

Below find the minutes of the new Credentials and Election Committee held on June 29, 2015. The entire two and a half page document is of interest to SEC members but page 2 displays one of the major problems with the new bylaws: the fact that voting by mail is not longer mandated by bylaw but a function of a Committee nominated by trustees and selected by an person not named but probably the President of the Board of Trustees.

Excerpts from the document:

“Due to the fact that only two (2) members filed for candidacy,.....discussion ensued whether to conduct the trustee election along with the mail-in ballots; to forego the mail-in ballots and in-person voting; determination of a quorum; and electing the candidates by acclamation.”

“Discussion ensued that there is no need to go with the expense of conducting the election with the mail-in ballots.”

“The Committee discussed at length the pros and cons of conducting an Election and a motion was made.....to conduct the election of candidates with mail-in ballots.”

The Committee decided as they now have the power under the new bylaws which do not mandate “vote by mail”.

Another striking statement from page 2:

“Attorney Wiggins read Section 5.03 Election of the bylaws and stated that the worst case scenario would be that there would be no quorum of members.”

To many members the “worst case scenario” would be the return to the board of candidates and former trustees Leroy Anaya and Don Wolberg who are the only candidates because of inadequate publicizing of rules and time limits for the self nomination process. If a quorum is not achieved at the August 22, 2015 meeting, the election is invalid and the election will have to be reset with time for other candidates to announce. This don't vote, don't go strategy is the only way to get better trustees on the board who can shift the board majority from the the present form to one who will back member rights by making changes to the present new bylaws that strip members of any control of the cooperative.