efforts and streamlining the process for overseas voters, such as using the FWAB (Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot) for a ballot and registration.

The group then talked about behind the scenes issues and how municipalities differ widely in the services provided. Some Registrars are full time and some work a few hours a week. Some registrars don't have the budget to attend continuing education or even to do minimal voter outreach. The group suggests a recommendation set by the Secretary of the State regarding staffing of municipalities of varying sizes as well as clear requirements for certification and education. The question was raised if there should be background qualifications for Registrars, other than party affiliation, like there are for Assessors.

The group was interested in developing best practices around issues such as staffing of the Registrars' offices, voter registration, maintaining voter lists, ordering ballots, preparing for emergencies, maintaining security of the machines and ballots, outreach, post election audits, staffing polls and training of poll workers.

The group agreed that they need to get everyone on the same page in administering elections in Connecticut and the Secretary of the State's office and the State Elections Enforcement Commission (SEEC) should play a role in getting us there.

With all this information needed, data needs to be collected. The possibility was raised of doing a simple exit survey on Election Day, to include questions like: How long did you wait? Did you think it was too long? Were you treated courteously? How can we improve your experience at the polls? They mentioned using the data from the hotlines from the SEEC, using the data that the Registrars' offices already collect, using Town Clerks' data, reworking the moderator's return to capture absentee ballot information, and designing a format to capture Election Day incidents from the polling place through the moderator's journal—things like: How many people were turned away? How many ballots were not counted and what was the reason?

Secretary Merrill pointed out that one of the many things we need to do is prioritize.

Therese Pac mentioned that how technologies can help has not been touched on enough. There are so many ways to make the whole process better, faster, clearer, and they really need to be explored.

Bilal Sekou asked if we really know about the population of people that are moving around and have a problem with registration, such as college students. He asked if this is a bigger problem in the urban areas where there are more people of color and lower income. He pointed out the necessity and importance of voter education and how people are informed of issues, where they can get information. If this problem is among young people then colleges can play an important role in getting this information out. Many are unsure of where they should register; at home or at school. There also need to be places to get this information out to lower income brackets and inform people that if they move they need to reregister.

Carole Young-Kleinfeld agreed that we do not know. There is much anxiety when voters come in and are in the wrong district. It can sometimes be difficult to figure out and the voter may not ever vote. This needs to be addressed so no voter is disenfranchised for these reasons. As far as outreach to young people, it has not been discussed greatly. We had talked about doing focus groups with young people.

Secretary Merrill mentioned that social media may be helpful to reach young people.

Judy Beaudreau said that registrars do an annual canvass every year that can tell you many statistics about how many people move, etc.

The question and answer session with Ms. Young-Kleinfeld was put on hold to allow time for the guest speaker, Brenda Wright, Director of Demos. The presentation was on Election Day Registration (EDR) and was made via Skype.

Ms. Wright said that people in Connecticut have been speaking about EDR for years; it is not a new concept. There are 8 states and the District of Columbia that allow people to register on Election Day itself. North Carolina allows people to register and vote on the same day during the early voting period, but not on Election Day itself. In the 2008 presidential election, there were a million people who used same day registration or Election Day registration to register and vote. North Carolina, which was introducing same day registration for the first time, had the single most increase in turnout of all the states compared to 2004.

North Carolina is an important example because the numbers themselves are really amazing. 253,000 people used same day registration in the primaries and the general. It particularly benefited African American voters: 36% of people who used it in North Carolina were African American. Of all the states in 2008 with same day registration, the turnout was 7% higher than states without EDR. This is a reform that is not new, except in some states like North Carolina. It has been in place for years in some states, like Maine, Wisconsin, and Minnesota, all of which implemented EDR before all the new technology.

One of the important things to recognize is the benefit of EDR for young people. Young Americans and especially college students tend to move frequently and have a difficulty keeping voter registration current as well as meeting registration deadlines. Another important benefit is that it cuts down on provisional ballots which can be a big problem and expense. A lot of

friction comes when someone comes in and says they're sure they're registered but it's not showing up. If you have EDR, you don't have this problem.

In Iowa when they instituted EDR, they reduced their provisional ballot use by 2/3rds; North Carolina saw them drop by 23,000 even though they saw a huge increase in turnout. The ability to avoid provisional ballots alone makes EDR worth it in his state, an election administrator told Wright.

EDR also improves the quality of campaigning and gets more people interested in the elections. This makes candidates talk to everyone, not just registered voters; it's a way for candidates to have motivation to reach out to other people.

Arguments against EDR include the integrity of elections yet the states that have been using this for years have not shown these problems. The idea of people showing up twice in an election is just not a problem that has been seen. The other question is administration and how much it increases the cost of elections. There is one study by Michael Alvarez of the California Institute for Technology that shows that EDR states are no more expensive than non EDR states. Even though there may be some additional upfront costs, you make up for those at the end by not having as many provisional ballots and not having to have staff to process the last minute applications that come in right before the deadline.

Secretary Merrill stated that the part that appeals to her is that candidates are talking to fewer people now. They prime the lists to try to identify their voters but EDR forces everyone to talk to a larger audience and this is a point that we should emphasize.

Ms. Wright says this is one of the reasons why this is so beneficial because you are reaching a different part of the electorate. She says early voting and EDR are like peanut butter and jelly and should go together. There are very interesting studies from the University of Wisconsin that have found that EDR is the single best provision for increasing turnout and if you implement early voting without EDR some states are actually seeing turnout go down. The explanation seems to be that if you emphasize early voting, you take away the excitement from Election Day. The best possible combination is to have early voting and EDR which has convenience and increased turnout.

Carole Young-Kleinfeld asked if early voting includes in mail in voting or if it just refers to polling place early voting. Ms. Wright clarified that early voting refers to voting at a polling place on a day different than Election Day.

Secretary Merrill said that the argument from the other side is that if people think voting is so important, shouldn't they have to think about it and register in advance rather than racing to the polls last minute? Ms. Wright says this overlooks the fact that EDR is not just for people making the choice at the last minute to register, but it is also to deal with all those people that have been voting for a long time but for some reason their registration cannot be found or because they moved. There can also be late developments in a campaign that make it perfectly understandable for people to not be able to have the time to register then get to the polls on Election Day. If people get interested at any point, we should encourage that.

Kevin Ahearn asked if any of the 8 states do some combination of EDR along with provisional ballots. Speaking from a law enforcement standpoint, the law enforcement concerns are clear, if not supported by the data. Is there a way to have EDR and have your ballot provisional until it goes through the same process as all the other registrations? Ms. Wright said that most states do not make those ballots provisional per say because it would take away some of the advantage of the process of reducing the need for provisional ballots. States like Minnesota and Wisconsin have processes where they send post-election mailings to those who registered on Election Day and if those come back or any problem is revealed, this is known. States have not had any problems with fraudulent registrations.

Therese Pac had a question in respect to the reduction in provisional ballots—would EDR also mean a reduction in presidential ballots? The numbers cited seem pretty great, and Ms. Pac thinks this is a benefit to town clerks who are inundated with presidential ballots. Brenda Wright said that as she understands, presidential ballots are basically a form of same day registration. Depending on how it was implemented, if you had same day registration as well as early voting that might be a way of handling that concern. The real impact would be that you could vote for president and state elections on the same ballot.

Secretary Merrill thanked Ms. Wright and directed the discussion back to the previous presentation.

Brian Sear brought back up the sense of importance of Election Day and said it was suggested to make it a state holiday. He said that if you were granted freedom from your job or whatever obligation you have it would encourage people and make it easier to vote. He said that the numbers aren't known of people that just can't fit it in their day, for example they have work meetings or have to pick children up from daycare.

Secretary Merrill agreed about making the day a holiday and said it has been brought up repeatedly in Congress to even make it a federal holiday. She suggested possibly making Veterans' Day Election Day since what better way to honor veterans than to vote. She brought this up to some congressional people and there is an interest but cost is an issue. For countries that have very high voter turnout it is almost always a holiday.

Judy Beaudreau suggested making Election Day a teacher awareness day to use students at the polls. Secretary Merrill said that not all towns realize you can use 16 and 17 year olds to work the polls. Judy Beaudreau said the law needs to be tweaked because the law says you need to be from the municipality to work at the poll. Secretary Merrill said some towns do not have teacher awareness days now.

Bilal Sekou added that there should be an effort made around awareness if early voting or EDR was implemented. This eases the potential difficulty of being able to vote and will boost the turnout and attention to our state. For example, the Obama presidential campaign focused greatly on Florida and North Carolina because of their early voting laws. When these were utilized, there was increases in voter turnout in states and a particularly larger increase in turnout for African Americans.

Therese Pac brought up the importance of recognizing confidentiality with EDR and early voting. In Bristol, there have been many complaints of people that requested an absentee ballot and were then called by candidates and they felt like they were being singled out. Some people may be in the hospital and use an absentee ballot and they have security concerns.

Bilal Sekou said in some states where people were allowed to vote early on Sundays, churches would encourage people to go out and vote after service. This occurred particularly in minority communities.

Carole Young Kleinfeld asked Kevin Ahearn if he has seen incidents where people tried to vote twice and other methods of fraud on the presidential ballots in Connecticut, which is the closest thing we have to EDR. Kevin Ahearn answered that, off the top of his head, he does not remember any incidents regarding fraud.

Secretary Merrill asked if the Elections Enforcement commission publishes data about their cases. Kevin Ahearn said the cases are published and available in the library and online but there is no data. Secretary Merrill asked if it could be done. Kevin Ahearn answered that it most likely could.

Ted Bromley then moved the discussion to the third subcommittee on underperforming groups. There is data on turnout between different election years, such as presidential and state versus municipal. Next, what were some ideas that lower voter turnout? For example, fear may keep people away when they don't know what to do at the polling location. Early voting may help this problem. Does social media help get people excited? Are the candidates themselves increasing turnout? Are they vibrant? Is the race competitive? Sometimes, one candidate is running for office unchallenged. These are the issues his group discussed and what can be done about it. He said that it really came down to education of the voter in terms of the process (how to use the machine) and civic education (what are the offices and what do they do?). People may not be familiar with the various offices, especially in a municipality. They discussed web based training for voters and officials. Local public financing was also discussed. New Haven is using its own public financing. Does this drive voter participation?

Some of the solutions they came up with included allowing your registration to follow you from town to town. Also, local advocacy groups can assist in registration and voter outreach. Structural changes can help, such as: registration following you, no excuse absentee voting, early voting, EDR, enforcement of federal processes such as motor voter. They need to ensure there is enough training of all the offices involved. They also discussed addressing specific populations, such as simplifying felon restoration processes and ensuring they have the materials to participate upon their release. The homeless population was also mentioned as well as preregistration of 17 year olds and possibly 16 year olds. They also discussed the local buy in, why is the turnout so different in presidential years versus municipalities? How can they make constituents be invested in their local candidates?

Bilal Sekou said when CT passed its felon voter registration law it was around 32,000 people that were convicted felons and were able to be reregistered again. He noticed that a substantial

amount of people weren't registered even before they were convicted. He said that once the new law was passed, this issue dropped off the radar of getting this population registered to vote. The Department of Corrections does some work in informing people, but for the most part there is little effort to get this group registered. This affects people of color because of the disproportionate amount of how many have been convicted of a crime compared to other racial groups. In some states it may be as high as 40% of black males that fall in this group and are now disenfranchised because of this lack of effort to get them registered. There needs to be a much more intense effort to get this group registered to vote.

Secretary Merrill questioned why candidates are more aggressive with getting this group registered. She asked if this group is difficult to contact. Bilal Sekou answered that candidates definitely have a role to play in encouraging people to vote but in reality it lies more on offices such as the Secretary of the State's office. We expect people to pay taxes; they should also be expected to be politically engaged.

Judy Beaudreau said that she sees many people that were convicted of a felony a long time ago and don't realize they can vote again. Cheri Quickmire said there are release programs in prisons with information for the inmates on life after release; an idea is to have more information about voting there. Peggy Reeves pointed out that Elections Officer Joan Gibson does speak with felons about their rights quite often. There is always more than can be done, but it is being focused on.

Tina Prakash commented that it would be very easy for the Secretary of the State's office to work with the Department of Corrections to ensure when inmates are released they receive a packet with a registration card and a flyer about restoring voting rights.

Carole Young-Kleinfeld said that in her town, the League of Women Voters has a semi-monthly column in the paper about the town government. Around election time they focus on how to vote, what's on the ballot, and etc. She would encourage local groups and officials to work closely together on efforts like this.

Kevin Ahearn said that since the Citizens' Election Program has been implemented, it is the campaigns that will drive turnout. People who are investing in candidates are much more likely to go out and vote. The local program has done well in New Haven. Cheri Quickmire agreed that public funding has been very beneficial to New Haven in increasing voting.

Secretary Merrill asked about the idea of registration following you from town to town. Do other states do this? Are we positioned to do it? Ted Bromley said that other states do it; it would be better implemented with a centralized voter system. It comes down to the history and how our towns are independent of each other. He said it would be a good idea.

Bilal Sekou asked if any states that do it are comparable in size and other qualities to Connecticut. Judy Beaudreau answered that most of the states that have the system are county driven, unlike Connecticut that is municipality driven which creates a large difference. Their jurisdictions are much bigger and they can easily pass information to each other. It may be difficult but not undoable. She said she'd like to see a ten year plan come out of this task force.

What can Connecticut do to be unique and make things work better? Secretary Merrill said that Connecticut is about the size of some counties in other states, proving that it can be done. Ted Bromley agreed that this would be an overhaul of the system but is clearly valuable.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday October 19 at 2:00 p.m. in room 2B of the Legislative Office Building. There is an online voting symposium at Alumni hall at Central Connecticut State University on Thursday, October 27 at 5:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:08 p.m.