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Nebraska's presidential electors cast ballots for Bush

LINCOLN – As part of the Electoral College, Nebraska's five presidential electors on Monday, Dec. 13, cast ballots for George W. Bush at a meeting at the State Capitol.

“This meeting is the culminating step of the election of our president and vice president,” Nebraska Secretary of State John Gale said.

En route to winning reelection on Nov. 2, President Bush captured all five of Nebraska's votes in the Electoral College.

Nebraska awards two votes to the candidate that wins statewide and one vote for winning a congressional district. Maine does the same, and all other states have a “winner-take-all” system.

Nebraska Republican presidential electors were: Kay Orr, Lincoln, statewide; Ken Stinson, Omaha, statewide; Jason Bromm, Lincoln, 1st Congressional District; Michael John Hogan, Omaha, 2nd Congressional District; and Bill Barrett, Lexington, 3rd Congressional District.

Bromm's father, state Sen. Curt Bromm of Wahoo, was slated to serve as an elector but declined the appointment to avoid any possible conflict of interest as a sitting senator. Pursuant to state law in filling such a vacancy, the younger Bromm was selected by the other four electors to serve as an elector.

Following adjournment of Monday's meeting, Gov. Mike Johanns read a letter from President Bush thanking the electors for their participation and service.

There are a total of 538 votes in the Electoral College (535 votes representing the U.S. Congress and three votes for the District of Columbia). Electoral votes nationwide are assigned to each

state based on the same formula: two each reflecting U.S. senators plus the number of seats in the U.S. House of Representatives assigned to the state.

As chief election officer of the state, Gale conducted the election by the Nebraska electors.

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