

## New State GOP Chair Ducks Questions On Replacing Sellout GOP Election Commissioners By Mark Belling, WISN-AM

The new chair of the Wisconsin Republican Party is refusing to call for the removal of the two GOP members of the state Election Commission who routinely backed actions in the 2020 election that benefited Democrats.

Paul Farrow, who is also the Waukesha County Executive, was asked by me if he would publicly call for the removal of Election Commission members Marge Bostleman and Dean Knudson. The third GOP member of the Commission, Milwaukee's Bob Spindell, has been a much stronger voice for GOP interests.

The Election Commission last year, without any authorized changes in state law, allowed numerous changes in election procedures which in all cases benefited Democrats. The Commission allowed the state to move to a massive mail-in voting system and ignored a state statute that required it to purge voter rolls of names of individuals who hadn't voted in years. In addition, the Commission took no action when Madison officials held an illegal in-person voting event called "Democracy In The Park" in which voters turned ballots in to Madison election officials. The event was held weeks before in-person voting could legally be held.

Since then, state Assembly Speaker Robin Vos has named former Supreme Court Justice Michael Gableman to investigate some of the election irregularities and Gableman has given mixed signals on whether he will enforce subpoenas to local officials. One of the areas of Gableman's inquiry is the turning over of much of the election operation activity in several cities to an organization controlled by Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg.

The Election Commission did nothing to stop this transfer of election administration to Zuckerberg's group.

Farrow responded to my emailed questions with a telephone call in which he indicated he is not prepared to call for the removal of Bostleman and Knudson, saying he is trying to hold the party's various factions together. I responded that one of those factions is the one that long ago stopped fighting for GOP interests. Most of Farrow's response to that is unprintable here.

Despite years of losses and mismanaged campaigns, state GOP leadership seems as unwilling to listen to input from outsiders as ever.

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