

**TOWN OF COTTAGE GROVE  
ORDINANCE 2020-09-21**

**CREATING A BOARD OF ABSENTEE CANVASSERS AND PROVIDING FOR  
THE CENTRALIZED CANVASSING OF ALL ABSENTEE BALLOTS**

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board determines it is in the public interest to create a Board of Absentee Canvassers and provide for the centralized canvassing of all absentee ballots; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Section 7.52, Wis. Stats., the Town Clerk has notified the elections commission in writing of this proposed ordinance and consulted with the elections commission concerning the administration of said statute.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Board of the Town of Cottage Grove, Dane County, Wisconsin, does ordain as follows.

**SECTION 1.** Section 1.04 of the Code of Ordinances is hereby created to read as follows:

**01.04 BOARD OF ABSENTEE CANVASSERS**

Pursuant to Sections 7.52 and 7.53(2m), Wis. Stats., the Town Board of the Town of Cottage Grove hereby creates a Board of Absentee Canvassers and authorizes the centralized counting of absentee ballots on election days as follows:

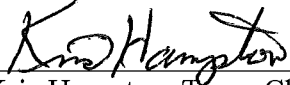
- (1) The Board of Absentee Ballot Canvassers shall be composed of the Town Clerk, or a qualified elector of the Town designated by the Town Clerk, and two other qualified electors of the Town appointed by the Town Clerk for a term of two years commencing on January 1 of each odd-numbered year. The Town Clerk may appoint additional inspectors under § 7.52(1)(b), Wis. Stats., to assist the Board of Absentee Ballot Canvassers in canvassing absentee ballots under this section.
- (2) In lieu of canvassing absentee ballots at polling places under § 6.88, Wis. Stats., the Board of Absentee Ballot Canvassers shall canvass all absentee ballots at all elections held in the Town.
- (3) The Town Clerk shall give at least 48 hours' notice of any meeting of the Board of Absentee Ballot Canvassers under this section.
- (4) The Town Clerk, no later than the closing hour of the polls, shall post at his or her office and on the Internet at a site announced by the Town Clerk before the polls open, and shall make available to any person upon request, a statement of the number of absentee ballots that the Town Clerk has mailed or transmitted to electors and that have been returned by the closing hour on election day.

**SECTION 2.** All other provisions of Code of Ordinances not specifically amended herein shall remain unmodified and in full force and effect.

**SECTION 3.** This ordinance shall take effect upon passage and publication as provided by law.

This above and foregoing ordinance was duly adopted at a meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Cottage Grove on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2020, by a vote of 5 in favor and 0 opposed.

**TOWN OF COTTAGE GROVE**

  
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Kris Hampton, Town Chair

Attested by:

  
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Kim Banigan, Town Clerk

Requested By: Kim Banigan, Town Clerk – 9/9/20  
Drafted By: William S. Cole, Town Attorney – 9/9/20