

THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF COLORADO 132nd DIOCESAN CONVENTION

Report of the Committee for the Conduct of Nominations & Elections

October 3-5, 2019

The elections for the General Convention 2021 Colorado Deputation occurred on Friday, October 4, 2019 at the 132nd Diocesan Convention. Two elections were held. The first was for the election of the four Clergy and four Lay Deputies and occurred at 10:30 am on Friday morning. The second was for the election of the three Lay Alternates and occurred at 5:15 pm on Friday afternoon immediately after the results of the election for the General Convention Deputies were reported.

Methodology

Both elections were conducted using the Modified Hare-Clark Single Transferable Vote (STV) methodology with nominee names listed on the ballots in alphabetical order. (See the appendix.) This methodology enabled both elections (Deputy & Lay Alternate) to be conducted without the use of multiple ballots.

Nominees

There were five clergy nominees:

- The Rev. Melissa Adzima, St. Andrew's, Denver
- The Rev. Tory Moir, St Mary Magdalene, Boulder
- The Rev. Nick Myers, St Timothy's, Centennial
- The Rev. Debbie Shew, St Mark's, Durango
- The Rev. Brian Winter, Christ's Church, Castle Rock

There were seven lay nominees:

1. Zoe Cole, St. Luke's, Denver
2. Larry Hitt, Good Shepherd, Centennial
3. Erica Pomerenk, St. Thomas, Denver
4. Scott-Michael Pomerenk, St. Thomas, Denver

5. Chuck Theobald, Grace & St. Stephen, Colorado Springs
6. George Wing, Chapel of Our Saviour, Colorado Springs
7. Jim Wolfe, Good Shepherd, Centennial

Elections Results By Round

Clergy & Lay Deputy Election:

There were 98 valid ballots cast by the clergy delegates for the clergy deputies and 242 valid ballots cast by the lay delegates for the clergy deputies.

This resulted in the following STV Quotas:

- 20 for the clergy delegates voting for clergy deputies
- 49 for the lay delegates voting for clergy deputies

The four **Clergy Deputies** in the order of election are:

1. The Rev. Nick Myers (Round 1)
2. The Rev. Brian Winter (Round 1)
3. The Rev. Debbie Shew (Round 2)
4. The Rev. Melissa Adzima (Round 3)

There were 97 valid ballots cast by the clergy delegates for the lay deputies and 242 valid ballots cast by the lay delegates for the lay deputies.

This resulted in the following STV Quotas:

- 20 for the clergy delegates voting for lay deputies
- 49 for the lay delegates voting for lay deputies

The four **Lay Deputies** in the order of election are:

1. Larry Hitt (Round 1)
2. Zoe Cole (Round 2)
3. Chuck Theobald (Round 3)
4. Erica Pomerenk (Round 3)

Clergy & Lay Alternate Election:

Because there was only one Clergy nominee left after the 4 Clergy delegates had been elected, the Chair requested that she be elected by acclamation of the body, thus avoiding a need to have an Alternate ballot for Clergy.

The Clergy Alternate to be elected by acclamation of the Convention is
Tori Moir.

There were 88 valid ballots cast by the clergy delegates for the lay
alternates and 222 valid ballots cast by the lay delegates for the lay
alternates.

This resulted in the following STV Quotas:

- 18 for the clergy delegates voting for lay alternates
- 45 for the lay delegates voting for lay alternates

The three Lay Alternates in the order of election are:

1. Jim Wolfe (Round 1)
2. Scott-Michael Pomerenk (Round 1)
3. George Wing (Round 1)

Special thanks are offered to the wonderful team of counters who served
on the committee this year. Each was a critical, thoughtful, and focused
member of the Team and the process could not have been a success
without them.

Other nominations and elections were held previously by specific Regions.
This concludes the report of the Committee on the Conduct of
Nominations and Elections regarding General Convention 2021

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev. Nancey Johnson Bookstein

Chair, Committee for Nominations and Elections

APPENDIX

Detailed Election Report

This section contains the detailed report of the round-by-round ballots for the clergy and lay deputies and the clergy and lay alternates. For each of these there are two parts corresponding to the two Orders of delegates (lay & clergy) casting votes.

1. Election of Clergy Deputies to General Convention.

There were five nominees for the four clergy deputy positions.

Methodology: Modified Hare-Clark Single Transferable Vote (STV) Single Ballot.

Voting was by paper ballot, each Order voting separately, with convention delegates ranking the nominees from 1 to 5.

Ballots that did not contain rankings for all five nominees were considered invalid.

[Round One]

Clergy Delegates Voting For Clergy Deputies

All ballots were sorted according to the candidate ranked #1 on the ballot. With 98 valid ballots cast, the quota for this election was 20 (1/5 of 98 rounded up). There were eight invalid ballots.

The Round One results were as follows:

| Candidate | R1 |
|----------------------|-----------|
| Adzima, Melissa | 15 |
| Moir, Tory | 10 |
| Nick Myers | 32 |
| Shew, Debbie | 11 |
| Winter, Brian | 30 |

| | |
|----------------------|-----------|
| Total Ballots | 98 |
| STV Quota [98/5] | 20 |

Two candidates received the number of votes needed for election: Nick Myers (32) and Brian Winter (30).

Lay Delegates Voting For Clergy Deputies

All ballots were sorted according to the candidate ranked #1 on the ballot. With 242 valid ballots cast, the quota for this election was 49 (1/5 of 242 rounded up). There were four invalid ballots and one abstention.

The Round One results are as follows:

| Candidate | R1 |
|----------------------|-----------|
| Adzima, Melissa | 42 |
| Moir, Tory | 40 |
| Nick Myers | 57 |
| Shew, Debbie | 48 |
| Winter, Brian | 55 |
| | |
| Total Ballots | 242 |
| STV Quota [242/5] | 49 |

Round One Results For Clergy Deputies

Two candidates received the number of votes needed for election: Brian Winter (55) and Nick Myers (57).

Having received sufficient votes from each Order, Nick Myers (89) and Brian Winter (85) were declared elected, respectively, as the first and second Clergy Deputies to General Convention 2021.

Nick Myers received 32 clergy votes and Brian Winter received 30 clergy votes so 12 ballots and 10 ballots, respectively, were randomly removed from their stacks and were redistributed to the

remaining candidates based on the next highest preferences on those ballots.

Nick Myers received 57 lay votes and Brian Winter received 55 lay votes. Eight and six respective ballots were randomly selected from their stacks and redistributed to the other remaining candidates based on the next highest preference on those ballots.

[Round Two]

Clergy Delegates Voting For Clergy Deputies

The Round Two results were as follows:

| | |
|----------------------|-----------|
| Candidate | R2 |
| Adzima, Melissa | 19 |
| Moir, Tory | 19 |
| Shew, Debbie | 20 |
| | |
| Total Ballots | 98 |
| STV Quota [98/5] | 20 |
| | |

One candidate, Debbie Shew (20) received the number of votes needed for election.

Lay Delegates Voting For Clergy Deputies

The Round Two results are as follows:

| | |
|----------------------|------------|
| Candidate | R2 |
| Adzima, Melissa | 42 |
| Moir, Tory | 40 |
| Shew, Debbie | 62 |
| | |
| Total Ballots | 242 |
| STV Quota [242/5] | 49 |

One candidate, Debbie Shew (62) received the number of votes needed for election.

Round Two Results For Clergy Deputies

Having received sufficient votes from each Order, Debbie Shew (82) was declared elected as the third Clergy Deputy to General Convention 2021.

Debbie Shew received 20 clergy votes so no extra votes were available to be redistributed.

[Round Three]

Clergy Delegates Voting For Clergy Deputies

The Round Three results were as follows:

| Candidate | R3 |
|----------------------|-----------|
| Adzima, Melissa | 19 |
| Moir, Tory | 19 |
| | |
| Total Ballots | 97 |
| STV Quota [98/5] | 20 |

No new candidates received the number of votes needed for election. The results were unchanged with the same three candidates receiving the number of votes needed for election: Nick Myers, Brian Winter and Debbie Shew. Since there were no more votes to be distributed, the STV single ballot formula did not work in this instance.

Lay Delegates Voting For Clergy Deputies

The Round Three results are as follows:

| Candidate | R3 |
|------------------|-----------|
| Melissa Adzima | 51 |
| Tory Moir | 44 |

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| | |
| Total Ballots | 242 |
| STV Quota [242/5] | 49 |

Melissa Adzima received the required number of votes for election.

Round Three Results For Clergy Deputies

To be elected, a candidate had to receive, at a minimum, the quota of votes from each Order. None did.

Neither of the two remaining Clergy candidates were able to qualify for election from the Clergy side. After significant discussion and consultation with the Rev. Rhodes Hollowell, the last Chair during 2016 elections for GC Deputies, there was unanimous agreement that the votes for each candidate from both clergy rounds be added together. When that was completed, Melissa Adzima received 34 votes and Tory Moir received 29 votes. Since both candidates then received the required number of votes for election, there was further discussion and unanimous agreement that, based on the majority of total votes, Melissa Adzima would move forward to stand for election. Tory Moir would then be considered for the first Alternate position.

Having met the greatest number of votes from both orders, Melissa Adzima was considered to be appointed and elected as the fourth Clergy Deputy to General Convention 2021.

2. Election of Lay Deputies to General Convention.

There were seven nominees for the four open Deputy positions.

Methodology: Modified Hare-Clark Single Transferable Vote (STV) Single Ballot.

Voting was by paper ballot, each order voting separately, with delegate to convention ranking the nominees from 1 to 7.

Ballots that did not contain rankings for all seven nominees were considered invalid ballots.

[Round One]

Clergy Delegates Voting For Lay Deputies

All ballots were sorted according to the candidate ranked #1 on the ballot. With 97 valid ballots cast, the quota for this election was 20 (1/5 of 97 rounded up). There was one invalid ballot.

The Round One results are as follows:

| Candidate | R1 |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Cole, Zoe | 16 |
| Hitt, Larry | 37 |
| Pomerenk, Erica | 13 |
| Scott-Michael Pomerenk | 3 |
| Theobold, Chuck | 15 |
| Wing, George | 6 |
| Wolfe, Jim | 7 |
| Total Ballots | 97 |
| STV Quota [97/5] | 20 |

One of the candidates received the number of votes needed for election: Larry Hitt.

Lay Delegates Voting For Lay Deputies

All ballots were sorted according to the candidate ranked #1 on the ballot. With 242 valid ballots cast, the quota for this election was 49 (1/5 of 242 rounded up). There were 4 invalid ballots.

The Round One results are as follows:

| Candidate | R1 |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Cole, Zoe | 47 |
| Hitt, Larry | 60 |
| Pomerenk, Erica | 45 |

| | |
|------------------------|------------|
| Scott-Michael Pomerenk | 11 |
| Theobold, Chuck | 47 |
| Wing, George | 12 |
| Wolfe, Jim | 20 |
| Total Ballots | 242 |
| STV Quota [270/5] | 49 |

One of the candidates received the number of votes needed for election: Larry Hitt

Round One Results For Lay Deputies

Having received sufficient votes from each Order, Larry Hitt was declared elected the first Lay Deputy to General Convention 2021.

Because there were only seven lay candidates standing for eight necessary positions needed, we did not remove anyone from the election ballot. We redistributed excess votes beyond the quota from the elected Deputy.

Random ballots were removed from Larry Hitt’s stack with the number of ballots removed being equal to the number of votes received over the STV quota (20 for Clergy and 49 for Lay).

Larry Hitt received 37 clergy votes so 17 ballots were randomly selected from his stack and redistributed to the other remaining candidates based on the next highest preference on those ballots.

Larry Hitt received 60 lay votes so 11 ballots were randomly selected from his stack and redistributed to the remaining lay candidates based on the next highest preference on those ballots.

[Round Two]

Clergy Delegates Voting For Lay Deputies

The Round Two results are as follows:

| | |
|------------------|-----------|
| Candidate | R2 |
|------------------|-----------|

| | |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Cole, Zoe | 23 |
| Pomerenk, Erica | 18 |
| Scott-Michael Pomerenk | 4 |
| Theobold, Chuck | 19 |
| Wing, George | 6 |
| Wolfe, Jim | 7 |
| Total Ballots | 97 |
| STV Quota [97/5] | 20 |

One of the candidates received the number of votes needed for election: Zoe Cole

Lay Delegates Voting For Lay Deputies

The Round Two results are as follows:

| | |
|------------------------|------------|
| Candidate | R2 |
| Cole, Zoe | 52 |
| Pomerenk, Erica | 47 |
| Scott-Michael Pomerenk | 11 |
| Theobold, Chuck | 50 |
| Wing, George | 13 |
| Wolfe, Jim | 20 |
| Total Ballots | 242 |
| STV Quota [242/5] | 49 |

Round Two Results For Lay Deputies

To be elected, a candidate had to receive, at a minimum, the quota of votes from each Order. One candidate met the required number of votes needed for election: Zoe Cole

Having received sufficient votes from each Order, Zoe Cole (75) was declared elected the second Lay Deputy to General Convention 2021.

Zoe Cole received 23 clergy votes so 3 ballots were randomly removed from her stack and were redistributed to the remaining clergy candidates based on the highest preference on those ballots.

Zoe Cole received 52 lay votes so 3 ballots were randomly removed from her stack and were redistributed to the remaining lay candidates based on the highest preference on those ballots.

[Round Three]

Clergy Delegates Voting For Lay Deputies

The Round Three results are as follows:

| | |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Candidate | R3 |
| Erin Pomereck | 20 |
| Scott-Michael Pomerenk | 4 |
| Theobold, Chuck | 20 |
| Wing, George | 6 |
| Wolfe, Jim | 7 |
| | |
| Total Ballots | 97 |
| STV Quota [98/5] | 20 |

Two of the candidates received the number of clergy votes needed for election: Erica Pomerenk and Chuck Theobold.

Lay Delegates Voting For Lay Deputies

The Round Three results are as follows:

| | |
|------------------------|------------|
| Candidate | R3 |
| Erica Pomerenk | 49 |
| Scott-Michael Pomerenk | 11 |
| Chuck Theobold | 51 |
| George Wing | 13 |
| Jim Wolfe | 20 |
| Total Ballots | 242 |

Two of the candidates received the number of clergy votes needed for election: Erica Pomerenk and Chuck Theobold.

Round Three Results For Lay Deputies

Having received sufficient votes from each Order, Chuck Theobold (71) and Erica Pomerenk (49) were declared elected, respectively, as the third and fourth Lay Deputies to General Convention 2021.

This concluded the election for the Lay Deputation to General Convention 2021.

3. Election of Clergy Alternates to General Convention

There was only one nominee for the four clergy alternate positions.

Clergy Delegates Voting For Clergy Alternates

Since there was only one clergy candidate left after the four clergy delegates were elected, there was no need for a clergy alternate election. The Bishop agreed to ask for an election by acclamation of the body. Tory Moir should be elected as the first Clergy Alternate to General Convention 2021.

4. Election of Lay Alternates to General Convention

There were three nominees for the four lay alternate positions.

Methodology: Modified Hare-Clark Single Transferable Vote (STV) Single Ballot.

Voting was by paper ballot, each Order voting separately, with convention delegates ranking the nominees from 1 to 3.

Ballots that did not contain rankings for all three nominees were considered invalid.

[Round One]

Clergy Delegates Voting For Lay Alternates

All ballots were sorted according to the candidate ranked #1 on the ballot. With 88 valid ballots cast, the quota for this election was 18 (1/5 of 88 rounded up). There were 6 invalid ballots.

The Round One results are as follows:

| Candidate | R1 |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Scott-Michael Pomerenk | 30 |
| Wing, George | 22 |
| Wolfe, Jim | 36 |
| Total Ballots | 88 |
| STV Quota [88/5] | 18 |

All three candidates received the number of votes needed for election.

Lay Delegates Voting For Lay Alternates

All ballots were sorted according to the candidate ranked #1 on the ballot. With 222 valid ballots cast, the quota for this election was 45 (1/5 of 222 rounded up). There were four invalid ballots.

The Round One results are as follows:

| Candidate | R1 |
|------------------------|------------|
| Scott-Michael Pomerenk | 82 |
| George Wing | 60 |
| Jim Wolfe | 80 |
| Total Ballots | 222 |
| STV Quota [222/5] | 45 |

All three candidates received the number of votes needed for election.

Round One Results For Lay Alternates

Having received sufficient votes from each Order, all three candidates were declared elected as Lay Alternates to General Convention 2021. In order to assign the rank for election, both clergy and lay total votes for each candidate were added together. The highest number determined the highest rank standing.

Jim Wolfe (116) was elected the first Lay Alternate Deputy to General Convention 2021.

Scott-Michael Pomerenk (112) was elected second Lay Alternate Deputy to General Convention 2021.

George Wing (82) was elected third Lay Alternate Deputy to General Convention 2021.

In Retrospect:

This process was tedious at best. There were 5 volunteer counters plus the Chair. The Modified Hare-Clark Single Transferable Vote (STV) methodology was not able to differentiate adequately when there was a tie in Round 3 for the fourth Clergy Deputy slot (both had 19 clergy votes but the quota number was 20) and only 2 nominees were left.

There is also no way to verify or rectify votes. If a tabulation is wrong, it takes hours to find any mistake which is not actually possible anyway. We suggest that the Diocesan Convention Team very seriously consider obtaining or renting hardware and/or software that will allow us to obtain accurate election results by using electronic voting. At the very least, we should have better ways of counting, reviewing, and editing election results and reports. There will be a steep learning curve, but it will save so much time once we learn how to use it properly!

