



**THE NATIONAL COMMODORE
OF THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY**

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From: NACO

To: National Board

Subject: NACO Guidance #7 - Electronic Election Process

Recent changes to the Auxiliary Manual (AUXMAN) chapter 4.E deal with holding unit meetings and elections telephonically or by electronic means when special circumstances exist. The funding hiatus is a special circumstance since it prohibits normal face-to-face meetings.

Most Auxiliary units have not had the opportunity to meet since the AUXMAN changes took effect in September. For this reason some of the AUXMAN requirements for holding meetings and elections telephonically or by electronic means will not be able to be met by the units. The Assistant National Commodore-Chief Counsel is in the process of determining which of those requirements a Director of Auxiliary could reasonably waive during the current unique (funding hiatus plus new AUXMAN requirements) circumstances.

In the immediate future it has been determined that District 9WR is authorized as a one-time test case to hold DCAPT elections after the start of the funding hiatus on 1 OCT. District 9WR has been adequately prepared to conduct a district meeting by electronic means (WebEx) and to hold DCAPT elections using special software that provides for a secret ballot, nominations from the floor, and runoff elections as required by election guidelines in the AUXMAN. That meeting and election is scheduled for 12 OCT 2013. This process has been authorized in consultation with CHDIRAUX as a test of the software and processes. National staff officers from Legal, Measurement, and Information Technology will be standing by to advise and facilitate during the specially authorized district election. As of this writing, the 12 OCT 9WR District elections are the only elections that are authorized to be held by electronic means.

Work is in progress to provide training and guidance to allow units to reasonably meet the requirements for unit telephonic/electronic meetings as described in AUXMAN 4.E. The lessons learned from the 9WR test processes will be incorporated in that training and guidance so it can be available for future district, division, and flotilla elections. When such training and guidance are in place, NACO will provide direction for conducting meetings and elections by electronic means. In the meantime, NACO Guidance #6 remains in place for all divisions and flotillas.

Very respectfully,

Thomas C. Mallison /s/
National Commodore

★ *Training*

★ *Communication*

★ *Members*