

# Walker Displaces Vizcocho on Kodiak City Council; No Competition in Assembly or School Board Races

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Jay Barrett/KMXT

There were more open seats than candidates around Kodiak yesterday during the municipal election, and two races had just enough candidates to fill the vacancies, meaning voters didn't have much in the way of choices.

For example, there were no candidates for the six open seats among the Service Area Number 1 board, Bay View Road Service Area, or the Monashka Bay Road Service Area.

There were no choices in the race for the Kodiak Island Borough Assembly, where only Chris Lynch and Aaron Griffin vied for the two open seats. Incumbent Jerrol Friend, whose name was still on the ballot, withdrew from the contest last month. Lynch received 699 votes, while Griffin got 688. It was the second election in a year that Griffin did not face any competition. He ran unopposed last October and was elected to the board of education. He will now have to quit that commitment with two years left in his term. It's up to the school board to fill that vacancy.

Speaking of the school board, there were also only two candidates in the race for the two open seats. Long time incumbent Norm Wooten was re-elected with 775 votes and Debra Kirk received 773.

There were four candidates in the contest to fill the two openings on the Fire Protection Number 1 board, with Keila Pickett and Rebecca Nelson winning election. Both received 203 votes. Scott Arndt had 159 and Robert Perkins had 80.

David Conrad was the only candidate for the two seats open on the Womens Bay Road Service Area Board, and he received 98 votes.

There was a three-way race for the two seats on the Kodiak City Council. Incumbent Gabriel Saravia was re-elected with 243 votes, and newcomer Rich Walker had 233. Incumbent Mark-Anthony Vizcocho, with 211 votes, lost his bid for election after being appointed to a vacated seat earlier this year.

Proposition 1, which was on the ballot for City of Kodiak residents only, passed by a margin of 287-to-61. It changes the time when elected officials take office. Currently it's the first meeting after the election is certified, but that sometimes doesn't happen for over a month. Now, council terms begin the first Monday after an election is certified. That certification is scheduled for October 11th.

All the results are preliminary and unofficial until the respective governing bodies certify the elections.