



August 18, 2022

County response to written questions submitted to the Voter Integrity Work Group

Following the June 27th Voter integrity Work Group meeting, County staff has reviewed the concerns submitted. Below is a summary of each question raised as well as a response from the County.

Question:

- 1) *Balanced Ballot Boards – Using Party Balance, how many are hired?*
 - a. *Need to request official resolution that was passed and implemented*
 - b. *Verify the party balance via printed list.*

County Response: Wright County employs temporary election judges. Those temporary election judges sign affiliation statements. Wright County employs party balance during all phases of the ballot board process exceeding statutory requirements. Attached is a copy of the resolution, and the list of judges presented to the County Board.

Question:

- 2) *Pollbooks Apple software version of 15.5 confirmation.*
 - a. *How is VPN Security key set, County, State or Vendor?*

County Response: Poll Pads were updated IOS 15.5 and certification was submitted to the state that the application version was compatible with IOS version. Wright County uses multi-factor authentication for all Mobile Device Manager applications. Attached is a Certification that Electronic Rosters to be used meet M.S. 201.225 Requirements.

Question:

- 3) *System Certification*
 - a. *Need to request new certification 6.1.0.0 (old version?)*
 - b. *What software version was used in 2020 and what will be used in 2022?*
 - i. *Certificates of each version?*
 - c. *60 day notice to voters from municipalities*
 - i. *Omni-Ballot – in every precinct.*
 - d. *What testing does the county perform?*
 - i. *Can the public fill out ballots during the testing?*



County Response: Wright County Elections in coordination with the County Attorney's Office and in consultation with the Office of Secretary of State has determined that the County is in compliance with all relevant statutes for switching to the OmniBallot assistive marking device. The OmniBallot replaced the AutoMark devices which were at the end of their life cycles. Attached is a Sufficiency of Notification of Change in electronic Voting System Plan from the Secretary of State's office. All municipalities in Wright County have agreed to the change in equipment for the omni ballot assistive ballot marking device. A copy of a sample agreement from one municipality is attached. The omni ballot device is required under the Federal Help America Vote Act in every polling place. Failing to have an assisted ballot marking device in every precinct would be a violation of Federal Law. Two videos showing the use of this ballot marking device can be viewed at the following links:

<https://tinyurl.com/4zjnp9vh> - How to Use OmniBallot

<https://tinyurl.com/5dkbatzc> - Exploring Voting Technology for People with Disabilities

The County performs mandatory public testing for all electronic voting systems. The county uses a pre-prepared test deck to verify that tabulator machines correctly identify ballot marks. The OmniBallot device is also tested during the public accuracy tests.

Question:

- 4) *Drop Boxes*
 - a. *Locations*
 - i. *County*
 - ii. *Cities & Townships*
 - b. *Security – New State laws for live streaming, cameras and archiving....costs.*
 - c. *Work with Sheriff on distance for observation*

County Response: Wright County currently does not operate any drop boxes. Previous drop boxes used by the county followed all state statutes. There are currently 2 drop boxes in operation in Wright County. The drop boxes are controlled by their local municipalities. The two municipalities that utilize drop boxes are Howard Lake and Otsego.

Question:

- 5) *Voter Registration Issues*
 - a. *PO Box, UPS Stores*
 - b. *Dead Voters*

County Response: Wright County receives a variety of updates from our various partners to help us maintain the Statewide Voter Registration System. This includes the Department of Corrections, the Department of Health, and the Department of Vehicle Services. We also receive updates from other



counties and other states. The county follows all relevant statutes when we receive notification that a voter has died.

Question:

- 6) *Voter Histories*
 - a. *Absentee Entry Data to SVRS Histories deadline goals*
 - b. *In Person Poll Book Data to SVRS Histories deadline goals*
 - c. *Duplicate voter issue follow-up*

County Response: The county will continue to operate under current statutes regarding the posting of voter histories.

Question:

- 7) *Cast Vote Records*
 - a. *Turn them on*
 - b. *Provide data after election*

County Response: The county currently does not have the necessary equipment to collect Cast Vote Records. Collecting Cast Vote Records would require the county to replace all of its election day thumb-drives. The county currently has the capability to just capture images of write-in votes.

Per our Vendor ES&S we would need to purchase new 8gb thumb-drives. The 8gb thumb-drives cost \$208 per unit. Our vendor suggests that if we want to ensure that all CVR's are recorded on election day that we place 2 thumb-drives in each machine. We currently have 67 DS200's, we would need a total of 134 thumb-drives. Total cost would be \$27,872. We also need to have back-up thumb-drives in case the election day thumb-drives fail. The backup thumb drives would increase our total cost to \$55,744. CVR's may also fall under the same provisions that require the ballots to be sealed for 22 months unless there is a state ordered audit or recount. If that is the case then the CVR reports are entirely redundant because of Minnesota's paper ballots.

Question:

- 8) *Post-Election Review*
 - a. *Dates and locations*
 - b. *Can we record the ballots?*
 - c. *If we see error rates outside guidelines what is our next step?*
 - d. *New statutes with tougher requirements. (206.89 sub 4)*



County Response: The post-election review is currently scheduled for Wednesday, November 23rd at 9:00 a.m. The review will be held at the Wright County Government Center. The post-election review is open to the public, however, to protect voter privacy individual ballots will not be allowed to be photographed or recorded. The county is aware of new post-election review standards and will follow all relevant statutes if our audited precincts fall outside of the allowable range.

If you believe that something is occurring outside of the legal confines of the statute, contact the elections administrator, or the Secretary of State.

Question:

9) *Election Security*

- a. *Provide logs and evidence of patch management for routers, servers, and election equipment.*
- b. *Provide emails from MN SOS, CISA, EAC for alerts from Jan 2020, and forward, and identify each instance of resolution.*
- c. *Provide policy manual and documentation of security processes for new hires, exits, and password management.*

County Response: Due to our security parameters, and in keeping with standard security practices, we will not publicly discuss our security processes, which includes patching logs or network information.

Attachments:

1. Resolution establishing absentee ballot board; mail ballot absentee ballot board and UOCAVA absentee ballot board
2. Two Requests for Board Action seeking County Board approval for appointment of absentee ballot board members
3. Certification that Electronic rosters to be used meet M.S. 201.225 Requirements
4. Wright County Sufficiency of Notification of Change in Electronic Voting System Plan