

**NOTICE OF ADVISORY REFERENDUM ELECTION
AND
SAMPLE BALLOTS
(April 7, 2015)**

OFFICE OF CONOVER CLERK

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE TOWN OF CONOVER

Notice is hereby given of a referendum election to be held in the TOWN OF CONOVER on APRIL 7, 2015. The questions to be submitted to a vote, for an advisory referendum, are shown in the sample ballot below.

The Advisory Referendum is a direct vote in which an entire electorate is asked to vote on a particular proposal. This *may* result in the Town of Conover Board deciding/acting to increase the board size from the current 3 member (2 Supervisors and 1 Chairperson) to 5 members (4 Supervisors and 1 Chairperson). This vote does **not** mean that there will be an automatic increase in the Board size. This vote is strictly for the current members of the Town Board to consider to adopt an Ordinance to increase the size of Conover's Town Board.

The voter should take all things into consideration:

Increasing the size of the Town Board will result in an election every year (instead of one election every two years). Currently, the 3 member board is elected in odd numbered years. Because the Town of Conover has numbered supervisors, (e.g. Thomas Timken, Jr. appointed as Supervisor I, Karl Jennrich elected as Supervisor II), the "new" supervisor positions would be labeled, 'Supervisor III' and 'Supervisor IV,' and would be elected in even numbered years. George Champeny was appointed as the Town Chairperson when then-Chairperson Steven Rhode, Jr. resigned. The new positions could then be placed on the ballot as soon as the Spring election in 2017 (with nomination papers taken out in December 2016). The Town Board has a couple of options where the details of the election can be outlined in the Resolution that may be adopted. See Wisconsin Statute 60.21 (2)(b-e).

The cost of an extra election would be approximately: \$1,680 every two years (in even numbered years) based on 2014 data.

The cost of two extra Supervisors would be approximately: \$15,616/year (based on 2014 data and budget increase for 2015). This cost includes: Salary, FICA, Dues, Payroll expenses, administrative expenses (copies, mailings, etc.) and training. This does not include any expenses for gas reimbursement.

A 3 member board is very restricted in their communication with each other. Two members, of a 3 member board, constitute a quorum. [A quorum is the minimum number of members of a deliberative assembly (a body that uses parliamentary procedure, such as a legislature) necessary to conduct the business of that group.

According to Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, the "requirement for a quorum is protection against totally unrepresentative action in the name of the body by an unduly small number of persons."]

Two members of a 5 member board may talk to each other regarding town business, without violating the 'open meetings law.' However, they still use caution as to not determine an outcome of an issue before a town meeting. 3 members of a 5 member board represent a quorum; meaning 2 other members of the board do not have to be present to vote or take action on an item (by an excused absence/emergency/vacation).

The voter should also be aware that increasing the size of the Town Board does not replace their own involvement in local government. The voter should know that their responsibilities as voters is needed and their participation in committees that the Town Board requests is also needed (along with your input). As you vote for your representative(s) in the local election, the elected officials are your public servants and are available for your scrutiny and advice. Having a larger Town Board may give the voter a wider range of individuals with expertise, opinions, wisdom, etc. to bring about the greater good for the Town of Conover.

Informational Purposes Only:

Vilas County Towns	Population	No. of Board Members
Arbor Vitae	3,321	5
Boulder Junction	938	3
Cloverland	1,032	5
Conover	1,265	3
Eagle River (City)	1,381	5
Lac du Flambeau	3,453	3
Land O'Lakes	865	3
Lincoln	2,432	5
Manitowish Waters	569	3
Phelps	1,204	5
Plum Lake	500	3
Presque Isle	627	3
St. Germain	2,083	5
Washington	1,458	3
Winchester	387	3

SAMPLE

**Official Ballot
for Nonpartisan Office and Referendum
April 7, 2015**

SAMPLE

Notice to voters: This ballot may be invalid unless initialed by 2 election inspectors. If cast as an absentee ballot, the ballot must bear the initials of the municipal clerk or deputy clerk.

Important: Use a #2 pencil or the marking pen provided. Do not use Red Ink!

Instructions to Voters	Municipal	School District (Cont.)
<p>If you make a mistake on your ballot or have a question, see an election inspector. (Absentee voters: Contact your municipal clerk.)</p> <p>To vote for a name on the ballot, fill in the oval next to the name like this <input type="radio"/>.</p> <p>To vote for a name that is not on the ballot, write the name on the line marked "Write-in," and fill in the oval next to the name like this <input type="radio"/>.</p>	<p>Town Board Chairperson Vote for 1</p> <p><input type="radio"/> George Champeny</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Gary Lagueux, Jr.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Write-in</p>	<p>Northland Pines School District School Board Member At Large #1 Vote for 1</p> <p><input type="radio"/> John Sarama</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Write-in</p>
	<p>Town Board Supervisor 1 Vote for 1</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Thomas R. Timken, Jr.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Write-in</p>	<p>Referendum</p> <p>To vote in favor of a question, fill in the oval next to "YES" like this <input type="radio"/>.</p> <p>To vote against a question, fill in the oval next to "NO" like this <input type="radio"/>.</p>
	<p>Town Board Supervisor 2 Vote for 1</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Karl Jennrich</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Write-in</p>	<p>State</p> <p>QUESTION 1: "Election of chief justice. Shall section 4 (2) of article VII of the constitution be amended to direct that a chief justice of the supreme court shall be elected for a two-year term by a majority of the justices then serving on the court?"</p> <p><input type="radio"/> YES</p> <p><input type="radio"/> NO</p>
<p>Judicial</p> <p>Justice of the Supreme Court Vote for 1</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Ann W. Bradley</p> <p><input type="radio"/> James P. Daley</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Write-in</p>	<p>Town Clerk/Treasurer Vote for 1</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Kathy Mitchell</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Write-in</p>	<p>Municipal</p> <p>Would you be in support of the Conover Town Board increasing its members from the current 2 Supervisors and Chairperson to 4 Supervisors and Town Chairperson?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> YES</p> <p><input type="radio"/> NO</p>
<p>Court of Appeals Judge, District 3 Vote for 1</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Mark A. Seidl</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Kristina M. Bourget</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Write-in</p>	<p>School District</p> <p>Northland Pines School District School Board Member Area C (Town of Land O'Lakes) Vote for 1</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Holly McCormack</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Write-in</p>	
	<p>Northland Pines School District School Board Member Area E (Town of St. Germain) Vote for 1</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Eric Neff</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Write-in</p>	

SAMPLE

FRONT Card 9 RptPct 40 "Town of Conover W1-2"

INFORMATION TO ELECTORS

Upon entering the polling place, an elector shall state his or her name and address, and sign the poll book before being permitted to vote. Where ballots are distributed to electors, the initials of two inspectors must appear on the ballot. Upon being permitted to vote, the elector shall retire alone to a voting booth and cast his or her ballot except that an elector who is a parent or guardian may be accompanied by the elector's minor child or minor ward. An election official may inform the elector of the proper manner for casting a vote, but the official may not in any manner advise or indicate a particular voting choice.

Where **optical scan** voting is used, the elector shall fill in the oval or connect the arrow next to "yes" if in favor of the question, or the elector shall fill in the oval or connect the arrow next to "no" if opposed to the question.

Where a **touch screen** voting system is used, the elector shall touch the screen next to "yes" if in favor of the question, or the elector shall touch the screen next to "no" if opposed to the question.

The vote should not be cast in any other manner. Not more than five minutes time shall be allowed inside a voting booth. Sample ballots or other materials to assist the elector in casting his or her vote may be taken into the booth and copied. The sample ballot shall not be shown to anyone so as to reveal how the ballot is marked.

If the elector spoils a **paper or optical scan** ballot, he or she shall return it to an election official who shall issue another ballot in its place, but not more than three ballots shall be issued to any one elector. If the ballot has not been initialed by two inspectors or is defective in any other way, the elector shall return it to the election official, who shall issue a proper ballot in its place. After casting his or her vote, the elector shall leave the voting booth, properly deposit the ballot and promptly leave the polling place.

An elector may spoil a touch screen ballot at the voting station before the ballot is cast.

After an official **optical scan ballot** is marked, it shall be inserted in the security sleeve so the marks do not show. After casting his or her vote, the elector shall leave the booth, insert the ballot in the voting device and discard the sleeve, or deliver the ballot to an inspector for deposit. If a central count system is used, the elector shall insert the ballot in the ballot box and discard the sleeve, or deliver the ballot to an inspector for deposit. The elector shall leave the polling place promptly.

After an official **touch screen** ballot is cast, the elector shall leave the polling place promptly.

An elector may select an individual to assist in casting his or her vote if the elector declares to the presiding official that he or she is unable to read, has difficulty reading, writing or understanding English or that due to disability is unable to cast his or her ballot. The selected individual rendering assistance may not be the elector's employer or an agent of that employer or an officer or agent of a labor organization which represents the elector.

Katherine Mitchell – CONOVER TOWN CLERK

