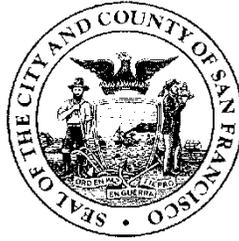


**Elections Commission**  
*City and County of San Francisco*

Roger Donaldson, President  
Viva Mogi, Vice President  
Charles Jung



John Arntz, Director of Elections

Don Chan, Secretary

**MEETING MINUTES (Draft)**

**Budget and Oversight of Public Elections Committee (BOPEC)  
of the San Francisco Elections Commission**

**Wednesday, October 10, 2018**  
**6:00 p.m.**  
**City Hall, Room 421**  
**1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place**  
**San Francisco, California 94102**

**Order of Business**

**1. Call to Order & Roll Call**

Chair Donaldson called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM. Commissioners Jung and Mogi were present. Also present: Director of Elections John Arntz, and secretary Chan.

**2. General Public Comment**

There was none.

**3. Open Source Voting**

a) Update on Open Source Project

Director of Elections John Arntz said that they have formed an interview panel to do interviews for the position, next Thursday. They hope to select one from that process.

He was asked if the composition of the panel was responsive to requests that members of the commission and public be included. He deferred to Director Gerull for a response.

Director Gerull mentioned also the interview panel of 4 people (including Director Arntz and someone from DT), presented a document (Initiation Plan) and gave a brief summary of current activities.

She was asked if someone from the Commission or TAC was included on the panel and she replied that they had certain characteristics they were looking for in the interviewers: familiarity with both the subject matter --open source projects-- as well as with elections and other processes of the City. In the interest of fairness and diversity, they chose not to have anyone on the panel that might have any familiarity with any of the applicants. Asked if certain

questions the Commission or TAC might feel are important to ask can be included in the list of questions to be asked, she said that they already had a set list to use, but certainly they could include (no more than 5), if she receives them before the interviews.

The document she handed out is one that her department produces for all of their projects that lays out the steps they will take to begin concrete activities to initiate the project once the project manager is hired. (document available on commission website).

She mentioned the hiring of an independent consultant that would be a resource who could make sure all aspects of the project are moving according to plan, programmatically and fiscally.

Pointed out various components in the flowchart (on governance) and described how she saw them interacting in the process. .

President Donaldson said this would be best taken up at the full commission meeting.

#### b) Oversight Proposal for SF Open Source Voting System Project

Mr. Trent Lang reviewed the proposal for an oversight committee in line with the recommendation of the Civil Grand Jury, composed of 5 people from 5 different bodies (named in the document). This would be the body that ultimately approves major decisions for the project development (programmatically and fiscally), but differed from other oversight bodies proposed, in that it included public participation and that of the elections commission intrinsically to ensure transparency and public accountability.

Vice President Mogi and Commissioner Jung felt that having another body didn't necessarily make the process more smooth running (subject to Brown and Sunset restrictions), and were skeptical that the members listed would be able to make another meeting on top of all the meetings they already have to attend.

The discussion basically revolved around what the best means was to have a transparent process that ensures the outcome is an open source product. Various opinions (e.g. Grand Jury, Commission, and DT) are in the mix regarding how a responsive governance body should be composed and how it should work. Director Gerull recounted the chart she provided which she thought addressed that, and said that as far as priorities go for the first year that she thought getting clear on how the state will allow certification of the system in an agile format and not fully formed, and to get the system's security platform established. She also stated that she didn't think that code writing was a priority (other entities may already have code that can be used).

#### Public Comment

Mr. David Cary felt that the last two years have been an essentially stagnant process. He said DT said in their response letter to the Grand Jury they wanted to spend \$1.6 million on a two year discovery phase project. He thought this was misguided. He supported the CCMC proposal.

President Donaldson stated he has been advocating for open source since 2005 and has been disappointed to see the role of the Commission in leading this endeavor set aside (most recently, the consolidated city response to the Civil Grand Jury report neglects to mention the Commission, and does refer to TAC as simply an advisory role. His experience with the City's outreach for public input has shown him that unless a process and entity is codified so that specific requirements and authority are enumerated, there is no assurance that such input will be heeded or implemented. This proposal would codify such a body with authority to get things done (such authority lacking now).

Vice President Mogi was not objecting to such a position, but would rather have such a mechanism given to an existing body (with the inclusion of those individuals mentioned in this proposal) so an extra layer of bureaucracy is avoided.

Commissioner Jung summarized what he thought was the essence of this proposal: to include a member of the Elections Commission (Commissioner Jerdonek) and a public member in a body that will assure that the project proceeds in a particular manner (open and agile), with particular requirements (public license). He proposed Mr. Lang approach the Mayor's office with that and obtain a commitment from them to do so.

President Donaldson thought that including those two people to the "executive sponsors" certainly could be a good thing. His concern was having such an authority body that would exist beyond the term of any one mayo so that its future funding would not be endangered. Director Gerull gave an example of how this is not possible, that political winds wipe past structures away for new ones. But this project could have enough concrete results in two years that would compel continuance.

The Chair closed discussion.

Public Comment     None

Commissioner Jung moved to disapprove of the proposed oversight committee, seconded by Vice President Mogi. Upon voice vote, the motion carried 2-1, with President Donaldson dissenting.

#### **4. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Commissioner Jung moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Vice President Mogi. Upon voice vote, the motion carried unanimously, 3-0.

#### **5. Agenda items for future meetings**

There were no items raised for consideration.

#### **Adjournment**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:36 PM.