

EAGLE COUNTY DEMOCRATS
Vacancy Committee Procedural Rules
Eagle County Commissioner, District 1
January 12, 2018

1-09-2019 Eagle County Commissioner Jill Ryan named as Executive Director of Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment under Governor Jared Polis.

1-11-2019 Ryan announces resignation as Commissioner District 1, effective January 27, 2019. Eagle County Democrats have ten days from the date of resignation to select a new Commissioner. If no selection is made by February 6, 2019, the Governor will make the appointment.

Vacancies in County Commissioner seats are governed by the Colorado Revised Statutes (“C.R.S.”), the relevant portions of which follow:

§1-3-104. Political party vacancy committees

All vacancies in state, congressional, judicial, senatorial, representative, or county commissioner party central committees shall be filled by the respective party county central committees pursuant to section 1-3-103.

§1-12-206. Vacancies in the office of county commissioner.

(1) In case of a vacancy occurring in the office of county commissioner, a vacancy committee constituted as provided in this section shall, by a majority vote of its members present at a meeting called for the purpose, fill the vacancy by appointment within ten days after the occurrence of the vacancy. The meeting shall not be held unless a quorum is present consisting of not less than one-half of the voting members of the vacancy committee. A member of the vacancy committee may not vote by proxy. If the vacancy committee fails to fill the vacancy within ten days, the governor shall fill the vacancy by appointment within fifteen days after the occurrence of the vacancy.

(2) If the vacating commissioner was elected by the electors of the whole county, whether at large or from a district, the successor shall be appointed by a vacancy committee constituted of those persons selected at the county central committee organizational meeting of the same political party as the vacating commissioner.

[SECTIONS (3), (4), (4.5) NOT APPLICABLE.]

(5) Any person appointed to a vacancy in the office of county commissioner under this section must be a resident of the county and reside within the district, if any, in which the vacancy exists and must be a member of the same political party or minor political party, if any, shown in the statewide voter registration system as the vacating commissioner. Any person appointed pursuant to this section holds the office until the next general election or until the vacancy is filled by election according to law.

(6) A vacancy committee may not select a person to fill a vacancy at a meeting held pursuant to this section unless a written notice announcing the time and location of the vacancy committee meeting is mailed to each member of the vacancy committee at least six days before the meeting by the chairperson of the central committee. Mailing of the notice is effective when the notice is properly addressed and deposited in the United States mail with first-class postage prepaid.

1-12-2019 Draft procedural rules prepared and circulated by e-mail to members of the Eagle County Democrats Vacancy Committee (“ECDems VC”) for approval. ECDems VC eligibility to vote is confirmed. Members will be asked to be prepared to: (1) review all applications, and (2) attend the meeting of the Vacancy Committee on Tuesday, February 5 and vote until a majority vote for a single candidate is completed.

1-14-2019 ECDems VC votes on these procedural rules will be due by no later than Monday, January 14 at 5:00 p.m. A quorum of 50% plus one is required for approval.

1-15-2019 Notice of these procedural rules will be published to Eagle County Democrats social media (website, Facebook, Twitter), e-mailed to EC Dems newsletter list, and provided to local news outlets including Vail Daily, Eagle Valley Enterprise, Real Vail, Aspen Times and Aspen Daily News. Applicants are requested to submit by e-mail a letter of interest, résumé outlining qualifications for the position, and written answers to three questions. These questions will be developed by officers of the Eagle County Dems and posted on the Eagle County Dems website. Materials are to be submitted by e-mail electronically to eaglecodems@gmail.com.

Information concerning the membership of the ECDems VC will be published on the Eagle County Dems website. Candidates will be provided with ECDems VC members contact information after application materials are received. Candidates may contact ECDems VC members, but ECDems VC members will have discretion as to their individual correspondence/communication with candidates.

1-23-2019 Application materials are due to ECDems VC at: eaglecodems@gmail.com. Materials will be distributed by e-mail to EC Dems VC by e-mail and members of the public, as requested.

1-30-2019 Candidate forum conducted in the Roaring Fork Valley. Forum format and questions will be developed by the officers of the Eagle County Dems. The public is invited to observe but may not participate.

2-05-2019 Candidate forum conducted in the Eagle River Valley. Forum format and questions will be developed by the officers of the Eagle County Dems. The public is invited to observe but may not participate.

At the conclusion of the candidate forum, nominations and nomination acceptance speeches will be given, after which the ECDems VC will vote to appoint the County Commissioner. Candidates who are also members of the ECDems VC should abstain from all rounds of voting. Voting will be conducted by paper ballot, with candidates names listed alphabetically by last name, and via the “Exhaustive Voting” process described in Colorado Democratic Party rules (at Part 4, Article III, Section A-5) as follows:

[I]f at the end of each round of voting there is no candidate with a simple majority, the candidate with the lowest vote total shall be removed from the ballot for the next round of voting. This process shall continue until there are only 2 candidates, and one of them is declared the winner with a simple majority. Once the voting starts for an office, no additional candidates will be added to that ballot