

Indiana Election Commission
Minutes
March 25, 2022

Members Present: Paul Okeson, Chairman of the Indiana Election Commission (“Commission”); Suzannah Wilson Overholt, Vice Chair of the Commission; Karen Celestino-Horseman, member; Litany A. Pyle, Member.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Attending: J. Bradley King, Co-Director, Indiana Election Division of the Office of the Secretary of State (Election Division); Angela M. Nussmeyer, Co-Director of the Election Division; Matthew Kochevar, Co-General Counsel of the Election Division; Valerie Warycha, Co-General Counsel of the Election Division; Ms. Abbey Taylor, Campaign Finance; Ms. Michelle Thompson, Campaign Finance.

Others Attending: Ms. Liz Beatrice; Dr. Bryan Byers; Mr. Marc Chatot; Mr. McDermott Coutts; Mr. Tyson Gosch; Mr. Keith McGinnis.

1. Call to Order:

The Chair called the March 25, 2022 meeting of the Commission to order at 1:30 p.m. EDT in Conference Room 19, Indiana Government Center South, 402 West Washington Street, Indianapolis.

2. Transaction of Commission Business:

The Commission proceeded to transact the business set forth in the Transcript of Proceedings for this meeting prepared by Maria W. Collier, RPR, CRR, of Stewart Richardson and Associates, which is incorporated by reference into these minutes.

The following scrivener’s errors are corrected in this document:

Page 51, line 18, replace “SEA260” with “SEA 260”.

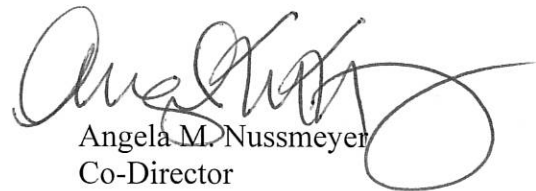
Page 62, line 3, replace “SB260” with “SB 260”.

The Commission adjourned its meeting at 2:46 p.m. EDT.

Respectfully submitted,

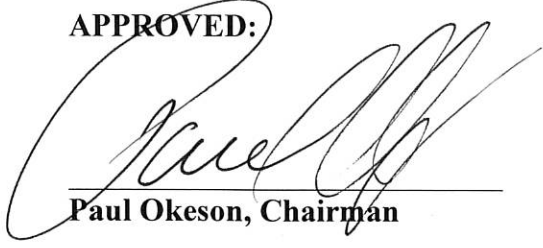


J. Bradley King
Co-Director



Angela M. Nussmeyer
Co-Director

APPROVED:



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Okeson", written over a horizontal line.

Paul Okeson, Chairman

In the Matter Of:
INDIANA ELECTION COMMISSION PUBLIC SESSION

Transcript of Proceedings

March 25, 2022

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2 INDIANA ELECTION COMMISSION
3 PUBLIC SESSION
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7 Conducted on: March 25, 2022
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11 Conducted at: Indiana Government Center South
12 402 West Washington Street, Conference Room 19
13 Indianapolis, Indiana
14

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16 A Stenographic Record by:
17 Maria W. Collier, RPR, CRR
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APPEARANCES

INDIANA ELECTION COMMISSION:

Paul Okeson - Chairman

Suzannah Wilson Overholt - Vice Chairman

Litany Pyle - Member

Karen Celestino-Horseman - Member

INDIANA ELECTION DIVISION STAFF:

Angela M. Nussmeyer - Co-Director

J. Bradley King - Co-Director

Matthew Kochevar - Co-Counsel

Valerie Warycha - Co-Counsel

Michelle Thompson - Campaign Finance Director

Abbey Taylor - Campaign Finance Director

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1 CHAIRMAN OKESON: I'm going to call the
2 meeting of the Indiana Election Commission to
3 order, public session, Friday, March 25, 2022,
4 1:30 p.m. Eastern Standard, Conference Room 19,
5 Indiana Government Center South.

6 For purposes of the record, I'll note the
7 following members of the Commission are present:
8 Myself, Chairman Paul Okeson, Vice Chair Suzannah
9 Wilson Overholt, Commission Member Karen
10 Celestino-Horseman, and Commission Member Litany
11 Pyle. Also in attendance are Indiana Election
12 Division staff: Co-Director Brad King and
13 Co-Director Angie Nussmeyer as well as Co-Counsels
14 Matthew Kochevar and Valerie Warycha to my right.
15 Also, our good friend and court reporter Maria
16 Collier from Stewart Richardson Deposition Services
17 is here as well.

18 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Thank you for coming
19 back.

20 THE REPORTER: I can't get out of it now.

21 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Part of the family.

22 I'd like to seek out documentation of
23 compliance with the Open Door Law. Request the
24 co-directors confirm.

25 MR. KING: Mr. Chairman, members of the

1 Commission, on behalf of Co-Director Nussmeyer and
2 myself, I certify that notice of this meeting was
3 given in compliance with the Indiana Open Door Law.

4 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Thank you.

5 Moving on, we have the approval of the
6 February 18 and February 24, 2022, Commission
7 minutes. I recognize the co-directors to present
8 the minutes for both meetings.

9 MR. KING: Mr. Chairman, members of the
10 Commission, on behalf of myself and Co-Director
11 Nussmeyer, we have reviewed the minutes of both of
12 these meetings and recommend them to you for your
13 approval.

14 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Is there a motion?

15 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: So moved.

16 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Thank you. Is there a
17 second?

18 MS. PYLE: Second.

19 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Any discussion or questions?

20 Hearing none, all those in favor signify by
21 saying "Aye."

22 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Aye.

23 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: Aye.

24 MS. PYLE: Aye.

25 CHAIRMAN OKESON: The "ayes" have it.

1 Is there consent from the Commission members
2 for the Election Division staff to use our
3 signature stamps for any documents?

4 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Consent.

5 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: Consent.

6 MS. PYLE: Consent.

7 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Moving on, administration of
8 the oath. Any person who plans to provide any
9 testimony today on any matter, please stand and be
10 recognized by Matthew Kochevar, who will administer
11 the oath.

12 MR. KOCHEVAR: If you plan to testify before
13 the Indiana Election Commission, please rise, raise
14 your right hand, and say "I do" after recitation of
15 the oath.

16 Do you solemnly swear or affirm under the
17 penalties of perjury that the testimony you are
18 about to give to the Indiana Election Commission is
19 the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
20 truth? Please say "I do."

21 ALL: I do.

22 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Before we move on to further
23 business and considering applications for
24 recertification and engineering change orders
25 currently on our agenda today, I would note for the

1 record that the Commission offered the required
2 public testimony and comment regarding
3 recertification of these voting systems, provided
4 an opportunity to the public to comment regarding
5 those applications for certification of new voting
6 systems.

7 We missed campaign finance. And before we go
8 on to the voting systems report, we'll do a
9 ratification of campaign finance settlement
10 agreements. I'll recognize the staff.

11 MR. KING: Mr. Chairman, members of the
12 Commission, the Indiana Campaign Finance staff,
13 Abbey Taylor and Michelle Thompson, are here to
14 present information regarding these agreements.

15 MS. THOMPSON: Mr. Chairman, members of the
16 Commission, behind your Campaign Finance tab is a
17 list of committees that are ready to ratify that
18 have agreed to pay the settlement agreement and
19 waive a hearing.

20 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: I'd move that -- we
21 just need to ratify the reports, right?

22 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Yeah. Is there a motion to
23 ratify?

24 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: I would move that we
25 ratify the reports.

1 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Is there a second?

2 MS. PYLE: Second.

3 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Any discussion or questions?

4 Hearing none, all those in favor signify by

5 saying "Aye."

6 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Aye.

7 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: Aye.

8 MS. PYLE: Aye.

9 CHAIRMAN OKESON: The "ayes" have it. The
10 motion carries. Thank you. I would have kept you
11 here the rest of the meeting.

12 Okay. Well, I was not here on the
13 February 24th Commission meeting. Members asked
14 for information from VSTOP regarding the capability
15 of each voting system certified for use in Indiana
16 to retract scanned absentee ballots from the voting
17 system, and VSTOP has provided some written
18 responses from each of the four vendors regarding
19 these questions, which are in each of your binders.

20 On a related matter, Commissioner
21 Celestino-Horseman asked for some additional
22 information regarding the Unisyn OpenElect 2.2
23 voting system's compliance with state law requiring
24 optical scan ballot cards to include party
25 designations of each candidate on the ballot.

1 VSTOP has provided ballot card images with
2 address -- that would address this issue as well.
3 These are also in your binders under the Unisyn
4 tab.

5 And with that, I will now recognize VSTOP to
6 present an executive summary regarding the overall
7 results of this inquiry and then open this topic up
8 for discussion by the Commission. Good afternoon.

9 MR. CHATOT: Good afternoon.

10 CHAIRMAN OKESON: And just as a reminder, if
11 you would, state your name and spell it for the
12 court reporter before you speak. That would be
13 very helpful.

14 MR. CHATOT: Good afternoon, Commissioner and
15 members of the Commission. For the record, I am
16 Marc Chatot, M-a-r-c, C-h-a-t-o-t, election systems
17 certification specialist for the Voting System
18 Technical Oversight Program, also known as VSTOP.

19 On February 24, 2022, the Commission requested
20 that VSTOP acquire further information from each
21 Indiana voting system vendor on the capabilities of
22 their systems to retract a ballot in compliance
23 with state law. Specifically, the amended
24 IC 3-11.5-4-6 was referenced, which states that a
25 county election board may scan a voted absentee

1 ballot card using an optical scan ballot scanner
2 not earlier than seven calendar days before
3 Election Day with the requirement that they may not
4 tabulate the ballots before Election Day and that
5 they shall retract a previously scanned absentee
6 ballot of a voter who is later found disqualified
7 or whose ballot may not be counted for any other
8 reason.

9 The amended law has two main assumptions.
10 One, all ballot card voting systems should be
11 capable of retracting a ballot of an absentee voter
12 who has been found to be disqualified; and, two,
13 scanned absentee ballots should not be tabulated by
14 the optical scan voting system until Election Day.

15 Upon reviewing these assumptions, it was
16 necessary for VSTOP to determine how tabulation is
17 defined. Following the IED's recommendation, we
18 would like to reference Section 1.1.8-A of
19 Version 2.0 of the Voluntary Voting System
20 Guidelines. According to VVSG 2.0, tabulation is
21 defined as a function that involves extraction of
22 the valid votes from the vote total, the creation
23 and storage of a cast vote record which contains
24 the selections of all valid votes, and an
25 aggregation of contest results and ballot

1 statistics. In addition to these requirements,
2 IC 3-11-7-3, which requires that a ballot card
3 voting system must enable a voter to cast their
4 vote in secrecy, remains in effect.

5 To fulfill the request of the Commission,
6 VSTOP, in collaboration with the Indiana Election
7 Division, developed a six-page testing document to
8 gather further information on the capabilities of
9 all four Indiana voting system vendors to retract a
10 ballot on their systems. In this document, VSTOP
11 asked vendors to respond to a scenario that
12 pertains to their voting system, whether op scan or
13 DRE, where vendors were expected to provide a
14 general synopsis of their ballot retraction
15 capabilities for in-person, mail-in, fax or email,
16 and travel board absentee voters.

17 In addition to this, VSTOP asked ten questions
18 asking for specific information pertaining to the
19 extent of these ballot retraction capabilities.
20 Specifically, VSTOP asked questions including:
21 One, whether retraction IDs were randomly and
22 automatically generated by the voting system or if
23 manual retraction ID generation is required; two,
24 whether voter information is used for the
25 retraction ID; three, whether the retraction ID is

1 printed on the ballot card; four, how the
2 retraction ID is stored after its generation; five,
3 how the ballot is retracted on the election
4 management software; six, whether the ballot is
5 automatically tabulated when scanned; seven, how
6 the scanned ballot image is stored; eight, whether
7 the retracted ballot is removed from the vote
8 total; nine, whether the voter secrecy is
9 maintained throughout the ballot retraction
10 process; and, ten, whether the vendor provides
11 instruction on the use of retraction function to
12 their clients.

13 VSTOP submitted all four vendor responses to
14 the IED on March 23, 2022. VSTOP is prepared to
15 provide a synopsis of each vendor's voting system
16 retraction capabilities upon the request of the
17 Commission.

18 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Does that conclude your --

19 MR. CHATOT: Yes.

20 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Any questions or comments?

21 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Well, I guess I'd
22 like to have a synopsis of what was submitted so we
23 know they asked the questions.

24 MR. CHATOT: Sure. Would you like all four
25 vendors or just the two on the agenda today?

1 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: All four.

2 MR. CHATOT: All four? Okay. We will start
3 with Hart InterCivic. Hart InterCivic offers two
4 solutions for the retraction of ballots on their
5 Verity 2.3 and 2.5 voting systems. The first
6 solution relates solely to absentee ballots that
7 are completed outside of the polling location.
8 During the election coding process, a unique ID is
9 activated on the Verity Build application. This
10 unique ID is a randomly generated alphanumeric
11 string of characters stored in a bar code for
12 system capture and in a human readable format on
13 the ballot card to support county process of
14 tracking. Hart InterCivic verified that no direct
15 voter information is used to generate the
16 retraction ID.

17 After the ballot card has been scanned, an
18 authorized county election official can retrieve
19 and delete the ballot by locating the unique ID in
20 the Verity Central application. Once this process
21 has been completed, the valid votes can then be
22 transferred to the Verity Count workstation for
23 tabulation.

24 Hart InterCivic's second solution for
25 retracting a disqualified voter's ballot relates to

1 in-person absentee voting on their voting system.
2 Each printed ballot contains a retrieval code that
3 was activated when the election was created on the
4 Verity Build application. Similar to the unique
5 ID, the retrieval code is a randomly generated
6 alphanumeric string of characters stored in a bar
7 code for system capture and in a human readable
8 format on the ballot to support county process of
9 tracking. No direct voter information is used to
10 generate the retraction ID.

11 If the county needs to remove the ballot
12 before it has been tabulated, an authorized county
13 election official should access the ballot with the
14 retrieval code. After doing so, the county should
15 scan all valid ballots for preparation for
16 tabulation in the Verity Count software. However,
17 if the county needs to remove any valid ballot
18 after it has been tabulated by Verity Count, the
19 county would need to locate the retrieval code
20 printed on the paper ballot, find the scanned image
21 of the invalid ballot, and delete the ballot image
22 that is saved on the scan device. Hart InterCivic
23 does offer directions on the use of their
24 retraction features in the Verity Build user guide.

25 And there's a Hart representative here if

1 further questions are needed.

2 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Yeah.

3 MR. CHATOT: Would you like me to -- would you
4 like to address Hart now or just keep going through
5 the other three vendors and ask them all at the
6 end?

7 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: I think I'd like to
8 hear all of them -- well, I guess -- I'd like to
9 hear all of them. I guess I don't -- or if we need
10 to address just the general issue of retraction and
11 how we're handling it, period.

12 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Well, I mean, reading the
13 minutes but not having been at the last meeting,
14 I'd give some deference to you all as to how you'd
15 like to proceed and hear this. I mean, I don't
16 want to get lost in the sequential nature of the
17 reading without having someone to -- unless you are
18 satisfied with that summary.

19 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Well, I guess I,
20 quite frankly, was hoping we were going to get a
21 little more guidance. I mean, I can read the
22 information they've submitted. I don't know that I
23 need to sit here and have you read what's in front
24 of me. I was hoping for a little more analysis. I
25 guess my thought, because I have read this

1 information, and I think getting back to what the
2 issue -- the issue that arose at the last
3 meeting -- my interpretation of the issue that
4 arose at the last meeting was that, you know, this
5 retraction issue and the ability to retract is
6 actually based on kind of the new statute and that
7 these systems, well, I mean, like Hart, for
8 example, we're talking about recertification of,
9 you know -- to the extent we're talking about
10 recertification of systems that were previously
11 approved, so that would be Hart would fall into
12 that. My understanding is that the retraction
13 module was not part of that initial --

14 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Certification.

15 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: -- certification.
16 And so I'm not sure -- because there are, in my
17 mind, this whole issue of retraction and how to go
18 about it and the whole issue of the absentee
19 ballots.

20 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Is that correct, it wasn't
21 part of the original certification?

22 MR. KING: Mr. Chairman, that's our
23 understanding, that it was not part of what was
24 submitted in, I believe, 2019, if my memory serves
25 me.

1 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Okay.

2 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: So my thought, I
3 mean, this is -- well, for all of these, because
4 this is the issue that kind of arose last time, we
5 wanted to get an understanding of the
6 recertification modules that they had and actually
7 what impact they would have on the systems that
8 were up for recertification before us now because
9 we haven't offered VSTOP -- you know, there weren't
10 the existing guidelines for what needed to be
11 tested for those modules.

12 So I guess my thought is with Hart, for
13 example, so retraction wasn't part of their initial
14 certification, that why not consider the Hart
15 system to the extent, if the recertification module
16 can be turned off or if it's separate or whatever,
17 to consider their application for recertification
18 without regard to the recertification module, so
19 pull that out. So I guess now I'm making kind of a
20 weird motion, which is probably premature. But
21 with all these, my suggested approach for
22 considering these is, what was the system that was
23 certified previously. That's the system that
24 should be up for recertification. If retraction
25 wasn't part of that previous system, it should not

1 be part of the recertification.

2 CHAIRMAN OKESON: So I guess where we are,
3 though, is simply hearing an opinion, right, from
4 VSTOP as to some of those questions. Then we have
5 to go through and pick up, as I understand it, some
6 tabled motions from the last meeting that deal with
7 the certification and the change orders of all
8 those.

9 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: But I'm not hearing
10 that. So I guess I didn't hear an opinion. Unless
11 I missed it, I didn't hear an opinion.

12 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Well, I would agree with
13 that.

14 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: So that's why --

15 CHAIRMAN OKESON: So we'll suspend your
16 reading of the information that's provided in the
17 tabs.

18 MR. CHATOT: Sure.

19 CHAIRMAN OKESON: And, I guess, are you
20 arriving at an opinion, as VSTOP, that the matter
21 has been adequately addressed?

22 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Well, let me ask, has
23 the -- so these questions were posed. Has there
24 been any field-testing of these recertification
25 modules?

1 MR. CHATOT: No, just the information
2 gathered.

3 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Okay.

4 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: Okay. So do you --
5 have you looked into the fact of whether the
6 retraction was not part of the original
7 certification? Because when you had the original
8 certification, you did all your field-testing and
9 everything else then; correct?

10 MR. CHATOT: Correct.

11 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: So this is now trying
12 to come in, the retraction, as part of the
13 recertification, and it hasn't gone through the
14 field-test. So the correct process would be a new
15 certification overall?

16 MR. CHATOT: Or a new certification for the
17 retraction portion.

18 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: Okay.

19 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Does that come as a change
20 order, then, or as a separate certification?

21 MR. CHATOT: Change order?

22 DR. BAGGA: Yeah.

23 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Is it considered an
24 enhancement or modification to an existing release?

25 MR. CHATOT: Right.

1 CHAIRMAN OKESON: But I guess what I heard in
2 your earlier synopsis was that, without a
3 definition for tabulation, right, that the issue is
4 avoided by simply not scanning until Election Day.
5 Am I reading between the lines there that --

6 MR. CHATOT: Yeah. That's.

7 CHAIRMAN OKESON: -- really the resolution
8 here is to advise the counties that you're
9 certifying software that simply can't scan ballots,
10 because it can't be retracted successfully, until
11 Election Day. Is that the gist of the one
12 paragraph you read?

13 MR. CHATOT: Yeah. The definition of
14 tabulation is what kind of what throws the wrench
15 in it.

16 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: So, in other words,
17 when they scan it in, at the same time it's scanned
18 in it's also automatically tabulated?

19 MR. CHATOT: From our interpretation from the
20 VVSG, yeah.

21 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Well, the definition
22 provided in the -- yeah, which is what they're
23 using.

24 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: No. I'm talking
25 about, though, the way the systems work on all four

1 of these. The explanations that have been provided
2 is that their systems automatically go ahead and
3 take that information and put it in and it's also
4 fed through the tabulator when it's scanned. Is
5 that correct?

6 MR. CHATOT: It's specific to each vendor, but
7 generally that's correct.

8 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: Okay. And under
9 the -- and that's the part that is not allowed to
10 happen, tabulation prior to Election Day.

11 MR. CHATOT: Correct.

12 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: So if they wait until
13 Election Day, then when they scan it through and it
14 tabulates, that's okay because it's Election Day.

15 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Right. And we're using the
16 broader definition of tabulation under this
17 guideline, which is any time you scan it in, no
18 matter what the system does, you've started the
19 tabulation process. I'm really simplifying it, but
20 that's basically it, right?

21 DR. BYERS: That's the gist of it, yes.

22 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Okay.

23 CHAIRMAN OKESON: So hearing that and I guess
24 to your point, I'm not sure we've heard an opinion,
25 per se, but we could move that we adopt the summary

1 that they've provided, then move to the orders for
2 each of the systems that were tabled from last
3 meeting, pick those up, and then we'd amend them
4 or -- is that a process? We'd amend those orders
5 or provide a new order, vote on the tabled order.

6 MR. KING: Mr. Chairman, members of the
7 Commission, at the February 24th meeting, with
8 regard to each of the items on the agenda for
9 today, a motion was made and then tabled with
10 regard to approval of either a voting system or an
11 engineering change order.

12 And so the parliamentary process is for the
13 Commission, in each case, to take it up off the
14 table. Then you have a live motion that the
15 Commission can either adopt as it was originally
16 made or can amend to include additional
17 restrictions, qualifications, which the Commission
18 has certainly done in the past with regard to
19 voting system certifications.

20 MS. NUSSMEYER: And, Mr. Chairman, if I might.

21 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Yeah, sure.

22 MS. NUSSMEYER: And Matthew is my
23 parliamentarian, and I know he and Brad probably
24 share a similar view. But at the February -- the
25 second meeting, was that the 24th?

1 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Yes.

2 MS. NUSSMEYER: The 24th meeting, Hart's
3 application is for a recertification of their
4 initial voting system. Commissioner Overholt had
5 asked whether or not they had retraction, and the
6 vendor said yes, but that was not part of the VSTOP
7 report or under consideration at that moment, but
8 the Commission still determined to table it.

9 So as I understood these documents that were
10 sent out to the vendors and who provided us a
11 response was to help inform decisions of the
12 Commission to be able to move forward, not
13 necessarily that we were contemplating Hart's
14 retraction element in their voting system that is
15 before you today because that is not part of the
16 VSTOP report, nor is it their engineering change
17 orders. This is just information for Hart.

18 Unisyn is a separate issue because they're
19 asking for a new voting system to be approved for
20 use in Indiana.

21 CHAIRMAN OKESON: So one is new certification
22 versus --

23 MS. NUSSMEYER: Right. And they actually have
24 a retraction piece that was mentioned in the VSTOP
25 report, right. So at this moment in time, I think

1 we've pulled together the information from the
2 vendors to gather information that, moving forward,
3 we can use it to develop field-test protocols for
4 VSTOP to be able to confirm or better clarify what
5 the vendors have provided to the Division and to
6 the Commission so that we can further explore what
7 retraction means under Indiana state law, under the
8 VVSG, and whether or not we need to approach the
9 legislature about making further changes in our
10 state's election laws to reconcile these
11 differences that we have with the optical scan
12 voting systems, right.

13 Direct-record electronic voting systems, which
14 is the MicroVote unit, they have their own
15 statutes. Optical scan systems, there's a lot of
16 ambiguity or nothing that is explicitly stated
17 about how to handle some of these issues.

18 MR. KING: Mr. Chairman, members of the
19 Commission, I agree with Ms. Nussmeyer's analysis
20 she's presented here with regard to the distinction
21 between the different types of voting systems that,
22 again, are detailed in the information that's
23 provided in the Commission's binders. And so the
24 question that can be before the Commission is one
25 of sequence in that you may wish to consider

1 adoption of a policy that applies with regard to
2 retraction by all vendors, noting the impact of the
3 definition of tabulation.

4 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Which is what I kind of
5 heard here; right?

6 MR. KING: You heard, yes --

7 CHAIRMAN OKESON: I don't know if that's an
8 opinion or a recommendation or a statement.

9 MR. KING: I would say this was a presentation
10 of information from VSTOP knowing the context of
11 the Commission's inquiry at its last meeting.

12 So as I say, the Commission can either
13 consider a general approach that applies to
14 retraction with regard to all vendors or it can
15 apply conditions to certifications for the
16 different voting systems depending upon their
17 unique features or it can do both.

18 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: So my thought --
19 would you like to hear?

20 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Please.

21 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: And I appreciate the
22 fact that the vendors provided us with these,
23 responded to these questions.

24 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Yeah.

25 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: I appreciate that. I

1 think we need to make sure they're included in
2 today's record.

3 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Absolutely.

4 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: I think now having
5 even more of an understanding of the issues here, I
6 mean, I think that, since I feel like I kind of
7 started this mess at the last meeting anyway, I
8 mean, it seems to me that maybe the next step is I
9 think we -- so I agree that we ought to adopt some
10 guidance that would apply to everyone about this
11 whole -- how to handle the absentee ballots. But
12 I'm thinking that maybe we deal with take back up
13 these individual applications.

14 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Yeah.

15 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: And then I think -- I
16 know through the magic of preplanning that there's
17 a proposed advisory opinion that I think
18 encapsulates what VSTOP has said, the observations
19 that have been made regarding the ambiguities in
20 the state law, and what should probably happen as a
21 next step. So I think my suggestion is we move to
22 the individual applications and then --

23 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Should we adopt the advisory
24 opinion first?

25 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: We can do that too

1 because that doesn't impact the --

2 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Why don't we do that so we
3 create a blanket over all of it, if that makes
4 sense.

5 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Okay. Yeah.

6 CHAIRMAN OKESON: So with that, I would make a
7 motion that the Commission adopt the Advisory
8 Opinion 2022-8, which is provided in your binders.
9 Is there a second?

10 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Second.

11 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Any discussion?

12 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: We should probably
13 talk about what's in it.

14 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Should we read it into the
15 record?

16 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: I don't think you
17 need to read it.

18 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Well, for purposes -- I
19 suppose we could make sure that the opinion is
20 posted somewhere.

21 MR. KOCHEVAR: We've done it in the past.

22 CHAIRMAN OKESON: We've read it into the
23 record?

24 MR. KOCHEVAR: Yes.

25 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Does anybody want to

1 volunteer?

2 MR. KOCHEVAR: I'll volunteer unless Valerie
3 wants to do it.

4 MS. WARYCHA: It doesn't matter.

5 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Can we just last person to
6 touch their nose?

7 MR. KOCHEVAR: I can read it. I would just
8 ask the court reporter, if I'm reading it too fast
9 for you to capture everything, just tell me to slow
10 down.

11 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: We can supply her a
12 copy.

13 MS. WARYCHA: She has a copy.

14 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: The magic of
15 everything.

16 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Well, short straw is yours.

17 MR. KOCHEVAR: "Advisory Opinion 2022-8,
18 Indiana Election Commission, In Re: Inquiry
19 Concerning Retraction of Scanned Absentee Ballot
20 Before Election Day Without Tabulation.

21 "Whereas, pursuant to Indiana Code ('IC')
22 3-6-4.1-14, the Indiana Election Commission
23 ('Commission') is required to administer the
24 election laws of the State of Indiana;

25 "Whereas, pursuant to IC 3-6-4.1-25, the

1 Commission is authorized to issue advisory
2 opinions;

3 "Whereas, pursuant to IC 3-11-7-1 and
4 IC 3-11-7.5-1, the Commission is required to
5 approve a ballot card voting system and an
6 electronic voting system before it can be used in
7 an election conducted in Indiana;

8 "Whereas, pursuant to IC 3-11-7-2, the
9 Commission may approve a ballot card voting system
10 for use in an election conducted in Indiana only if
11 the Commission determines that the system meets the
12 standards in IC 3-11-7 and IC 3-11-15;

13 "Whereas, pursuant to IC 3-11-7.5-3, the
14 Commission may approve an electronic voting system
15 for use in an election conducted in Indiana only if
16 the Commission determines that the system meets the
17 standards in IC 3-11-7.5 and IC 3-11-15;

18 "Whereas, pursuant to IC 3-11-7-16 and
19 IC 3-11-7.5-7, the Commission may not approve the
20 marketing, sale, lease, installation, or
21 implementation of a ballot card voting system or
22 electronic voting system by a vendor if the
23 Commission finds that the voting system fails to
24 meet all statutory requirements provided in Title 3
25 of the Indiana Code;

1 "Whereas, pursuant to IC 3-11-7-19 and
2 IC 3-11-7.5-28, an approval of a ballot card voting
3 system or electronic voting system expires on
4 October 1 in the year immediately after a
5 presidential election year and can only be renewed
6 by the Commission according to IC 3-11-7-19(b)
7 through (e) and IC 3-11-7.5-28(b) through (e);

8 "Whereas, IC 3-11.5-4-6(b) allows for a county
9 election board to scan a voted absentee ballot card
10 using an optical scan ballot scanner not earlier
11 than seven calendar days before Election Day so
12 long as the county election board: (1) cannot
13 tabulate the ballots before Election Day; and (2)
14 is able to retract a previously scanned absentee
15 ballot card of a voter who is later found
16 disqualified or whose ballot may not be counted for
17 any other reason under Title 3 of the Indiana Code;

18 "Whereas, IC 3-11-10-26.2(c)(3) and (4) and
19 IC 3-11.5-8 requires a county election board to
20 develop a procedure for how and when to reject and
21 void an absentee ballot" card -- "an absentee
22 ballot cast on an electronic voting system required
23 to be rejected under IC 3-11.5-4-13 before the
24 absentee ballots cast on the electronic voting
25 system is tabulated on Election Day;

1 "Whereas, lacking a standard definition for
2 tabulation for absentee ballots under Title 3 of
3 the Indiana Code, the definition of tabulation in
4 the Voluntary Voting System Guidelines 2.0 adopted
5 by the United States Election Assistance Commission
6 on February 10, 2021, is used by the Commission to
7 evaluate retraction methods for absentee ballots
8 cast on a ballot card voting system;

9 "Whereas, '1.1.8-A - Tabulation' in the
10 Voluntary Voting System Guidelines 2.0 provides
11 that the voting system must support the tabulation
12 function for all voting variations indicated in the
13 implantation statement and that the tabulation
14 function includes: (1) extracting the valid votes"
15 cast -- I'm going to go back. "(1) extracting the
16 valid votes from each ballot cast according to the
17 defined rules; (2) creating and storing a CVR that
18 contains the disposition of each contest selection
19 as well as the disposition of each contest choice
20 that is eligible to be cast; and (3) accumulation
21 and aggregation of contest results and ballot
22 statistics;

23 "Whereas, the Commission, during its review of
24 voting systems seeking to be approved for use in
25 Indiana or renewal of a previous approval, has

1 considered the type of ballot retraction capacity a
2 voting system may contain to comply with applicable
3 Indiana law and can be used in an Indiana election;

4 "Whereas, the Commission, upon duly
5 considering this matter, has determined that the
6 adoption of an advisory opinion by the Commission
7 will benefit administration of Indiana election
8 laws;

9 "Now, therefore, the Indiana Election
10 Commission issues the following advisory opinion:

11 "Section 1: For a ballot card voting system
12 certified for use in Indiana to contain a
13 retraction method to retract an absentee ballot
14 that was scanned by an optical scan ballot scanner
15 the retraction method must be approved for use by
16 the Commission. The Commission will only approve
17 the use of a retraction method for a ballot card
18 voting system if the retraction method is found to
19 be comply with IC 3-11.5-4-6(b).

20 "Section 2: A vendor of a ballot card voting
21 system or an electronic voting system certified for
22 use in Indiana may not market, sell, lease,
23 install, or implement a ballot retraction method
24 with a voting system used in Indiana unless the
25 Commission specifically approves the use of the

1 retraction method to be part of the voting system.

2 "Section 3: As used in Section 4,
3 'identifiable information' means any direct voter
4 information, including but not limited to a
5 voter's: (1) Name; (2) Voter identification number
6 assigned under IC 3-7-13-13; (3) Residence or
7 mailing address; (4) Phone number; (5) Email
8 address; (6) Full or partial Social Security
9 number; (7) Date of birth; (8) Precinct name or
10 designation; (9) The date of registration; (10)
11 Driver's license or state identification number
12 assigned by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles; and (11)
13 Unique identification number assigned to the
14 voter's record in the Statewide Voter Registration
15 System ('SVRS') that is not otherwise mentioned in
16 this Section.

17 "Section 4: If a ballot retraction method
18 approved for use with a ballot card voting system
19 or electronic voting system by the Commission
20 includes the assignment of a unique identifier" to
21 which -- "to each absentee ballot that is: (1) an
22 optical scan ballot card scanned by the county
23 election board using an optical scan ballot scanner
24 before Election Day under IC 3-11.5-4-6; or (2)
25 cast on an electronic voting system by a voter

1 according to the procedure established by the
2 county election board under IC 3-11-10-26.2; then
3 the unique identifier assigned to the absentee
4 ballot may not include any identifiable information
5 of the voter.

6 "Section 5: The Commission advises each
7 county election board that a procedure must be
8 developed and implemented to maintain and keep
9 secure from unauthorized access each unique
10 identifier assigned to each absentee ballot as
11 described in Section 4.

12 "Section 6: The Commission advises each
13 county election board that a unique identifier
14 assigned to an absentee ballot as described in
15 Section 4 and any listing containing those unique
16 identifiers may be a record exempt from being
17 available to the public for inspection and copying
18 under IC 5-14-3-4(b)(10).

19 "Section 7: The Commission advises each
20 county election board that until the Indiana
21 General Assembly amends IC 3-11.5-4-6 or otherwise
22 amends Title 3 of the Indiana Code to authorize the
23 scanning of optical scan absentee ballot cards
24 before Election Day when the scanning of the ballot
25 card automatically results in tabulation before

1 Election Day, which is prohibited by IC 3-11.5-4-6,
2 optical scan absentee ballot cards" may not be
3 scanned before Election Day.

4 "Section 8" -- what did I say? I meant to say
5 "shall not be scanned before Election Day." Thank
6 you.

7 "Section 8: The Commission respectfully
8 recommends to the Indiana General Assembly that the
9 policy set forth in this Advisory Opinion be
10 codified by enacting appropriate remedial
11 legislation.

12 "Section 9: The Commission directs that the
13 Election Division promptly forward a copy of this
14 Advisory Opinion to each county election board.

15 "Section 10: The Commission directs VSTOP to
16 promptly forward a copy of this Advisory Opinion to
17 each voting system vendor that has a voting system
18 in use in Indiana and to each electronic poll book
19 vendor that has an electronic poll book in use in
20 Indiana."

21 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Well done. Like an
22 old-school filibuster.

23 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: In the proposed order
24 that we have -- or advisory opinion that we have,
25 on Section 2 on page 3, and Matthew read it, but it

1 says "sale," it should be "sell." And Matthew read
2 it as "sell," but that's what it should be.

3 MR. KOICHEVAR: Yeah.

4 CHAIRMAN OKESON: So under the third whereas
5 on page 2, No. 2, creating and storing a CVR, does
6 CVR need to be spelled out?

7 MS. BEATRICE: If I may. Liz Beatrice, L-i-z,
8 B-e-a-t-r-i-c-e. CVR is the cast vote record as
9 defined in the VVSG 2.0.

10 MS. NUSSMEYER: The VVSG definition, however,
11 uses the acronym CVR, so it would be at the
12 Commission's discretion if you want to spell that
13 out.

14 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: You can spell it out
15 then put parens and a quote.

16 CHAIRMAN OKESON: That's what I was thinking,
17 it should have been listed.

18 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: That would be good.

19 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Can we do that?

20 MR. KING: Mr. Chairman?

21 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Yeah.

22 MR. KING: You have a motion pending to adopt
23 the order.

24 CHAIRMAN OKESON: That's correct.

25 MR. KING: You can make an amendment to the

1 order by consent to make the two changes that have
2 been identified by Commission members.

3 CHAIRMAN OKESON: I do that inside the pending
4 motion?

5 MR. KING: Yes.

6 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Can I get a motion by
7 consent to approve the two changes?

8 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Consent.

9 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: Consent.

10 MS. PYLE: Consent.

11 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Consent.

12 So we have a motion to adopt this order. Is
13 there a second?

14 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: I think we already
15 did that.

16 MR. KING: You've already done that.

17 CHAIRMAN OKESON: We haven't seconded it,
18 right? Oh, we did and then read it in for
19 discussion. So we have a motion and a second. Any
20 further discussion?

21 Hearing none, all those in favor signify by
22 saying "Aye."

23 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Aye.

24 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: Aye.

25 MS. PYLE: Aye.

1 CHAIRMAN OKESON: The "ayes" have it. The
2 motion carries.

3 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: I do want to ask a
4 question.

5 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Sure.

6 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: This will be
7 distributed to all the county clerks; correct?

8 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Uh-huh.

9 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: And will it also be
10 distributed to all the voting machine companies?

11 CHAIRMAN OKESON: The vendors and the General
12 Assembly.

13 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Yeah, please, the
14 General Assembly.

15 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Okay. With that, moving on,
16 as has been noted a few times here, at the
17 February 24th Commission meeting, a motion to
18 approve the application submitted by Hart
19 InterCivic for recertification of the Verity Voting
20 System 2.3 for marketing and use in Indiana for a
21 term expiring October 1, 2025, subject to any
22 restrictions set forth in the report from VSTOP.
23 So for purposes of the discussion today, I move
24 that this motion be taken up off the table and
25 further considered by the Commission. Is there a

1 second?

2 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Second.

3 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Any discussion?

4 Hearing none, all those in favor signify by
5 saying "Aye."

6 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Aye.

7 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: Aye.

8 MS. PYLE: Aye.

9 CHAIRMAN OKESON: The "ayes" have it. The
10 motion is picked up.

11 I will now recognize any person representing
12 Hart InterCivic to provide an opportunity to make
13 any statements of not more than 3 minutes regarding
14 this application. Is there anyone present from
15 Hart InterCivic?

16 MR. CHATOT: Tyson, would you like to say
17 anything?

18 MR. GOSCH: I don't have anything to add.

19 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Would you say your name.

20 MR. GOSCH: Tyson Gosch, T-y-s-o-n, G-o-s-c-h.

21 CHAIRMAN OKESON: So do we need to amend the
22 motion, then, based on the opinion we just adopted?

23 MR. KING: Mr. Chairman, members of the
24 Commission, yes, it's appropriate for the
25 Commission to amend the motion to include any

1 restrictions based on compliance with Advisory
2 Opinion 2022-8.

3 CHAIRMAN OKESON: We do that by consent?

4 MR. KING: You can.

5 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Is that fair?

6 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Well, how are --

7 CHAIRMAN OKESON: We're considering the order
8 that was tabled and is now picked back up, which
9 was to approve the application for the Verity
10 Voting System 2.3. We would amend that motion,
11 then, by consent to include or stipulate --

12 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: I guess could I
13 just --

14 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Sure.

15 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Because I think it
16 will make the record clear. So I would move --

17 CHAIRMAN OKESON: It's pretty muddy.

18 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: I would move to amend
19 the motion to recertify the Verity Voting 2.3, so
20 to approve the recertification, with the
21 stipulation that the retraction feature, to the
22 extent there is one, be turned off and that it
23 being not be used by Indiana county election
24 administrators until such time as the vendor
25 obtains approval of that new feature to ensure its

1 compliance with Indiana law.

2 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Is there a second?

3 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: Second.

4 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Okay. Any discussion?

5 So I have a question. Are we achieving the
6 goal by asking them to turn it off or are we
7 achieving the goal by saying just don't put the
8 ballots in the machine until Election Day?

9 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Well, I feel like
10 this is -- so not putting the ballots in the
11 machine, that's a directive to county election
12 officials. Right? This is a directive to the
13 vendor. I mean, the vendor has to -- but they
14 aren't the ones, hopefully, putting the ballots in
15 the machine on Election Day.

16 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Well, yeah. No, right.
17 Would there be any reason you would need to have
18 the retraction piece turned on after Election Day?

19 MR. KING: Mr. Chairman, members of the
20 Commission, in the case of an absentee ballot, a
21 determination is made before it is tabulated that
22 the vote it contains is cast by a qualified voter,
23 and therefore there would be no reason subsequently
24 to retract it. If the absentee ballot is
25 challenged and becomes a provisional ballot, the

1 county election board, within ten days, makes the
2 ultimate decision, and if it decides that the
3 ballot has been cast by a qualified voter, then
4 the --

5 CHAIRMAN OKESON: So no ballot goes into the
6 system until it's --

7 MR. KING: Until there's been a determination
8 of validity.

9 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Okay. So we have a motion
10 and a second. I'm not going to reread it.

11 MR. KING: A motion to amend.

12 CHAIRMAN OKESON: A motion to amend and a
13 second. So then we'll have to re-vote on the
14 motion after this.

15 MR. KING: Yes.

16 CHAIRMAN OKESON: So all those in favor
17 signify by saying "Aye."

18 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Aye.

19 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: Aye.

20 MS. PYLE: Aye.

21 CHAIRMAN OKESON: So that motion carries. So
22 now we have the motion as amended with -- we have a
23 motion and a second on that, so now we have a
24 motion and a second as amended. Is that right?

25 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: Yes.

1 MR. KING: Yes.

2 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Any discussion?

3 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: No.

4 CHAIRMAN OKESON: All those in favor signify
5 by saying "Aye."

6 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Aye.

7 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: Aye.

8 MS. PYLE: Aye.

9 CHAIRMAN OKESON: The "ayes" have it. The
10 motion carries. So the Hart InterCivic Verity
11 Voting System 2.3 recertification, as amended,
12 motion has passed.

13 Okay. Hart InterCivic Verity Voting
14 System 2.5, same thing happened at the last
15 meeting, that motion for approval was tabled. So
16 for purposes of discussion, I move this motion be
17 taken up off the table for further discussion and
18 consideration by the Commission.

19 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Second.

20 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Any discussion?

21 Hearing none, all those in favor signify by
22 saying "Aye."

23 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Aye.

24 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: Aye.

25 MS. PYLE: Aye.

1 CHAIRMAN OKESON: The "ayes" have it.

2 I assume -- yeah, just wanted to make sure.

3 So, again, we'll have to amend it.

4 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Yes. So I would move
5 that we amend the motion to recertify Verity Voting
6 System 2.5 to state that the system be recertified
7 with the stipulation that the retraction feature be
8 turned off and not be used by Indiana county
9 election administrators until such time as that
10 feature is approved.

11 CHAIRMAN OKESON: The amendment is moved. Is
12 there a second?

13 Second.

14 Any discussion?

15 All those in favor signify by saying "Aye."

16 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Aye.

17 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: Aye.

18 MS. PYLE: Aye.

19 CHAIRMAN OKESON: The "ayes" have it. The
20 motion is amended.

21 So now we have to consider -- so the original
22 motion has already been first and seconded or made
23 and seconded; right? As amended. So now we need
24 to vote on --

25 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: The actual motion.

1 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Okay. So voting on the
2 motion as amended, all those in favor signify by
3 saying "Aye."

4 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Aye.

5 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: Aye.

6 MS. PYLE: Aye.

7 CHAIRMAN OKESON: The "ayes" have it. The
8 motion carries as amended.

9 Moving on, the Hart InterCivic Verity Voting
10 System engineering change orders for Verity 2.3 and
11 2.5 reference Change Orders 1447 and 1449, 1492,
12 1496, and 1500. Again, at the February 24th
13 Commission meeting, the motion to approve those
14 orders was tabled. For purposes of today's
15 discussion, I move that we pick that motion up.

16 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Second.

17 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Second. Any discussion?

18 Hearing none, all those in favor signify by
19 saying "Aye."

20 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Aye.

21 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: Aye.

22 MS. PYLE: Aye.

23 CHAIRMAN OKESON: The "ayes" have it. The
24 motion carries to pick it back up.

25 No comment from Hart InterCivic?

1 MR. GOSCH: No.

2 CHAIRMAN OKESON: We don't have to amend this
3 one, correct, because these are the change orders.
4 So we have the motion and the second to pick it up
5 off the table. Do we have to move to -- we can
6 vote on it; right?

7 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: Can we have --
8 because I know you weren't here. Apparently we
9 didn't discuss these at the last meeting.

10 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Oh, okay.

11 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: So maybe we want to
12 have VSTOP do a short synopsis.

13 CHAIRMAN OKESON: I didn't realize that. Did
14 we not discuss these, Brad?

15 MR. KING: Mr. Chairman, there was a brief
16 discussion in the minutes, as I recall, but it was
17 not in --

18 CHAIRMAN OKESON: You tabled the motion, so I
19 assume there was some.

20 MR. KING: The question, as I recall,
21 Mr. Chairman, was that since the underlying system
22 had not been recertified, it was premature to adopt
23 the change orders.

24 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Right, right.

25 CHAIRMAN OKESON: All right. So they were

1 tabled without any -- do you mind?

2 MR. CHATOT: No, not a problem. Okay. So
3 ECO -- I'm going to start with 1447 and 1494, which
4 were bundled together. They are improvements to
5 the ballot box and make mechanical improvements to
6 components of the ballot box in response to
7 feedback received from customers and manufacturing.
8 There are no electrical changes associated with
9 this ECO. All proposed changes are mechanical
10 improvements to the equivalent components of the
11 ballot box.

12 Unused rivets are removed from the bill of
13 material. An unnecessary bumper is removed from
14 the top center of the ballot box and replaced with
15 a panel plug to improve the cable insertion
16 experience when the Verity scan is mounted. And
17 approved manufacturer list for panel plugs used on
18 the rear of the ballot box is updated to add a part
19 with more market availability.

20 ECO-1492 adds additional orderable part
21 numbers for the approved manufacturing list for
22 Hart part No. 1005808, a power controller used on
23 the Verity Duo series devices. The added orderable
24 part numbers are from the same existing approved
25 manufacturer's part and vary only by component

1 package shape. An interposer is used to fit the
2 component package on the existing Duo PCBA
3 baseboard with no changes needed to the board.

4 ECO-1496 modifies a power regulator circuit on
5 the Verity Touch Writer Duo series baseboards to
6 move away from the Linear Tech LT8711 power
7 controller and instead use the more widely
8 available Texas Instruments TPS552882 series part.
9 This modification described on the ECO is intended
10 to mitigate the effects of global electronic
11 component shortages.

12 Finally, ECO-1500 describes a configuration
13 modification to allow for optional tabletop
14 deployment of standard Verity Touch Writer Duo and
15 Touch Writer Duo Standalone devices, rather than
16 only on a Verity standard booth. There are no
17 changes to the voting device hardware or software
18 to support this change. This change is driven by
19 supply chain challenges with raw materials required
20 to manufacture Hart's standard voting booths. The
21 modification described on this ECO affects
22 deployments of Verity Touch Writer Duo and Touch
23 Writer Duo Standalone devices only in a standard
24 configuration only. Hart will continue to require
25 Verity accessible booths for all accessible

1 configurations. There are no changes to the voting
2 devices or voting device software to support this
3 change.

4 CHAIRMAN OKESON: So in any of these change
5 orders, none of them were software related?

6 MR. CHATOT: Correct.

7 CHAIRMAN OKESON: They're all hardware?

8 MR. CHATOT: Yes. They were all de minimis
9 changes.

10 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Okay.

11 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: I'd move approval of
12 the change orders.

13 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Is there a second?

14 MS. PYLE: Second.

15 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Any discussion?

16 Hearing none, all those in favor signify by
17 saying "Aye."

18 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Aye.

19 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: Aye.

20 MS. PYLE: Aye.

21 CHAIRMAN OKESON: The "ayes" have it.

22 Next we have the Unisyn OpenElect 2.2 Voting
23 System. Again, at the February 24th Commission
24 meeting, a motion to approve the application
25 submitted by Unisyn for certification of the Unisyn

1 OpenElect 2.2 for marketing and use in Indiana for
2 a term expiring October 1, 2025, was tabled. For
3 purposes of discussion, I move that this motion be
4 taken up off the table for further consideration by
5 the Commission. Is there a second?

6 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Second.

7 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Second. Is there any
8 discussion?

9 Hearing none, all those in favor signify by
10 saying "Aye."

11 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Aye.

12 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: Aye.

13 MS. PYLE: Aye.

14 CHAIRMAN OKESON: The "ayes" have it.

15 Is there anyone from Unisyn that would like to
16 provide any testimony or speak?

17 MR. MCGINNIS: Keith McGinnis from RBM also
18 representing Unisyn.

19 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Will you spell your name.

20 MR. MCGINNIS: McDermot Coutts is from Unisyn
21 as well. After sitting here listening --

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Keith, you need to
23 spell your name.

24 MR. MCGINNIS: Oh, excuse me. I'm sorry.
25 McGinnis, M-c-G-i-n-n-i-s, first name Keith.

1 MR. COUTTS: McDermot Coutts, M-c-D-e-r-m-o-t,
2 C-o-u-t-t-s.

3 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Go ahead.

4 MR. MCGINNIS: May I start with where we are
5 today after hearing the discussion with the
6 retraction, the history of the retraction, via
7 Unisyn first of all. We started this in
8 Version 2.0, the retraction model. It was tested
9 by the federal lab and then also sent to VSTOP. No
10 action was taken at that time, but we went in for
11 our 2.1 certification. Retraction was certified.
12 We couldn't figure out a way how to use it, but it
13 was primarily certified for twofold, two reasons:
14 One, it was for deceased voter retraction only;
15 second thing was ballot security.

16 And we then had to find out through a
17 legislative change this past summer, in 2021, in
18 SEA260, legislation was passed and signed by the
19 governor into law that we could use retraction. It
20 identified ways of using retraction in terms of
21 what days you could use it, how far in advance you
22 could use it, counting but not tabulating by
23 allowing the ballot to scan through. All right?

24 In order to do that, we had to have a way to
25 retract a deceased voter because what I'm making

1 reference to next is what Marc started out with.
2 There were four points in the discussion when you
3 asked the vendors. The four points were early
4 voting in person, right? That's one. The other
5 three, vote by mail. This doesn't apply to the
6 vote by mail for us. Travel board doesn't apply.
7 And also email and/or fax, which doesn't apply.

8 Our version of this only applies to the early
9 voting side of it, to be able to retract that
10 ballot under the deceased voter law. Other
11 applications which were mentioned briefly,
12 provisional, nothing changes in the RBM Unisyn
13 world when it comes to provisional ballots or any
14 other type of ballot that needs to be retracted.

15 Because if you think about it, when come in as
16 an early voter, you're walking in, you're signing
17 it, that is you. Right? You're then assigned a
18 little ID number that the last six digits of the
19 voter registration works best. 999,000, there
20 wouldn't be a repetitive one in there. You go
21 activate the machine. That ID goes in. Still your
22 name or nothing else identifiable there. It's only
23 in the electronic poll book on the SER side of it.
24 You go vote your ballot, you walk over, get it
25 initialed, then deposit it through the scanner,

1 counted but not tabulated.

2 That's the process for the early voting side
3 of it. Nothing else changes until possibly we get
4 a recall on a ballot by a deceased voter. What do
5 we do? Well, the election board bipartisan team
6 can then look up the individual that had passed.
7 It would then have a retraction ID attached to it,
8 not named. They would go into the system, pull it
9 up by the retraction number, they do not see the
10 ballot, and they either say accept or reject.

11 CHAIRMAN OKESON: So what was the retraction
12 ID again?

13 MR. MCGINNIS: Pardon?

14 CHAIRMAN OKESON: You stated the retraction
15 ID. I thought you listed that you said --

16 MR. MCGINNIS: You do put the retraction ID
17 through to activate the ballot.

18 CHAIRMAN OKESON: But what is the retraction
19 ID?

20 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: What's the ID? What
21 information is used?

22 MR. MCGINNIS: Oh, last six numbers of voter
23 registration.

24 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: So it's individually
25 identifiable.

1 MR. COUTTS: If I may, that is a manual
2 process. We do not generate those. We don't have
3 that information as part of the Unisyn system.
4 That is basically determined by the county, and it
5 is then manually put into the system as part of the
6 initialization process on the device. So it can be
7 absolutely anything. There is nothing -- there is
8 no rule or software that imposes that structure
9 upon the number. So that's a procedural --

10 MR. MCGINNIS: It's captured from the
11 electronic poll book through the SVRS system.

12 CHAIRMAN OKESON: But that would be what we
13 just discussed in the opinion, right, is that you
14 cannot use that type of information as an ID.

15 MR. COUTTS: And that is purely optional as
16 how the system is designed.

17 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: So how else would it
18 be generated? You said enter it manually. You
19 leave it up to the clerks to just come up with a
20 system?

21 MR. COUTTS: Yeah.

22 CHAIRMAN OKESON: That's what some counties
23 do; correct?

24 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: On generating a voter
25 ID?

1 CHAIRMAN OKESON: No. Well, she said how else
2 would these voter IDs be generated.

3 MR. MCGINNIS: The poll books.

4 CHAIRMAN OKESON: That's what you would do;
5 right?

6 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: The computer software
7 does it; right?

8 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Well, I guess I would
9 have a question for VSTOP. So when the Unisyn
10 system was evaluated, I know that -- and I don't
11 really want to end up going down a rabbit hole as
12 we did in the last meeting, but I know that part of
13 what we got into at the last meeting, there was
14 discussion about the system, or I think it was
15 Unisyn. Where we got confused was the retraction
16 method that was discussed was talking about
17 deceased voters, I believe, and talking about --
18 that was one of the categories. But it wasn't this
19 concept of retraction related to early voting -- or
20 tabulation and early voting; right? I mean,
21 they're two different.

22 So I guess the question is that, in terms of
23 the issues we've been raising at the meeting before
24 this and this one and the issues that we raised in
25 the advisory opinion that we just passed, was the

1 Unisyn system evaluated for those types of
2 measures?

3 MR. CHATOT: It was evaluated for deceased
4 candidates --

5 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Deceased candidates.

6 MR. CHATOT: -- but didn't address retracted
7 voter ballots.

8 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Okay. I knew
9 deceased caught my attention. I knew we were
10 talking about someone was deceased, so the
11 candidates. So it wasn't -- so that system was not
12 assessed for the retraction that we're talking
13 about in terms of voters.

14 MR. CHATOT: Correct.

15 CHAIRMAN OKESON: I guess I have a question.
16 You said it could be scanned to begin counting but
17 not tabulated.

18 MR. MCGINNIS: We can't actually turn the key
19 until the closing of polls on Election Day.

20 MS. NUSSMEYER: Mr. Chairman, I believe,
21 though, as we discussed with the VVSG, when the
22 ballot is scanned, the image and the individual
23 voter's choices are stored on that media card,
24 right, and that is what we, as a division, have
25 viewed, at least in terms of our analysis for

1 today's discussion, as being tabulated.

2 I would also note that, up until last year,
3 there was a statute that made it very clear that no
4 absentee ballot, no optical scan ballot card could
5 be scanned before Election Day. So during
6 in-person early voting, for example, it was not
7 legally permissible for any ballot card voting
8 system to allow a voter to feed the voter's
9 tabulated -- marked ballot through the optical scan
10 tabulator, right. That is not a legal procedure.

11 Instead, what state law contemplates is that
12 an optical scan ballot card, whether it be printed
13 by a ballot marking device or premarked by the
14 voter themselves, it has to go immediately into an
15 ABS-7 security envelope, which is then attested to
16 by the voter and the absentee voter board before
17 them. So there would be no mechanism by which to
18 retract a person's ballot if they had passed away
19 because all absentee ballots should be stored in an
20 envelope that is contemplated on Election Day by
21 the bipartisan teams during the central count of
22 absentee ballots.

23 MR. KING: Mr. Chairman, I would add my
24 agreement with Ms. Nussmeyer on her points. And to
25 add further, the statute that was amended in 2021

1 does not specifically reference deceased voters.
2 It references voters who are disqualified, which
3 can be for any number of reasons, such as moving
4 out of Indiana or losing their voting rights upon
5 being sent to prison following conviction of a
6 crime. And so it's a little bit broader than the
7 issue that was initially discussed with regard to
8 deceased candidates.

9 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Okay.

10 MR. KING: The other point to make is -- and
11 to some extent I'm repeating what Ms. Nussmeyer has
12 said -- in our understanding of the definition of
13 tabulation in VVSG 2.0, it is a three-step process.
14 And tabulation begins when the image of a scanned
15 absentee ballot optical scan card is captured and
16 the voter's choices are captured separately from
17 the scanned image. Tabulation is not completed,
18 but tabulation has begun, and the statute prohibits
19 tabulation, period.

20 CHAIRMAN OKESON: So this would fall under the
21 same umbrella, sort of, as the Hart InterCivic that
22 we amended.

23 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Right.

24 CHAIRMAN OKESON: So we approved it subject to
25 amending it to turn off the -- you said it best.

1 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Yeah. Although
2 before we do that, I have --

3 CHAIRMAN OKESON: But that's essentially where
4 we are.

5 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Yes.

6 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Okay. Go ahead.

7 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: But I do have a
8 question, though. I mean, so has Unisyn or its
9 representatives marketed the ballot retraction
10 component to Indiana counties before IC 3-11.5-4-6
11 was passed?

12 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Well, so what road are you
13 going down here?

14 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Well, I guess I'm
15 curious about whether -- well, you're right. It's
16 not really relevant to the motion. I think it is
17 significant --

18 CHAIRMAN OKESON: We haven't given notice for
19 any proceedings that would go down this road, which
20 I'm not a lawyer, but --

21 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Well, I'm just asking
22 a question.

23 MS. WARYCHA: Mr. Chairman, I think what he's
24 trying to clarify for you is that if we were to --
25 this would classify as an enforcement proceeding.

1 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Oh, I see.

2 MS. WARYCHA: And under AOPA, you would have
3 to give notice if you were going to have an
4 enforcement proceeding.

5 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Okay. I understand.
6 All right. So you want me to make a motion?

7 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: Can I ask a question
8 before we --

9 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Sure.

10 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: So in your dealings
11 in the past with the county clerks and stuff and in
12 marketing your system, has it been represented to
13 them that they can scan in the absentee ballots
14 before Election Day?

15 CHAIRMAN OKESON: I don't think we can go down
16 that road.

17 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: Well, if they've done
18 it, then I'd just like to make sure that our --

19 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Then we'll have to give them
20 notice --

21 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: I don't want to
22 enforce against them. All I want to say is, if you
23 have, then go back --

24 CHAIRMAN OKESON: But then they're on record.

25 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: Okay. I won't ask

1 them. If they have, we don't need to know. But I
2 would like to put in the order, if you have done
3 that, then you need to go back to those counties
4 and inform them that the Election Commission has
5 advised you that no scanning before Election Day
6 and --

7 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Well, that's in the
8 advisory opinion.

9 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: Is it? Yeah. So you
10 can blame it on us.

11 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Okay. So we need a motion
12 to amend.

13 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: So I would move to
14 amend the previous motion to certify. But this is
15 slightly -- okay. So I'd move to amend the motion
16 to certify the Unisyn -- recertify the Unisyn
17 system so that the system would be --

18 CHAIRMAN OKESON: This isn't a
19 recertification, is it?

20 MR. KING: No.

21 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Oh, okay. So to
22 certify the Unisyn system with the stipulation that
23 the retraction feature be turned off and cannot be
24 used by any Indiana county election administrators
25 until Unisyn obtains approval of that feature to

1 ensure its compliance with Indiana law and that the
2 VSTOP report that initially stated that the FVT is
3 capable of ballot retraction as allowed in SB260 be
4 amended so that that statement is actually deleted
5 from the report because, from what we've heard,
6 that is not an accurate statement.

7 CHAIRMAN OKESON: So we have a motion to
8 amend. Is there a second?

9 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: Second.

10 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Is there any discussion,
11 questions?

12 All those in favor signify by saying "Aye."

13 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: For the amendment?

14 CHAIRMAN OKESON: This is for the amendment.

15 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: Okay. Sorry.

16 CHAIRMAN OKESON: All those in favor signify
17 by saying "Aye."

18 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Aye.

19 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: Aye.

20 MS. PYLE: Aye.

21 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Aye. The "ayes" have it.
22 The motion is amended.

23 Now we need a motion to approve
24 certification -- the order as amended.

25 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: I would -- I'm trying

1 to think whether we should -- to put in there
2 something that says that if it has been -- clerks
3 have been advised by Unisyn to scan absentee
4 ballots before Election Day, that they make a point
5 of going back and telling them that that cannot be
6 done. I realize they're going to have our advisory
7 opinion, but we also know that sometimes people
8 don't read as closely as they should.

9 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Brad, do you have a thought
10 about this?

11 MR. KING: Mr. Chairman, it's the option of
12 the Commission to amend the motion in the way it's
13 just done, and if Commissioner Celestino-Horseman
14 proposes specific language as an amendment, it's
15 certainly germane, I think, clearly to the motion.

16 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Do you want to amend the
17 amended motion?

18 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: Yes. I move to amend
19 the amended motion by saying that this
20 certification also includes the Commission's --

21 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Certification as amended.

22 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: Certification as
23 amended also includes -- also requires Unisyn to go
24 back to any clerk that it had previously advised
25 they could scan absentee ballots prior to Election

1 Day and clarify that position, and they can use our
2 advisory opinion to make sure they understand that
3 that cannot be done. Not as elegant as Suzannah.

4 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Well, I had mine in
5 writing. I'll second that.

6 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Any discussion?

7 Brad, do you have any thoughts?

8 MR. KING: No, Mr. Chairman.

9 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Litany?

10 MS. PYLE: No.

11 CHAIRMAN OKESON: So we have an amended
12 amended motion and a second. Hearing no further
13 discussion, all those in favor signify by saying
14 "Aye."

15 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Aye.

16 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: Aye.

17 MS. PYLE: Aye.

18 CHAIRMAN OKESON: The "ayes" have it. The
19 amended amended motion carries.

20 And now we have to vote on the final motion as
21 amended twice. Is there a motion to approve?

22 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: So moved.

23 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Second. All those in favor
24 signify by saying "Aye."

25 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Aye.

1 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: Aye.

2 MS. PYLE: Aye.

3 CHAIRMAN OKESON: The "ayes" have it. The
4 motion as amended twice carries.

5 I believe that concludes our business for the
6 day. Can I get a motion to adjourn?

7 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: So moved.

8 CHAIRMAN OKESON: Second. All those in favor
9 signify by saying "Aye."

10 VICE CHAIRMAN OVERHOLT: Aye.

11 MS. CELESTINO-HORSEMAN: Aye.

12 MS. PYLE: Aye.

13 CHAIRMAN OKESON: We're out. Thanks for
14 coming.

15 (The Indiana Election Commission Public
16 Session was adjourned at 2:46 p.m.)

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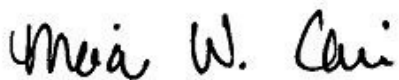
1 STATE OF INDIANA

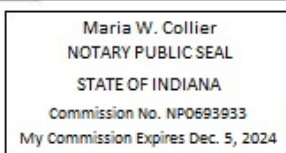
2 COUNTY OF HAMILTON

3 I, Maria W. Collier, a Notary Public in and
4 for said county and state, do hereby certify that the
5 foregoing public session was taken at the time and
6 place heretofore mentioned between 1:30 p.m. and
7 2:46 p.m.;

8 That said public session was taken down in
9 stenograph notes and afterwards reduced to typewriting
10 under my direction; and that the typewritten
11 transcript is a true record of the public session.

12 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my
13 hand and affixed my notarial seal this 11th day of
14 April, 2022.

15
16 



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21 My Commission expires:
22 December 5, 2024

23 Job No. 170767
24
25

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