



BLACK RIVER FALLS, WISCONSIN

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: April 3, 2020

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City of Black River Falls, 101 S. Second Street, Black River Falls, WI 54615

Judge William Conley of the Western District of Wisconsin federal court has issued an order related to absentee ballots for next week's Spring Election and Presidential Preference Primary. The Court ordered the following:

1. The deadline for requesting an absentee ballot by mail, fax, email or online is extended to 5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 3, 2020. Voters should go to myvote.wi.gov before 5:00 pm today to request an absentee ballot.
2. The deadline for the receipt of absentee ballots is extended to 4:00 p.m. on Monday, April 13, 2020. The Court specifically did not add a requirement for a postmarked-by deadline as long as the ballot is returned by the new deadline.
3. A witness signature on the absentee ballot certificate envelope is not required if the absentee voter provides a written affirmation or other statement that they were unable to safely obtain a witness certification despite reasonable attempts to do so, provided the ballot is otherwise valid.

Judge Conley's decision was issued in a set of three federal lawsuits which were consolidated and which requested various remedies related to the Spring Election. The decision did **not** grant other requests such as postponing the election date or suspending and photo ID requirements for mail-in absentee voters.

Polls will be open at City Hall, 101 South Second Street in the City of Black River Falls from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm on Tuesday, April 7th for in person voting. Extra precautions will be taken to ensure the safety of voters and poll workers. Social distancing practices will be adhered to with a 6 foot spacing between voters while in line and between voting booths.