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Olsen Wins Commission Race by One Vote

(KNZA) ---Following a canvass of ballots today (Monday) from the primary election, 2nd District Brown County Commissioner Keith Olsen wins the Republican primary by a one-vote margin.

Unofficial results last Tuesday night had Olsen winning by a 3-vote margin over challenger Roger Madere.

Meeting as the board of canvassers, county commissioners decided Monday to accept 13 of 18 provisional ballots cast last Tuesday in the 2nd commissioner district. Provisional ballots are cast when there is a question if a person is qualified to vote. Olsen did not participate in the canvass in order to avoid a conflict of interest.

After the provisional ballots were counted, Olsen received 218 votes and Madere 217. A third candidate, Richard “ Dick” Geiger, received 128 votes.

Madere can now request a hand recount of the ballots. County Attorney Kevin Hill says by state law Madere has until 5 o'clock Tuesday evening to make such a request in writing to the county clerk's office. He must post about a \$350 bond to cover the cost of the recount. If the outcome of the race changes following a recount, he will get his bond back.

Following the canvass, Madere said he hadn't yet decided whether he would request a recount.

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