



Laura Belin &lt;desmoinesdem@bleedingheartland.com&gt;

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## Qs about recount/re canvass manual

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**Laura Belin** <desmoinesdem@bleedingheartland.com>

Tue, Feb 18, 2020 at 8:35 AM

To: IDP Press &lt;press@iowademocrats.org&gt;, Mandy McClure &lt;mmclure@iowademocrats.org&gt;, Kevin Geiken &lt;kgeiken@iowademocrats.org&gt;

Trying again to get answers to these questions.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Laura Belin** <desmoinesdem@bleedingheartland.com>

Date: Mon, Feb 17, 2020 at 2:22 PM

Subject: Re: Qs about recount/re canvass manual

To: Mandy McClure &lt;mmclure@iowademocrats.org&gt;, Kevin Geiken &lt;kgeiken@iowademocrats.org&gt;, IDP Press &lt;press@iowademocrats.org&gt;

Is that a "no comment" on all of these questions?

On Sun, Feb 16, 2020 at 7:48 PM Laura Belin <desmoinesdem@bleedingheartland.com> wrote:

Hello all,

I have obtained a copy of the Recount and Recanvass Procedure Manual (attached). It is dated January 31, 2020. I have a few questions.

1. Is that the first version of this document? Or was it written earlier and only changed in some minor way on January 31?
2. My understanding is that the State Central Committee never voted to approve the Recount and Recanvass Procedure Manual. Is that correct? If so, on what basis is the IDP using the document?

The Delegate Selection Plan says on page 12,

- a. The Iowa Democratic Party State Central Committee will approve a Recount and Recanvass Procedure Manual to be publicized with the Call to Caucus no later than November 5, 2019.

3. The Recount and Recanvass Procedure Manual states,

The recanvass administrators will reference the total number of eligible caucus participants and delegates won by each candidate to establish consistency between the intended results on the Caucus Math Worksheet and Reporting Form and the results submitted through the Caucus Reporting Tool or via the telephone.

In reviewing Caucus Math Worksheets and Reporting Forms, inconsistencies are declared if

results on official precinct or satellite forms are different from the results reported through the Caucus Reporting Tool or by telephone.

I take that to mean that obvious mathematical or delegate allocation errors on Caucus Math Worksheets will be left untouched, as long as the official results are consistent with the wrong numbers on the worksheet.

For instance, Des Moines precinct 14 reported 31 caucus-goers for Warren and 50 for Sanders, but assigned 2 delegates to Warren and 1 to Sanders. If my understanding is correct, the Iowa Democratic Party will leave the results at 2 delegates for Warren and 1 for Sanders during the canvass, even though the precinct chair did not follow the rules outlined in the Delegate Selection Plan. Is my understanding accurate?

4. Is the Iowa Democratic Party ruling out any changes to official results or delegate allocations for precincts that were not part of the canvass requests submitted by two campaigns? I'm thinking of certain precincts where candidates other than Pete Buttigieg or Bernie Sanders were disadvantaged by computational errors or delegate selection rules not being applied correctly at the precinct level.

My understanding is that the IDP believes those Caucus Math Worksheets should stand, even if it's clear the precinct chair made mistakes. However, I want to confirm that is still the party's position under the new state chair.

5. The Delegate Selection Plan states on page 12,

Results from the caucuses will be tabulated electronically and sent securely to the State Party.

However, many precinct chairs did not use the app to tabulate the results electronically before sending to the IDP. They did the computations manually and then filled out the Caucus Math Worksheets before phoning in their results.

What is the basis for the IDP attorney's claim that the Caucus Math Worksheets are like a ballot that cannot be altered? In many cases the precinct chairs did not even follow the Delegate Selection Plan's provision that results be tabulated electronically.

Thanks in advance for any clarification you can provide.

Yours,

Laurie  
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